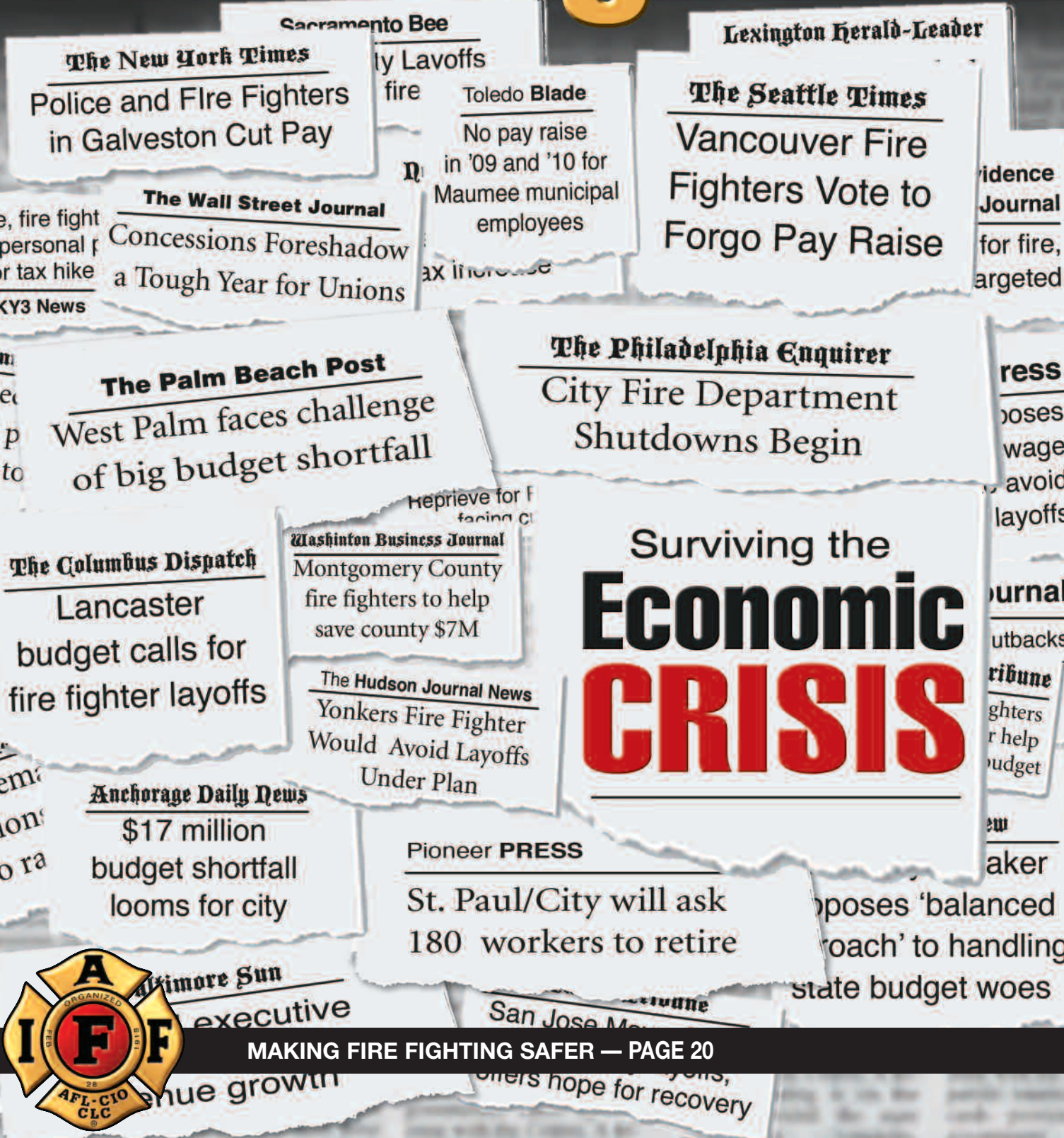


Fire Fighter



Surviving the Economic CRISIS



contents

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2009

JOURNAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS / VOL 92. NO. 1

FEATURES

ON THE COVER:

An Economy in Crisis

Financial meltdown threatens IAFF members.....14

Making Fire Fighting Safer

Study examines dangers of residential fires20

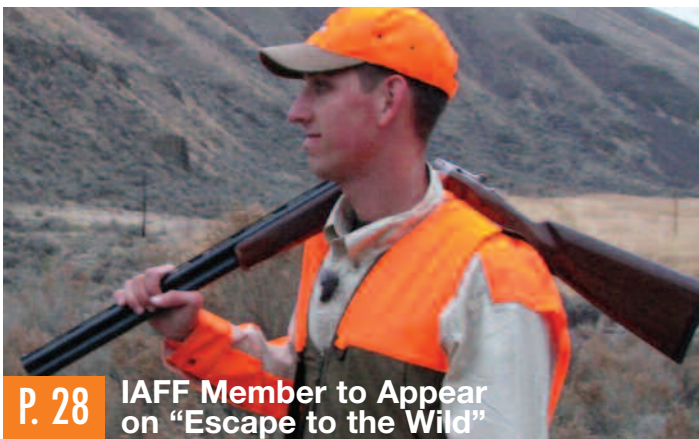
Justice for Charleston Widow24



P. 30 Affiliate Leaders Learn How to Conduct Fire Ops 101



P. 11 Fire Fighters Spread Holiday Cheer to Less Fortunate



P. 28 IAFF Member to Appear on "Escape to the Wild"

General President's Message	
No Silver Bullets	3
General Secretary-Treasurer's Message	
Investment and Tax Planning	5
Letters to the Editor	6
Local Scene	8
Media Awards	22
Always On the Frontline	25
Across the IAFF	26
Fully Involved	31
Retirees	35
In Memoriam/Last Alarm	38



On The Cover

Responding to the financial crisis.

—story page 14

No Silver Bullets

I wish I had a silver bullet that would solve our problems. But the worst recession in decades is putting workers across the United States in the line of fire as jobs are cut and nest eggs vanish. Tax revenues at all levels are down significantly. It's clear that even public safety — usually one of the last to be hit — won't be immune from this recession.

The headlines on the cover of this magazine show (you can view dozens more at www.iaff.org) that no one and nothing in the United States is recession-proof — not even the fire service. In many cities, our members' jobs, wages, benefits and safety are already on the chopping block.

Since economists can barely tell us which way is up these days, we truly don't know which jurisdictions will be hit hardest, how deep the cuts will run or how long the recession will last.

We do know that 2.6 million U.S. workers lost their jobs last year and that the pace of layoffs picked up in January of this year. Every segment of the economy is vulnerable; neither the private nor the public sector is being spared.

Caterpillar is cutting 20,000 jobs, Pfizer is cutting about 20,000 jobs and Microsoft cut 5,000 workers, to name a few of the largest companies in the private sector. Canada has lost thousands of manufacturing jobs, too.

New York City has shut down fire companies overnight and is considering further cutting crew sizes on some apparatus. Atlanta, Georgia, and Redlands, California, are furloughing fire fighters. In Warren, Ohio, public officials began an indefinite layoff of fire fighters in January. The City of Vallejo has filed for bankruptcy. And those are only a few of many, many examples.

So what do we do? Run and hide? Hell no. However, we also can't deny that fire department budgets could face the same fate as others in the public sector as a result of decimated tax revenue.

I realize that in many communities throughout the United States, our affiliate leaders already are faced with severe budget problems and have been forced to discuss a way out of the mess with their public officials. For the rest of you, be warned: discussions over how to solve your jurisdiction's potential or current budget crisis are likely a matter of when, not if.

Our Canadian affiliates have so far escaped any widespread cuts, but Canadian employers cut 129,000 jobs in January 2009, the sharpest monthly plunge on record, and economists expect the jobless rate — now at a four-year high of 7.2 percent — to climb further this year, so they aren't far behind.

As your union, it's our job to give affiliates a map so you can do your best to avoid the landmines. We need to help you develop a strategy so you are taking the right steps to minimize the potential impact on your members, your affiliate and your city.

The most important first step is for you to get a seat at the table in any talks over local budgets. You will be better off if you are part of the debate over your role in fixing the economic health of your town, city, county, state, province or fire district.

Force your public officials to open their books so you know the full scope of the problem or whether opportunistic politicians are using recession fears to get cuts from employees.

Tell public officials that there are safe, smart, time-limited ways that your affiliate can help your jurisdiction navigate its way out of a crisis. Just as importantly, let them know there are unsafe, short-sighted measures — like cutting staffing — that put lives of fire fighters and citizens at risk, and that you are going to expose dangerous cuts.

Being engaged gives you a better chance of convincing public officials to look elsewhere for savings, to help them figure out the right answer and not settle for what appears to be a quick, easy and usually unsafe solution.

For us, protecting our members' lives comes first, and crew sizes and staffing levels are the most important factors when it comes to your safety.

Use NFPA 1710. Hold it up as the minimum that's acceptable, even if your jurisdiction is not at 1710 levels now — you should be working toward it, not going backwards and endangering lives.

Engage your fire chiefs in this discussion. Every chief worth his salt will publicly support 1710's goals and should do everything in his or her power to draw the line at staffing cuts. Those who don't support 1710 are clearly unprofessional and should not be in charge of our members' lives or the public's safety.

Each affiliate must determine the best path to take to protect its members. And know that we are here to help you in that work.

We are lobbying Congress to get additional aid to state and local governments to address budget shortfalls. We are developing a comprehensive online resource to arm IAFF affiliate leaders with information, tools, databases and other means so they can help themselves. We have streamlined the process to access the IAFF's vast programs and expertise, including our municipal financial analyses, EMS operations assessments, GIS mapping and public relations assistance.

The reality is that there is no silver bullet to fix the economic chaos engulfing North America. But I assure you, this IAFF will do everything it can to help our affiliates and members dodge the bullets that are likely coming your way from this recession.



**Harold A.
Schaitberger**

“Each affiliate must determine the best path to take to protect its members. And know that we are here to help you in that work.”



INTERNATIONAL

Fire Fighter

Harold A. Schaitberger General President
Vincent J. Bollon General Secretary-Treasurer

IAFF EXECUTIVE BOARD

1st District

Kevin Gallagher
2004 E. 29th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11229
(718) 934-4933 (Office)
(917) 767-9639 (Cell)
(718) 332-0001 (Fax)

2nd District

Mark Woolbright
115 McMennamy Road
St. Peters, MO 63376
(314) 393-9755 (Cell)
(636) 397-1572 (Office)
(636) 397-3809 (Fax)

3rd District

A. Michael Mullane
50 North Bayfield Road
North Quincy, MA 02171
(617) 328-7202 (Home)
(617) 288-2100 (Office)

4th District

William V. Taylor
707 Pontiac Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21225
(410) 355-5194 (Office)
(410) 355-8696 (Fax)

5th District

Joseph M. Conway Jr.
821 Williamson St.
Madison, WI 53703-3547
(608) 257-2030 (Office)

6th District

Lorne West
Box 581 Stn. Ft. Langley
Langley, BC, Canada V1M2R9
(604) 574-5785 (Office)
(604) 868-8730 (Cell)
(604) 513-9884 (Fax)

7th District

Ricky Walsh
P.O. Box 5604
West Richland, WA 99353
(509) 627-2872 (Office)
(509) 627-3134 (Fax)
(509) 999-3090 (Cell)

8th District

Thomas H. Miller
533 N. Edmondson Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46219-4713
(317) 357-5080 (Home)
(317) 443-2130 (Cell)

9th District

Randall (Randy) Atkinson
7964 South Pennsylvania Drive
Littleton, CO 80122
(303) 738-9338 (Home)
(303) 880-1329 (Cell)

10th District

James T. Ferguson
3029 Buchanan Street
San Francisco, CA 94103
(415) 621-7103 (Office)
(415) 346-7919 (Home)

11th District

Sandy McGhee
1283 S. Detroit Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74120
(918) 599-8176 (Office)
(918) 599-9176 (Fax)
(918) 855-8228 (Cell)

12th District

Larry Osborne
8743 Ricardo Lane
Jacksonville, FL 32216-3536
(904) 641-5407 (Home)
(904) 219-8656 (Cell)

13th District

Bruce Carpenter
12 Lockview Crescent
St. Catharines, ON L2M 2T3
(905) 687-2455 (Cell)

14th District

Danny Todd
3740 Northcliffe Drive
Memphis, TN 38128
(901) 377-6549 (Home)

15th District

James A. Fennell
181 Ellerdale St.
St. John East, NB E2J 2L8
(506) 693-9710 (Home)
(506) 658-2955 (Office/Station)

16th District

James B. Johnson
4115 Rushmore Place
Beavercreek, OH 45430
(937) 470-4340 (Cell)
(937) 429-5536 (Fax)

TRUSTEES

Mark S. Ouellette
2681 Sicily Drive
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168
(603) 422-5081 (Cell)

Alex Forrest

303-83 Garry Street
Winnipeg, MB R3C-419 Canada
(204) 783-1733 (Office)
(204) 791-4980 (Cell)
(204) 255-0383 (Home)
(204) 253-0496 (Station)
(204) 772-2531 (Fax)

Anthony Mejia

3451 Julian Avenue
Long Beach, CA 90808
(562) 989-3667 (Office)
(562) 212-2055 (Cell)

GENERAL COUNSEL

Thomas Woodley
Woodley & McGillivray

Harold A. Schaitberger Editor

Jeff Zack Supervising Editor

Jane Blume Managing Editor

Kristin Craine Staff Writer

Bill Glanz Staff Writer

Kristin Davis Graphic Artist

Katie Shelton Administrative Assistant

Craig Renfro Advertising Director • (972) 416-9782 • crenfro@iaff.org

Periodical postage paid at
Washington DC

Published bi-monthly.

Subscription price \$18 per year.

International Fire Fighter

(ISSN 0020-6733)

Official publication of and © Copyright
2009 by the
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
FIRE FIGHTERS®

Postmasters send changes
of address to

IAFF

1750 New York Avenue NW

Washington D.C. 20006



Printed in USA

Publications Mail Agreement No. 1492438 Return undeliverable Canadian
addresses to: P.O. Box 122 Niagara Falls Ontario L2E6S8 Email:
cmemail@cogenco.net

INTERNATIONAL STAFF

Peter L. Gorman Chief of Staff

Baldwin Robertson Legal Counsel

Rich Duffy Assistant to the
General President for Occupational
Health Safety and Medicine

Eric Lamar Assistant to the
General President for Information
Technology

Jim Lee Assistant to the General
President for Canadian Operations

Lori Moore-Merrell Assistant to
the General President for Member
Services Technical Assistance and
Information Resources

Patrick J. Morrison Assistant to
the General President for Education
Training and Human Relations

Kevin O'Connor Assistant to the
General President for
Governmental Affairs

Jeff Zack Assistant to the General
President for Communications
and Media

Erick Genser Administrative
Assistant to the General Secretary-
Treasurer

Don Copley Assistant to the
General Secretary-Treasurer for
Budget and Finance

Send your address changes to membershipdepartment@iaff.org

Ken Long Assistant to the
General Secretary-Treasurer for
Human Resources and General
Administration

Joan Dubiel
Auxiliary President to the IAFF
1702 N. 5th
Baytown TX 77520

(281) 427-4361
www.aiaff.org

Thomas Mulcrone
IAFF Chaplain

IAFF Headquarters Office

1750 New York Ave. NW
Washington DC 20006
(202) 737-8484 (Office)
(202) 737-8418 (Fax)

IAFF Canadian Office
350 Sparks St. Suite 403
Ottawa Ontario Canada K1R7S8

(613) 567-8988 (Office)
(613) 567-8986 (Fax)

IAFF Alumni Coordinator

Dominick Barbera
(786) 423-1401 (Cell)
(954) 434-3850 (Home/Office)

EMERITI OFFICERS

President Emeritus

Alfred K. Whitehead

Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus

Frank A. Palumbo

Vice President Emeritus

Ray Hemmert

Charley Hall

Russell P. Cerami

James L. Hill

Elliott Hastings

John K. Stephens

Dominick C. DiPaolo

Robert E. Palmer

Charles L. Buss

Gerald O. Holland

Michael J. Crouse

Ernest A. "Buddy" Mass

Terry A. Ritchie

Dominick F. Barbera

Trustee Emeritus

William McGrane

Dennis Lloyd

Stay Afloat With Sound Investment and Tax Planning

It's all too obvious that we are in the midst of a global economic downturn, the depth of which has not been seen in a long, long time. Every significant economic indicator, from housing sales and new construction, to retail sales and employment, continue to experience month-over-month declines.

Governments around the world are taking aggressive action in adopting stimulus plans with the goal of jump-starting an economic recovery. What the effect of these measures will be remains to be seen, but I know that both the United States and Canada are resourceful and resilient, and I am confident that with patience, a recovery will come and we will again be prosperous nations.

Unfortunately, the dramatic declines in the financial markets over the last several months have had a negative impact on all of us. The assets in defined benefit pension plans have fallen significantly, prompting some employers to either freeze plans (to avoid increased funding requirements) or cut or freeze wages and other benefits.

Those who are in 457 plans or other defined contribution retirement plans have seen their nest egg for retirement fall to levels that may force many to work longer than previously anticipated.

These market results and the uncertainty of the timing of a recovery have led many to rethink their approach to retirement plan investing. Some have stopped contributing to retirement plans or switched all of their current assets to low-yielding instruments, such as money market funds.

While every individual and family has to gauge their own comfort level and financial condition, it's wise to think twice about stopping contributions to retirement plans. Notwithstanding the bear market we are currently experiencing, a secure retirement is still dependent on a system of regular contributions to employer-sponsored retirement plans, IRAs or other investment accounts.

At the same time, it is now as important as ever to take a close look (preferably with the help of a qualified financial advisor) at the asset allocation in your retirement or investment accounts. Asset allocation refers to the overall mix of stocks or stock funds, bond funds and money market funds in which your money is invested. Those who are nearing retirement age may want to have a larger percentage of their money in bond and money market funds than those at a younger age who have more time to ride out the financial market slump. It's important to make sure your current allocation is right for you and your family.

As this is a new calendar year, once again there have been some adjustments to the U.S. tax code that individuals in this country should know about and take advantage of to the extent possible. First, there are new tax code provisions effective in 2009 that are designed to encourage energy conservation and use of alternative energy sources.

A tax credit of up to \$500 may be taken for home improvements such as installing insulation. A \$200 tax credit is available for replacing storm windows. At the same time, there is an available tax credit of

up to 30 percent of the cost of installing solar panels on a principal residence.

As auto manufacturers begin to introduce electric cars, there is also a new tax credit that covers the purchase of a plug-in electric car. The credit ranges from \$2,500 to \$7,500, depending on the car battery's capacity.

Individuals with incomes below a certain level have been able to take a deduction on their taxable income for qualified higher education costs. For 2008 tax returns (due in 2009), single taxpayers with modified adjusted gross income no higher than \$65,000 may deduct up to \$4,000 for such costs; the income ceiling for married couples filing jointly to be eligible for this deduction is \$130,000 (a smaller deduction is available for taxpayers at slightly higher income levels).

Law changes also provide additional or continuing tax relief for certain homeowners. Homeowners who do not itemize their deductions can add an additional amount to the standard deduction on their tax return for real estate taxes on a principal residence — up to \$500 for single filers and up to \$1,000 for joint filers.

Also, as home foreclosures are on the rise, homeowners who have home mortgage debt forgiven (waived) during a foreclosure or mortgage workout may not have to include such debt forgiveness in their gross income (thereby lowering their tax liability). This exclusion from income was set to expire in 2009, but a new law extends the code provision through 2012.

Nearly all of us are being impacted by the economic downturn in ways that are causing us to undertake some serious belt tightening. By taking prudent investment actions, taking advantage of tax credits and deductions to the maximum extent possible and making wise spending decisions, we can weather these tough times. ■



Vincent J. Bollon

Vincent J. Bollon

“I know that both the United States and Canada are resourceful and resilient, and I am confident that with patience, a recovery will come and we will again be prosperous nations.”

NOTICE OF LOCAL SUSPENSION

Pursuant to Resolution 76 adopted at the 1986 Convention the following locals are under suspension per Article XIII Section 2 for nonpayment of per capita tax:

Local 35, North Little Rock, AR
 Local 207, Laurel, MS
 Local 272, Gulfport, MS
 Local 347, Bluefield, WV
 Local 2081, Hackensack Firefighters, NJ
 Local 2451, Belding, MI
 Local 2538, West Hazleton, PA
 Local 3519, Vandalia, OH
 Local 3614, Middlesboro, KY
 Local 3663, Demopolis, AL
 Local 3917, Bluffton, SC
 Local 3978, Forestdale, AL
 Local 4071, Awendaw, SC
 Local 4181, Wake County Paramedics, NC
 Local 4399, Bristol, NH
 Local 4423, North Charleston, SC
 Local 4463, Shelby, NC
 Local 4479, Balboa RP
 Local 4590, Eagle Pass, TX
 Local 4643, Montgomery County Hospital Dispatch, TX
 Local 4649, Vernon Parish, LA
 Local 4664, Augusta County, VA

Media Recognition

Dear President Schaitberger:
Thank you very much for the recognition in your 2008 Media Awards Contest. I am the webmaster for the Associated Fire Fighters of Illinois (AFFI) web site, and I was very grateful to receive first place for best affiliate web site.

I am truly proud to be a member of the IAFF, and you are making us proud all across the United States and Canada!

P.S. I know that it has been a busy time with the recent General Election. Keep up the great work that FIREPAC does for our International — the election results were fantastic!

Fraternally,
Jeffrey Boetto
Evanston, IL Local 742

Thanks for Your Support

Dear President Schaitberger:
I would like to thank you and your Executive Board for endorsing 6th District Vice President Lorne West's recommendation for FIREPAC Canada funding that you provided for my election campaign for the Nanaimo City Council in Nanaimo, British Columbia, Canada.

The municipal elections for every city in British Columbia were held on November 15. The term of office for the mayor and councilors is three years. There were three open seats on council with 26 candidates. I thought through discussions with the residents that there might be a chance that some of the incumbents would also be defeated because of dissatisfaction with their performance. But that did not happen. Of the three newly elected councilors, one previously was a councilor and another had run in the last election. I was not elected. From the previous election I felt I would need close to 6,100 votes and I was dead on because the eighth councilor elected had 6,170 votes. My campaign strategy was also correct but it was a case of too little too late. I was defeated by 202 votes.

The election cost \$8,675, mainly for signage and advertisements in the newspapers.

The Nanaimo Professional Fire Fighters Local 905 was terrific, and whatever I needed, they delivered. They erected 11 of my signs and placed 100 of my smaller signs throughout the city. When the election was over, they collected the signs for me. They assisted me with a

few flying squads in the early morning and at the candidate's forums. Local 905 gave me FIREPAC funds, in addition to individually contributing to my campaign. Local 905 President Mike Rispin worked diligently to source out campaign contributions through the IAFF and elsewhere and was a great source of information. His father had been a councilor for many years in Nanaimo.

I am running again in three years but with a new resolve and better understanding of what it will take to win.
Thanks again for the support. It makes me feel proud to have once been a professional fire fighter in the IAFF.

Sincerely,
Ted Greves

Young Burn Survivors in DC

Dear President Schaitberger:
In the fall of 2008, camper Brandon Winters and I had the incredible opportunity to attend the IAFF National Children's Burn Camp in Washington, DC as representatives of Camp BUCKO (a burn camp for kids in Ontario). It was an honour to be selected by our camp to attend and a wonderful experience traveling to Washington, DC to meet other burn survivors and IAFF counsellors from across Canada and the United States.

The opportunity to exchange information and ideas on our camps was invaluable. But what will stick with us most from the experience are the memories of the wonderful people we met. The campers, counsellors, camp directors, fire fighters and the military personnel were all great.

As Canadians, Brandon and I were approached numerous times by Camp staff and American fire fighters and campers as they thought we Canadians may be bored by all of the U.S. history and politics we were learning about. In fact, it was very interesting to see firsthand so much of what we read in the news and see on television. It also led to great conversations. We exchanged opinions and ideas on many subjects, including burn camps, politics, language (y'all and eh?) departmental issues, hobbies — even Canadian football!

I want to thank the membership of my local,



The IAFF National Children's Burn Camp is an internationally-recognized program hosted by the IAFF Burn Foundation. The all-expenses-paid week allows teenage burn survivors to share experiences with others who have fought back from a burn injury.



Pickering, ON Local 1632, and Local 1632 President Bruce Kinsmen and the Pickering Fire Services for their support of this worthwhile venture.

Finally, it was obvious to all who attended the National Children's Burn Camp that a tremendous amount of effort goes into planning and conducting the camp each year. My congratulations and thanks go out to Camp Directors Linda, Tonas, Margaret and Kip, as well as all the IAFF locals and their departments that helped out:

- Baltimore/Washington International Airport Local 1742
- District of Columbia Local 36
- Fairfax County, VA Local 2068
- Fort Myer, VA Local F253
- Montgomery County, MD Local 1664

Thanks again, eh, for providing such a wonderful opportunity for campers and counsellors of burn camps across Canada and the United States.

- Anne Arundel County, MD Local 1563
- Arlington County, VA Local 2800

Yours Truly,
Stephen Fowlds,
Fire Inspector
Pickering, ON Local 1632

Extreme Dedication

Dear President Schaitberger:
 In October 2008, Pekin, IL Local 524 fire fighters were involved in ABC's "Extreme Makeover Home Edition," which aired on January 11, 2009. The family chosen for the makeover lives across the street from our fire station 2, which was used as the command center for the occasion.

The family has adopted five children, including eight-year-old Jake who suffers from Osteogenesis Imperfecta (brittle bone disease) and dwarfism. Over the years, Pekin Local 524 has developed a relationship with Jake, and whenever he has been unable to see Santa Claus at our city's Christmas celebration we have brought Santa to him on one of our fire engines.

The family's old house was demolished and a new one erected in five days, enabling



PHOTO BY JOSH BRADSHAW

Members of Pekin, IL Local 524 and "Extreme Makeover" cast and production members Michael Moloney, Josh Zilm, Iad Hamid and Anthony Dominici.

Jake to be self-sufficient in his new home. When he was asked by the media what he would like most from the home makeover, he said he only wanted to be able to do things by himself.

When our local was contacted to help with this wonderful project, the response was overwhelming. Our members demonstrated what kind of people we really are. Local 524

fire fighters were on scene almost around the clock working diligently, doing whatever was needed to make sure that the project was done on time. Whenever they needed help, our members were there. If they needed two people to help, we had three or four ready to go to work.

The members of Local 524 have again shown me what kind

of people we have in our great union and across our great nation, and that when the people of our cities and communities need us, we are there. I cannot put into words how proud I am to be a member and president of Local 524.

Sincerely,
Chris Coats, President
 Pekin, IL Local 524




Email your letters to pr@iaff.org OR mail them to:
Letters to the Editor c/o International Fire Fighter 1750 New York Ave NW Washington DC 20006

45% of fire fighter on-duty deaths are caused by heart disease — and high blood pressure is one of the contributing factors. We are searching the stars for firefighters to take action through the STOP* DROP* CONTROL High Blood Pressure* (HBP) Program.

We want to hear from you about how you manage your high blood pressure. To share your story, e-mail us at mybp.story@novartis.com.

Information on STOP* DROP* CONTROL how to become an advocate and high blood pressure is available online at www.iaff.org/SDC. To request a program toolkit call 1-877-352-6474 x29111 or e-mail stop.dropcontrol@novartis.com.

“After I was diagnosed with high blood pressure, I decided to take control of my health. I find being healthy is more than just one of my priorities. It’s about being committed to doing what I can do, working to live better and learning about how to structure my lifestyle.”

Disclaimer: The fire fighter quote contained within this advertisement is provided as an illustrative example only.

* Risky BP, U.S. Emergency: Dizziness, Double Vision, Faint, Flurry, Dizziness, Blurred Vision, I will get it in the United States. N/A: 10/2012/SDC/ 1700-10 10



Mayor Stephen Wukela with Florence, SC Local 3352 members and local police officers who campaigned on his behalf.

South Carolina Local Shows Political Prowess

Inspired by political success stories heard at the IAFF 49th Convention in Las Vegas, Florence, SC Local 3352 fire fighters campaigned hard for union-friendly mayoral candidate Stephen Wukela. Wukela emerged with 9,045 votes to opponent Rocky Pearce's 7,375 votes.

"With just 15 members, I am really proud of the work we did to elect Mayor Wukela," says Joe Vanadia, president of Local 3352. "For the first time, we have a mayor who is willing to sit down and talk with us. This is huge."

On June 10, 2008, Wukela won the Democratic Party primary against three-term incumbent Florence Mayor Frank Willis by one vote. Because the vote was so close, Willis appealed several times in court. But in each case, Wukela's victory was upheld.

Meanwhile, former Florence Mayor Rocky Pearce began circulating a petition to become a write-in candidate.

"Knowing that Pearce had not been friendly to us in the past, the Local 3352 Executive Board decided to take action," says Vanadia. "We first devised a campaign strategy and sent it to our members for approval. Then, being a small local, I asked the police union members to assist and they happily obliged."

The two unions put out signs, phone banked, attended rallies and publically endorsed Wukela at a press conference. Local 3352 fire fighters also wore "Fire Fighters For" gold-and-black T-shirts supporting the candidate.

"We are already noticing a big difference in the way the Wukela administration is treating us compared to past administrations," states Vanadia. "In fact, we have already had several meetings with the mayor, a privilege we did not have before. While we do not have collective bargaining rights yet, these open discussions are a positive step in the right direction."

As Local 3352 continues to build political momentum within the City of Florence, members hope that will lead to some long-awaited resources. "We have not had a new fire station in 28 years, so that is one issue we hope to address in short order," says Vanadia. ■

British Columbia Local Signs Historic First Agreement

An IAFF affiliate in British Columbia is celebrating the recent signing of a landmark first collective agreement that brings fire fighter salaries and working conditions into the modern era while securing modern and effective fire protection 24/7 for the citizens of a fast-growing community.

The remarkable rise of Langley Township Local 4550 is due to a potent mixture of hard work and dedication by the local executive board, grassroots community activism and timely political action, backed by the resources of the IAFF.

Langley Township, a burgeoning suburb of Vancouver, British Columbia, is a community of 100,000 people that just a few years ago was relying on a solely-volunteer fire department. The chief had even filed a 10-year plan for the department stating no full-time staff would be needed, despite the fact there was significant high-rise and other development looming on the horizon.

But the lack of movement on fire protection didn't sit well with a number of Langley Township residents who were full-time fire fighters and IAFF members working in nearby cities. Together, they formed a group called Citizens For A Safer Township, or CFAST, and set about making full-time fire protection a priority.

By late 2005, just in time for municipal elections in British Columbia, CFAST had successfully made fire protection the top issue in Langley Township. As a result, seven of nine councillors elected had committed to four fire stations staffed full-time with four fire fighters each within four years. It was a major victory for public safety in Langley Township, and at the beginning of 2007, Langley Township Local 4550 was chartered, growing quickly to 22 then 42, and now 56 members who provide full-time fire protection.

Leading up to the November 2008 municipal election, fire protection was still an issue in Langley Township, but so was the fact that the township's full-time fire fighters had gone almost two years without a contract and were poorly paid

in comparison with IAFF fire fighters in other British Columbia communities.

The families of IAFF members sparred with councillors over the lack of a contract at election debates, and the incumbent mayor was challenged by the father of a member of District of North Vancouver Local 1183 over the "despicable" way he was treating fire fighters. Local 4550 organized an all-candidates meeting, where fire fighters and their families pressed mayoral candidates on fire protection issues.

The pressure paid off, and 11 days before the municipal election, mediation talks that were going nowhere suddenly achieved a landmark first collective agreement that provided an immediate 35 percent wage increase, \$1.3 million in retroactive wages, sick leave benefits, basic and supplementary pension plans and employer-funded extended health, dental and life insurance.

The union's solidarity and the groundwork it laid through political action also thwarted a last-minute attempt by the fire chief in December to cancel 16 hires planned for 2009.

"The day I earned the position of an IAFF fire fighter was one of the proudest moments of my life," says Local 4550 President Andy Hewitson.

"It's been a whirlwind 27 months for Local 4550, but we've achieved heights few could have imagined during the infancy of our local... our members stood proud and strong as one to stay the course and see the contract we needed through to completion," he says, adding that he is grateful for the IAFF's assistance through it all, particularly the expertise of 6th District Vice President Lorne West.

West says the experience in Langley Township is proof that nothing is impossible if the right ideas and resources are brought to bear in a situation, and if union members stand strong together. "To say the least, this is a very amazing first collective agreement and it's a testament to the solidarity of a new local with a good grip on political action," says West. ■



Langley Township Local 4550 members gather to celebrate ratification of their first collective agreement.

British Columbia Locals Celebrate Municipal Election Wins

I AFF affiliates across British Columbia are poised to reap the rewards of vastly improved relations with their city councils in the wake of extremely successful local political action campaigns conducted in conjunction with municipal elections held across the province November 15.

In cities large and small, British Columbia fire fighters helped elect fire-friendly mayors and councillors in record numbers — mayors and councillors who have a fresh education on fire fighter issues and who have, in many cases, made important commitments to IAFF affiliates on fire protection and other local matters.

The success is being credited to the strategic use of FIREPAC Canada funds and the IAFF's tried and true brand of political action: identifying candidates who are prepared to support fire fighter issues and working hard to help get them elected.

Vancouver, the province's largest city, pulled out all the stops in its support of a labour-friendly slate of candidates, which included a labour-friendly mayor and 10 council candidates. Candidates were interviewed thoroughly about their views on local fire fighter issues, and once the endorsements were selected, the local announced its picks to the public with billboards in prominent locations around the city.

The result of the local's political action was an astounding 10 of 11 endorsements getting elected, including mayoral pick Gregor Robertson. Vancouver Local 18 President Rod MacDonald was ecstatic about the result and excited about the advent of a new era of open doors at city hall. "This is a major, major turnaround for us," he says. "It was an emotional night."

Under the previous city government, Vancouver fire fighters were too often stonewalled by city administration, the minority of fire-friendly members on council too small to turn the tide. Now, virtually all council members' doors will be open to fire fighters, MacDonald says, emphasizing that the union followed the IAFF's nonpartisan philosophy and backed candidates from three different factions.

MacDonald notes that the commitments council candidates made during the endorsement process have been recorded and will be followed up on during their term in office.

In Penticton, a city that responds with just two fire fighters in each of two fire stations, Local 1399 had been fighting for years with a city council that refused to address public safety shortfalls despite numerous consultants' studies showing the need for increased fire department resources.

This time, with assistance from the IAFF

Canadian Office, the local conducted a prominent local political action campaign and successfully made public safety a top election issue.

As a direct result, the local is now confident that the mayor and all eight councillors elected in November understand the importance of responding with four fire fighters from each firehall and are committed to moving forward on fire protection.

"It was very hard work, but it certainly paid off," says Local 1399 President Mike Richards, adding that the political action campaign "really brought our membership together."

Richards added that the local's public relations campaign also had a positive impact on the local business community, which has a new understanding of fire protection as a key element of public safety.



British Columbia fire fighters followed a strategic political action plan to elect fire fighter-friendly candidates.

In Powell River, Local 1298 used FIREPAC Canada funds in support of a

Continued on page 10

New Saskatchewan Government Receptive to Fire Fighter Issues

With a finely-tuned political action program in place and a labour-friendly New Democratic Party (NDP) government in power, it's not surprising that the Saskatchewan Professional Fire Fighters Association (SPFFA) racked up a string of important legislative victories at the provincial level in the past dozen years.

But it appeared the SPFFA's fortunes were about to change in late 2007, when the NDP lost power and a right-wing Saskatchewan Party government took office, a government that wasted no time in showing it was not a friend of unions.

Heading into its 12th Annual Lobby in November, members of SPFFA weren't even sure the new government would meet with them, says SPFFA President Gerry Huget, but they forged ahead nonetheless with their plans. And when the Lobby Day finally came on November 19 in Regina, it soon became apparent that, thankfully, their fears were unfounded.

After a brief meeting with opposition parties on the morning of their lobby day, two priority issues — safe staffing and additional presumptive cancers — were raised in the provincial legislature in the afternoon, and the government responded in a positive fashion to both issues.

The same day, previous refusals to meet with senior government officials were suddenly reversed, and dates were scheduled for the SPFFA to meet with the province's labour and health ministers.

A full 20 of the government's 38 members attended the SPFFA Legislative Reception that evening, including key ministers from the government's Public Safety, Justice, Health and Labour departments. And to top it off, a senior government member complimented the SPFFA on the quality of its lobby materials and its overall approach to government lobbying.

Considering the sudden and surprise swell in support for SPFFA issues, Huget called his association's 12th Annual Lobby "one of the most successful in our history" in a letter to his members.

"We're still cautious with this new government, we understand they are working against labour on other fronts, and we will continue to participate in those battles," Huget says.

"But on key fire fighter issues, such as staffing, additional cancers and cancer screening, I'm now optimistic we will have a good dialogue with this government, which is just incredible, considering that six months ago I was wondering if they would even agree to meet with us."

The government kept its word with regard to the commitment on ministerial meetings, and the SPFFA had productive meetings with the province's labour and health ministers.

"It really shows the influence that professional fire fighters have, politically," Huget says.

The SPFFA is currently lobbying for safe staffing, an expanded list of presumptive cancers and cancer screening for fire fighters. In the wake of the successful lobby, Huget urged his members to "keep the momentum going" on their issues and to share information about them with their local fire chief, city manager and city council.

Under the previous NDP government, the SPFFA won legislation on presumptive cancer and heart coverage, infectious diseases notification and mandatory blood testing, as well as a two-in, two-out rule and a health and safety code of practice for fire fighters. Saskatchewan currently classifies 10 types of cancer as occupational among professional fire fighters, the most of any Canadian province. ■

successful council election bid for a former local member, Maggie Hathaway. "Our local was with her every step of the way, either by pounding signs, attending all-candidates meetings or wearing our 'Elect Maggie Hathaway' shirts," says Local 1298 President Terry Peters.

"Maggie ran a 'community proud' agenda and openly expressed that she would fight to increase our local's staffing," Peters says. "She knows the heartache we have gone through over the years." Hathaway also serves as a constituency assistant to a New Democratic Party member of the provincial legislature, giving the local extra value for its efforts.

Nanaimo Local 905 saw six of the seven candidates it endorsed elected to council. While a former local president who was among the council candidates they endorsed fell just a couple of hundred votes shy, Local 905 President Mike Rispin reports that he is comfortable overall with the new council. The local's mayoral pick was also unsuccessful, but the local has a good rapport with the new mayor-elect due to previous political action initiatives. "The election was a good success for Local 905," Rispin says.

Surrey Local 1271 scored a perfect nine out of nine endorsed candidates elected while Vernon Local 1517 helped elect seven out of nine fire fighter-friendly candidates to its city council. These two locals had achieved landmark collective agreements

last year through political action at the local level. Langley Township Local 4550, one of Canada's newest IAFF locals, elected eight of nine endorsements. ■

Fire Fighters Spread Holiday Cheer to Less Fortunate

Families who are stretching every dollar felt the pinch during the holiday season, many unable to afford to put gifts under the tree for their children. But, thanks to IAFF affiliates across the nation, hundreds of those families did not go without.

More than 12,000 children whose families remain affected by Hurricane Katrina enjoyed some holiday cheer from active and retired members of the Uniformed Firefighters Association (UFA) of New York Local 94 and the Uniformed Fire Officers Association (UFOA) of New York Local 854.

The 30 fire fighters escorted eight toy-filled trucks donated by Penske to Mississippi and Alabama in mid-December, delivering toys in three Mississippi counties — Jackson, Harrison and Hancock — and to locations in Bayou La Batre, Alabama.

The New York fire fighters received logistical assistance from the fire departments surrounding the toy drop-off locations. "We had an incredible network

of people," says Tom O'Connor, retired Local 854 member and toy drive organizer. "All of them did an amazing job."

The Katrina Toy Drive evolved from the Stephen Siller Foundation hurricane relief efforts in 2005. Siller was one of the 343 New York fire fighters who died on 9/11. His brother, Frank, chairs the foundation.

In Connecticut, Fairfield Local 1426 fire fighters hosted a holiday drive that not only brought holiday cheer to many area citizens, but raised money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). Families who donated money for Local 1426's Santa Ride for MDA got a visit from Santa, who arrived on a reserve fire truck bringing fire safety tips, stickers and other items to the children.

"We started this program last year to supplement our Fill-the-Boot efforts," says Bob Smith, president of Local 1426. "It is becoming so popular that we are already getting interest from area families for 2009."

The Santa Ride total of \$3,000 will be combined with the money raised by the Fill-the-Boot drive set for later this year. Money donated to MDA supports summer camps and pays for wheelchairs and muscular dystrophy research.

Some members of Greenwich, CT Local 1042 participated in a special annual tradition to collect toys and holiday gifts for the children on the pediatric wing of Greenwich Hospital.



IAFF - FC
Banking Center

Strength In Numbers

The IAFF family understands there is strength in numbers. The IAFF-FC Banking Center knows it too. That's why we are pleased to offer a wide variety of FDIC-insured money market and certificate of deposit (CD) accounts with some of the highest savings yields in the nation.*

IAFF-FC Banking Center
High Yield Money Market Savings

2.00%
APY*

National Average
Money Market Savings

0.56%
APY*

Enroll today and receive a \$25 Bonus†

Enroll online or by phone and deposit the required minimum deposit into a new account by April 30, 2009 and receive a \$25 bonus.† Be sure to mention promo code **FF047** when applying. Visit us today at www.iaff-fcbankingcenter.com, or call us at 1-866-474-5752.

*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) comparisons to respective national averages as of 12/30/08 for a \$1,000 deposit. National averages from Bankrate, Inc. APYs are accurate as of 1/6/09. The APY on Checking and Money Market Savings accounts is variable and subject to change at any time. CD APY is fixed. A penalty will be imposed for early withdrawal. Earnings may be reduced if fees are incurred. The Banking Center is brought to you by Waterfield Financial Services (WFS) who contracts with its affiliate Waterfield Bank to provide the deposit products and services offered. The deposit products are FDIC insured by one of the participating financial institutions to the full extent of the law. † Initial deposits of \$200 for Interest Checking and Money Market accounts, \$100,000 for a Jumbo Money Market and \$8,000 for fixed rate CDs are required by 4/30/09 to receive the \$25 incentive. (Free checking accounts are excluded from this incentive.) The incentive will be automatically deposited into your account within 30 days of account funding. Bonus deposit is reportable on IRS Form 1099-INT.

“A lot of us work during the holidays, so we know what it is like not to be with family,” says Dan Natale, member of Local 1042 and drive organizer. “As Christmas gets closer, we call the hospital to see how many kids are expected to be there and we shower them with as many gifts as possible.” Toys are donated by union members and local businesses.

In Illinois, Aurora Local 99 members held their 13th annual toy drive. Throughout December, citizens and area businesses dropped off gifts or monetary donations at any of Local 99’s nine fire stations. Local 99 turned to various local charitable organizations for lists of families in need and, with addresses in hand, fire fighters and Santa loaded up a fire truck and distributed the gifts just days before Christmas.

“With all of the generous donations, we were able to distribute toys and gifts to 350 kids,” says Dan Osman, a Local 99 member and toy drive co-organizer. The remaining gifts were donated to Toys for Tots and other charities.

Local 99’s toy drive began 13 years ago when a local company wanted to give away 100 turkeys for the holidays. Aurora fire fighters agreed to chip in enough cash to buy side dishes for the turkeys so that families could have a full meal. Inspired by the good deed, fire fighters also decided to hold a toy drive. It’s been an annual tradition ever since.

In Massachusetts, New Bedford Local 841 fire fighters collected 1,000 toys and \$2,200 in cash donations for its 10th annual toy drive. Because many of the toys were for younger children, the local used the money to buy gift cards and other items for older age groups.

Randy Debrosse, a member of Local 841 and the event organizer, says, “I think now, more than ever, it is important for us to give back to the community.”

Donations were accepted at New Bedford fire stations and the Citizens-Union Savings Bank for several weeks leading up to Christmas.

In Indiana, Terre Haute Local 758 collected \$1,500 and dozens of gifts in its annual toy drive for St. Anne’s Clinic.

Event organizer and Local 758 Secretary Don Sperodi says, “We asked each member to donate a gift or \$10. The local kicked in an additional \$500 and a friend donated some toys as well.”

Local 758 also donated more than 3,000 pounds of food to the Catholic Charities Food Bank. ■



Many IAFF affiliates lifted the spirits of families in their communities during the holiday season.



Like you, we're here to respond.

Nationwide Advantage Mortgage® offers IAFF members, retirees and their families a home mortgage program that's easy, inexpensive and stress-free. And we respond to your application or questions quickly, to help make sure you don't lose out on the opportunity to buy and finance the home of your dreams.

When there's a fire, people automatically call you. And when you need financing for a new home, or want to refinance your present home, don't hesitate to call us. We are here to respond to you.

Toll free: **888-630-9099**

or go to **www.iaff-fcadvantage.com**

Be sure to mention offer number **189168**

Loans offered by Nationwide Advantage Mortgage Company, 7760 Office Plaza Drive South, West Des Moines, IA 50266-2336. Nationwide Advantage Mortgage Company has mortgage products available in the District of Columbia and all states except HI, Alabama or Nationwide Advantage Mortgage Company, Inc.; Arizona Residential Mortgage Banker # BK-0904934; Licensed by the Department of Corporations under the California Residential Mortgage Lending Act; Georgia Residential Mortgage License #0396; Illinois Residential Mortgage License #M00860, Issued by the Office of Banks and Real Estate, 310 South Michigan Ave., Suite 2130, Chicago, IL 60604, (312) 793-1409; Kansas Licensed Mortgage Company—License #1996-0148; Massachusetts Mortgage Company License #MC 2074; Mississippi Supervised Mortgage Company; Nevada Mortgage Banker, 1701 W. Charleston Blvd., Suite 210, Las Vegas, NV 89102, (702) 406-3398; Licensed by the New Hampshire Banking Department as Nationwide Advantage Mortgage Company, Inc.; Rhode Island Licensed Lender; Virginia State Corporation Commission—License Number MB-4131; Nationwide Advantage Mortgage, the Nationwide frame design, and On Your Side are federally registered service marks of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company.



Nationwide Advantage Mortgage®

On Your Side®

Berkeley Fire Fighters Win Battle to Keep Fire Stations Open

Berkeley, California, fire station doors will remain open thanks to intense political action by Berkeley Local 1227. In the last election cycle, Local 1227 fire fighters successfully campaigned to pass a special tax initiative — Measure GG, which was supported by more than 70 percent of voters.

“Especially in these tough economic times, the passage of Measure GG was a significant victory,” says David Sprague-Livingston, president of Local 1227. “Now, not only can we keep all seven stations open, but we have the opportunity to increase our level of service to the community.”

Over the past several years, Berkeley’s fire protection services have been falling victim to budget cuts. Some of the cuts included reducing 10 fire stations to seven and staffing from 186 fire fighters to 125.

In recent years, the City began threatening brownouts in Berkeley’s seven remaining stations. Through political action, Local 1227 members were able to stop the brownouts. There was just one catch: the deal had a sunset of September 2008.

“We needed to act fast, so we began discussing solutions with the City,” explains Sprague-Livingston. “We determined that passing a tax initiative would be best. However, we knew the citizens would want more than a promise to maintain the current level of service for their money.”

Measure GG was a special home property tax based on square footage. The tax will raise the necessary money to keep all stations open, put paramedics at every fire station and restore funding to the disaster readiness program.

“With other compelling issues on the ballot, negative financial news reports and a small campaign budget, we knew getting Measure GG to pass was going to be an uphill climb,” says Sprague-Livingston.

Despite the obstacles, Local 1227 fire fighters launched an aggressive grassroots campaign, including going door-to-door canvassing, flyers, street signs and direct mail. “All of our members participated in the campaign in some way,” says Sprague-Livingston. “It was all worth it as our measure garnered nearly three-fourths of the vote.” ■



Berkeley, CA Local 1227 campaigned to pass a home property tax to keep its seven fire stations open and operational.



PHOTO BY: SSG ANGELA NOLAN

Back row from left: Flt Medic Spc Marc Dragony, Flt Medic SSG Matt Harmon, Pilot Captain Theron Ritzman, Flt Medic SSG David Cornell and Flt Medic SFC Al Smoot. Front row, from left: Flt Medic Sgt Eric Cothren, Flt Medic Sgt Mike Ferguson, Flt Medic SSG Rob Walters and Flt Medic Sgt Alan Sharp.

America’s Sons and Daughters In Good Hands in Afghanistan

IAFF members with family and friends deployed to Afghanistan can rest a little easier at night as C Co, 1st Battalion, 168th MEDEVAC is assuming the medical evacuation mission for the entire Afghan theater of operations. The 168th consists of 150 National Guardsmen from California, Nevada and Wyoming, as well as 15 UH-60 Blackhawk Helicopters.

The IAFF is well represented across the board, from pilots to medics, including Captain Theron Ritzman, (Laramie, WY, Local 946), a pilot and 10-year veteran fire fighter. Ritzman’s previous tours include Desert Storm and Iraqi Freedom. WO1 Dan Jones (Stockton, CA Local 456), last served as a flight medic in Afghanistan. SFC Al Smoot (Sacramento, CA Local 522) is a flight medic and 15-year fire veteran fighter and company officer/paramedic with previous tours as a flight medic in Afghanistan and Kosovo. SSG David Cornell (San Rafael, CA Local 1775) is a flight medic and fire fighter/paramedic, as well as a civilian helicopter flight/critical care nurse. His last tour was as a Special Forces medic in Afghanistan.

Also serving are SSG Rob Walters (Sacramento, CA Local 522), a flight medic and fire fighter/paramedic with seven years with Sacramento Fire Department. He also had a previous flight medic tour in

Afghanistan. SSG Matt Harmon (Grand Junction, CO Local 2808) is a flight medic, fire fighter/paramedic with two years at the Grand Junction Fire Department. Sgt. Mike Ferguson (Sacramento, CA Local 522) is a seven-year fire fighter/paramedic.

Sgt. Eric Cothren (Denver, CO Local 858), a fire fighter/Hazmat technician with 10 years at the Denver Fire Department, last served in Desert Storm.

Also deployed are Sgt Alan Sharp, a flight medic and fire fighter/paramedic in Central Lyon County, Nevada, and Spc Marc Dragony with Amador County, California, Federal

District 16, a former Hotshot and Smoke Jumper with the U.S. Forest Service.

This level of care, talent and experience has never been fielded before in a MEDEVAC unit in Afghanistan or Iraq. Their training is well above what is required of an Army flight medic. Once in country, they’ll be divided across the major provinces.

Your IAFF brothers have been training hard for the last several months, changing their focus from dropping water buckets on fires in the United States to weapons, night vision goggle flying, hoisting patients up to the aircraft and aviation tactics. ■



Ontario Fire Fighters Licensed to Show Pride in Union

The Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association (OPFFA)

now offers a way for its members to show their pride as union members while they're on the road with its Graphic License Plate Program, which depicts a customized IAFF logo. The OPFFA worked with the Ontario Ministry of Transportation to develop the



program, which makes the license plates available for purchase by all active and retired OPFFA members in good standing. The plates are purchased from the

OPFFA and then registered as usual through the province's vehicle licensing department. The "PF" lettering in the license plates stands for professional fire fighter. ■



Canadian IAFF Members Serving in Afghanistan

Two Canadian IAFF members are currently serving with the Canadian Forces mission in Afghanistan: Barry Bastow (left), a member of Halifax, NS Local 268, and Lee Harrison, a member of Peterborough, ON Local 519. Bastow, a tactical team leader who is contributing to the Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team as a member of the Civil Military Cooperation Unit, told Local 268 that the opportunity to serve overseas is a rewarding and memorable experience.



IAFF Members Deployed to Baghdad

IAFF members from Tennessee, Minnesota, North Dakota, Oregon and New York serve at Sather Air Base in Baghdad. First row, from left: Moorhead, MN Local 1323 members Rich Duxsen and Jason Dewar; Fargo, ND Local 642 members Jesse Schmidt and Chris Pieper; and Tualatin Valley, OR Local 1660 member Chad Eason. Second row, from left: Kingsport, TN Local 2270 members Darrell Hayes and Gary Ornduff; Knoxville, TN Local 65 member Matt Perkinson; Arnold AFB (Tullahoma, TN) Local I-14 members Clint Montgomery and Lonnie Brown; and Cleveland, TN Local 3748 member Kevin Hair. Third row, from left: Uniformed Fire Officers Association of New York Local 854 member Gregg Magi; Uniformed Fire Fighters Association of New York Local 94 members Jeff Daniels, Erik Lahoda, Dale Catlett and Kenneth Lynch; and Lake Mohegan, NY Local 2956 member Patrick Guida.



INSURANCE PLANS

Protection for you and your family

Individual Term and Universal Life Insurance

- Available in 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 year terms
- Coverage from \$100,000 to \$1,000,000
- Coverage available to family members
- Available to Retirees (specific age requirement)

Individual Health Insurance

- Retirees and their families
- Traditional copayment plans
- Short Term medical plans

Individual Dental Insurance

- Indemnity plan
- Your choice of dentists
- No networks or referrals required
- Reimbursement levels for covered services

For a free quote call
IAFF-FC Insurance Division

1-866-423-3757

ADMINISTERED BY
S. F. & C. INSURANCE
ASSOCIATES, INC.

FORECLOSURE

HOME
FOR
SALE

An Economy in **CRISIS**

**The recession began more than a year ago.
When it will end is harder to say.**

2008 has ended, but the widespread financial problems that began to ripple through the economy last year are lingering like a New Year's Day hangover.

While the economy in Canada has stayed fairly steady, the U.S. economy has been battered and bruised at every level. Workers are being laid off. It's harder to get a loan. Businesses are going under. State and municipal governments are facing deficits — some massive. We didn't know it at the time, but the United States slipped into recession in December 2007.

The collateral damage caused by the economic meltdown could linger into fiscal year 2011, according to Stephen Fuller, an economist and director of the Center for Regional Analysis at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia, and public employees are only now beginning to feel the impact.

"It's going to be a bloodbath in 2010," Fuller says.

Currently, 11.1 million Americans are out of work. That's more than the population of Wyoming, the District of Columbia, Vermont, North Dakota, South Dakota, Alaska, Delaware, Montana, Rhode Island, Hawaii, New Hampshire and Maine combined.

In the four-month period from September 1 to December 31, 2008, employers eliminated 1.9 million jobs, and in December the unemployment rate reached 7.2 percent.

"We expect the jobs hemorrhage to continue through much of 2009," Nariman Behraves, chief economist at IHS Global Insight in Lexington, Massachusetts, told financial news service Reuters on January 9.

"The current pace of job losses means that the unemployment rate will rise into

the 9 percent to 9.5 percent range — at a minimum — before leveling off," he says.

House of Cards

The nation's economic crisis seemed limited to the housing market when it began, but those problems triggered a series of economic repercussions that infected the U.S. and global economies. Defaults on subprime mortgages initiated the economy's collapse.

As housing prices soared through the roof between 2000 and 2006, many financial institutions wanted a piece of the action. An increasing number of lenders made risky mortgages available to people who were unable to afford the home they were purchasing.

Subprime refers to the interest rate of the loan. Borrowers were lured in by subprime

Toledo fire, police layoffs possible

Toledo Mayor Carty Finkbeiner doesn't intend to lay off police officers and fire fighters to fix the city's budget crisis, but the possibility is not completely out of the question. Toledo City Council was told it must erase an \$8.1 million deficit to close out 2008 — a shortfall many thought would be much smaller because council last month had redirected \$8 million of unspent capital improvement money to help plug the hole. Robert Reinbolt, chief of staff to Mayor Carty Finkbeiner, said officials "are exploring a variety of options to balance the budget." — Toledo Blade

loans with "teaser" rates — artificially low interest rates in the beginning of the loan, but ballooning later in the term of the loan. The housing bubble burst when they couldn't make mortgage payments.

The first casualties were the people who bought homes using the subprime mortgages but who could no longer afford their payments at the much higher interest rates. They defaulted on their loans and many lost their houses. Then lenders that extended subprime mortgages, such as Ameriquest, at one time the top U.S. lender of subprime loans, went out of business in August 2007.

The collateral damage spread to Wall Street because financial institutions were providing financing for the mortgages by packaging them into securities that were sold on global financial markets.

Merrill Lynch was so exposed to these bad loans that it agreed on September 14, 2008, to sell itself to Bank of America. Lehman Brothers filed for bankruptcy on September 15, 2008.

The house of cards was toppling.

Brookline (MA) to mull cutting 20 firefighters

A proposal to cut 20 fire fighters included in a Brookline committee report is likely to cause a furor in that town. And it may well be a preview of heated arguments in the days to come as cities and towns cope with cuts in the aid they receive from the state.

— The Boston Globe

IAFF Responds to Economic Crisis

The current economic downturn is affecting IAFF members and public safety operations across the country.

Many IAFF affiliates are facing staffing reductions, station closures, benefit and wage freezes and other cost-cutting measures.

To help affiliates address and prepare for potential cutbacks, the IAFF is developing a comprehensive online resource that includes:

- Tools and information for evaluating the economy's affect on your town, city, state and fire department.

- Databases, strategic planning materials and other services to help minimize or prevent adverse action on personnel and public safety.
- Links to economic crisis news articles recounting the cuts many fire departments are experiencing and reporting how some IAFF locals are working with their elected decision-makers to balance budgets while preserving fire fighter jobs.
- Updates on IAFF legislative efforts to get more funding for states and localities.

This new online resources is available to affiliate leaders through www.iaff.org. ■

Ripple Effect

In the 12 months following the stock market's peak in October 2007, more than \$1 trillion worth of stock value held in 401(k)s and other defined-contribution plans was wiped out, according to the Boston College research center. This rapid nose dive affects about 50 million Americans with 401(k) plans with \$2.5 trillion in total assets, estimates the Employee Benefit Research Institute in Washington, DC.

The stock market's collapse left corporate pension plans at the largest companies underfunded by \$409 billion, reversing a \$60 billion pension surplus at the end of 2007. The stock market's tumble is also affecting public pension plans.

The market's breakdown also made money harder to come by for businesses — especially large employers that typically borrow money to meet payroll — that were forced to shed jobs.

Continued on page 16

Chico (CA) firefighters give up raises to save jobs

The union representing Chico fire fighters has agreed to give up raises for two years and roll back wages for new hires to save jobs. Fire fighters were scheduled to receive 4 percent increases this year and next. Eliminating those will save the city about \$800,000 over two years. Chico also will pay about \$66,000 less in health and dental insurance coverage. With the fire union's agreement, all eight of the city's employee groups have now accepted wage and health insurance concessions the city sought to balance its budget.

—Associated Press

\$17 million budget shortfall looms for city

The city of Anchorage faces a \$17 million budget shortfall this year and must find ways to save money, particularly labor costs, Acting Mayor Matt Claman said. The city had planned to spend \$433 million this year, based on a budget approved by the Assembly in November, but says it has less cash than expected. City officials mostly blamed the deficit on the faltering national economy.

—Anchorage Daily News

—San Diego Union-Tribune

Councillor wants formal review of Thorold fire services

Fewer Cops And Firefighters

In his FY 2010 budget proposal, Mayor Bloomberg is providing details of the latest round of agency "gap closing actions" he ordered in December that are expected to save the city close to \$1 billion. They include reducing the NYPD uniform headcount by 1,000 (-\$48.9 million) and eliminating companies in dual-company firehouses or axing the fifth fire fighter on 64 engines (-\$17 million).

—New York Daily News

—Toledo Blade

Board trims public safety department

The Leoni Township Board continued its efforts to eliminate a nearly \$800,000 projected budget shortfall by approving three layoffs in its Department of Public Safety. The department lost a fourth employee with the resignation of Director Bill Lenaghan before the board meeting. Board members also voted against recommendations from the police and fire board to lay off two fire fighters, opting to keep its seven-member fire staff intact.

—The Jackson City (MI) Patriot

—Rochester Democrat and Chronicle

Consumers put the brakes on spending, which is significant because the nation's economic engine is fueled by consumer spending.

And looming over all of this like a wet blanket — the Congressional Budget Office on January 7 forecast that the budget deficit for fiscal 2009, which began October 1, 2008, would likely hit \$1.2 trillion (the fiscal 2008 budget deficit was \$455 billion, and it was \$161 billion in fiscal 2007). That means less federal money for state and local governments.

States, towns, cities and counties all feel an additional pinch when real estate, sales, corporate and withholding taxes plummet, because that's where they get their revenue.

bleak Outlook

So where does that leave first responders? Public safety operations are in no way

immune to the financial woes strangling the U.S. economy. The harsh reality is that the economy is affecting IAFF members across this union through staffing reductions, as municipalities close companies and stations, cut crew sizes and benefits, and impose wage freezes and cuts — and as they see pension and retirement plans lose value.

This is not business as usual — the stream of revenue for many local and state governments has slowed to a trickle and cuts are being made to every agency in many cities and towns, and fire and police department resources are being slashed in the process.

"All of the city and county budgets that are being prepared for fiscal 2010 (which begins October 1, 2009) are going to have enormous constraints," says Fuller. "Revenue will contract while expenses continue to

"It's very difficult for public employees to say 'we need a 10 percent raise' when the private sector is slashing millions of jobs and state budgets are being decimated."

— Ben Garber, Economist at Moody's Analytics in New York

grow. Sales taxes, real estate taxes, income taxes — every source of revenue — are going to be constrained in the coming year. Fiscal 2011 is going to be just as bad."

In city after city, IAFF members aren't discussing how big their increases will be,

Avoid Foreclosure

Millions of Americans are trapped in unaffordable mortgages as a result of the subprime housing crisis. IAFF members who are having difficulties making mortgage payments during the current economic and housing crises can take action to help avoid losing their home to foreclosure. The IAFF Financial Corporation (IAFF-FC) offers advice on important steps to take now to prevent foreclosure:

Call your mortgage company. If you are behind on your payments, speak with your mortgage company. You can find the contact information on your monthly mortgage statement or coupon book. It is important to act quickly because if you fall further behind in your payments, there are fewer options to avoid foreclosure.

If you are unable to reach your mortgage company, the company is unable to help or you are not yet delinquent but think you may be unable to make future payments, **contact the Homeownership Preservation**

Foundation at (888) 995-HOPE.

Experienced counselors can help you consider the best plan of action for your personal financial situation.

Understand your options.

Your mortgage company or a homeownership counselor can help you understand the options available to you, including:

■ **Repayment Plans** — If you have missed some monthly payments, you may be able to catch up by creating a schedule for repaying the past-due amount.

■ **Advance (HomeSaver Advance™)** — If your mortgage company tells you that your loan is owned by Fannie Mae, you may be eligible for an unsecured personal loan to help you catch up on mortgage payments.

■ **Modification** — In some cases, mortgage loan terms can be changed on a temporary or permanent basis to make the payment more affordable.

Foreclosure will damage your credit rating and your ability to borrow money or buy a home in the future. When the options here don't work or you know you can no longer make your monthly payment, you may need to sell your home.

■ **Pre-foreclosure or Short-Sale** — If you cannot sell your home for the amount that will pay off the loan, talk to your mortgage company about a pre-foreclosure sale. Depending on your situation, the mortgage company will be willing to accept a payoff amount less than you owe.

■ **Deed-in-Lieu** — If you cannot sell your home in a reasonable period of time, your mortgage company may be willing to accept a deed where you agree to transfer the property to the mortgage company.

You have more options if you act quickly. Now is the time to ask for help! ■

but are instead making tough decisions to help conserve cash while protecting their livelihood and safety in the recession.

Responding to the Fiscal Crisis

A quick look at a cross-section of newspaper stories around the country illustrates the cruel reality of the economic downturn and how IAFF affiliates are responding:

In Columbus, Ohio, a January 26 news story, "Columbus Firefighters Agree To Delay Pay Raises," reported that Columbus, OH Local 67 will accept a pay raise delay. A *Washington Business Journal* story about Montgomery County, MD Local 1664 fire fighters explains that the more than 1,000 fire fighters and paramedics employed by the Montgomery County government are taking hits to their paychecks to help the county close its looming budget gap as part of a budget deal to save more than \$7 million over the next two fiscal years. Similarly, IAFF members in Tempe, Arizona, Vancouver, Washington, and Galveston, Texas, have all offered up their pay raises to help their cities manage financial woes. In Barre, Vermont, union employees agreed to a change in health insurance that could collectively save employers and taxpayers as much as \$250,000 next year. These are just a few of the stories. Many more are posted on the IAFF web site at www.iaff.org.

"It's very difficult for public employees to say 'we need a 10 percent raise' when the private sector is slashing millions of jobs and state budgets are being decimated," says Ben Garber, an economist at Moody's Analytics in New York.

IAFF affiliates throughout North America are realizing that the best way to make the difficult decisions about how to negotiate these budget challenges is to have a seat at the table.

Public officials may delay cutting essential services, including fire protection, as long as possible, but IAFF affiliates must engage with decision-makers to prevent or minimize the damage to fire department budgets so that public safety, first responder safety, service delivery and fire fighter families are not compromised.

"The only way local governments can cut spending is not just by cutting out the coffee," explains Fuller. "So I think we'll see them eliminate vacant positions, we'll see furloughs and we'll see cuts in

non-essential services. But if those cuts don't help local governments find a way out of this epic economic mess, essential services will be on the chopping block, too." ■

Salaries frozen at current level by Ocean City (MD) council

There will be no pay raises for Ocean City employees in the coming year, as the City Council approved an across-the-board salary freeze for its general employees as a cost-saving measure. Six days after City Manager Dennis Dare publicly recommended freezing all city salaries not governed by union contracts for the upcoming fiscal year, the council approved the request. In addition to eliminating the traditional 3 percent cost of living adjustment increase, the council also froze step increases and merit-based salary increases for a savings of \$877,000. "Merit increases are a substantial part of the annual increase in the budget," Dare said as he renewed the request. The cost-of-living increases were frozen for all general employees as well as those working under the fire fighter/paramedics contract, as Dare said that contract does not guarantee an annual COLA but says the union employees shall have the same increase as the general employees. Under the Fraternal Order of Police contract, those employees are guaranteed a 3 percent cost-of-living increase. Dare said the COLA freeze would save the city \$462,000 in the coming fiscal year — \$391,000 from the general employees and \$71,000 from the fire fighter/paramedics.

—Ocean City Today

Beware of PSOs

IAFF affiliate leaders and fire department officials should be warned about the International City/County Managers Association's (ICMA) Consulting Service. If ICMA Consulting is contracted by your city to evaluate fire department operations, it's likely that its primary recommendation will be to combine fire and police services into a single public safety officer system (PSO).

The IAFF — along with the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) — is opposed to fire and police consolidation because it can have a severely negative effect on municipal fire services. Consolidation generally involves the elimination of the fire chief as the head of the fire service and the appointment of a public safety director to head both fire and police operations, as well as the replacement of fire fighters with public safety officers who perform both police and fire functions. ICMA Consulting Service is led by a former city manager, Leonard Materese. He is responsible for managing all services relating to police, fire and emergency management

services. Further, Materese's background is in the police service; specifically, he served as police chief, director of public safety and elected president of the Miami-Dade County Association of Chiefs of Police.

Consolidation is typically considered by cities as a quick fix method to lower municipal budgets through the restructuring of two jobs into one.



However, the anticipated benefits are not realized and instead, PSOs can reduce fire fighter staffing and undermine effective fire suppression by disregarding proven fire fighting techniques and relying on personnel with inferior training, skills and experience.

Especially now — during the economic decline — municipalities may be considering consolidation, or merging, of fire and police departments under a single public safety office under the guise of saving money.

IAFF affiliates need to be prepared to educate elected decision-makers about the dangers of PSO systems and why fire and police operations must remain separate.

The IAFF and the IAFC have developed a manual, "Fire and Police Consolidation: An Ineffective Use of Resources," to provide IAFF affiliates with general

information about PSOs and offer advice for prevention.

The IAFF has also developed a detailed toolkit to accompany the manual, including a video, position statement and a list of the top 20 questions to ask city/county managers who may be considering a PSO system.

These resources are available to affiliate leaders through www.iaff.org or by request to mshaffer@iaff.org. For more information, call (202) 824-1546.

There are four types of consolidation: full, partial, functional and nominal.

- Full Consolidation: police and fire fighting duties are combined under a single agency.
- Partial Consolidation: police and fire services remain separate, except for a designated cadre of PSOs who perform both fire fighting and law enforcement functions.
- Functional Consolidation: police and fire departments operate separately, with some of the duties typically performed by one department assigned to the other (e.g. fire fighting personnel may help in administering police work, or police officers may assist fire fighters at the scene by reading gauges or hooking up hoses).
- Nominal Consolidation: fire and police departments remain completely separate; however, they operate under the administration of a single director who maintains full authority over all police and fire services. ■

Win A Brand-New 20



This Offer Is Available Exclusively To Union Sportsmen's Alliance Members

Imagine packing up your gear, climbing inside the spacious cab of your brand-new 2009 Chevrolet Silverado and heading off with your buddies on your next hunting or fishing adventure. That could be your future if you're the lucky winner in our exciting "USA Chevy Truck Giveaway." All you need for a chance to win is to be an active member of the Union Sportsmen's Alliance. If you're not already a member, it's easy to join.



**To Join The USA
Call Us Today At 1-877-872-2211
Or Sign Up Online At UnionSportsmen.org**

As a member of the USA, you'll not only be eligible for our Grand Prize drawing of this Chevy Truck, you'll be entitled to a variety of valuable benefits and discounts (check out the list on the opposite page.) Plus, more members means even better opportunities to partner with great companies like Chevrolet to offer you big-time prizes. More members also means we can sponsor bigger USA events like national fishing tournaments, shooting events and hunting trips. More members means we can have a stronger voice in conservation and the protection of places to hunt and fish for generations to come.



Why Join The Union Sportsmen's Alliance?

As Union workers and USA members, hunting and fishing isn't just our hobby, it's at the heart of who we are. And through the USA, you'll get a unique, affordable way to connect outside the workplace and share your passion for the woods and the water with others who feel the same way. There's just nothing else in the world like the USA. And it comes to you with the full support of your Union.

If you are already a USA member, we'd like to thank you, and we encourage you to spread the word to your Union brothers and sisters. Get them involved. Whether it's fins, fur or feathers they're after, let them know this is THE club for them. If you're not a member of USA, take a minute to give us a call or go online and sign up. And welcome to the USA.



*A Hunting and Fishing Club
Exclusively for Union Members,
Retirees and Their Families*

09 Chevy Silverado!



Official truck of the USA

Vehicle awarded may differ from vehicle shown in promotional materials. Vehicle color, options and equipment will be determined by Sponsor in its sole discretion.

Join The Union Sportsmen's Alliance Today!

For Only \$25 Your USA Membership Comes Fully Loaded With These Valuable Benefits:

- USA-logo Buck knife (\$30 value)
- 12 Chances to win a gun in the USA Gun-a-Month giveaway
- One-Year subscription to a top outdoor magazine (\$32 value)
- A \$25 gift certificate from Beretta Field Gear
- More than 20 money-saving discount coupons on outdoor gear and services
- Personalized USA membership card
- MyTopo.com online mapping service (\$30 value)
- Chances to win exceptional prizes and trips all year
- Access to the "Members-Only" section of the USA website
- Free membership in the TRCP

That's A Value Of More Than \$115!



**Join At UnionSportsmen.org
Or Call 1-877-872-2211**



Working to Live: Making Fire Fighting Safer

In testing, mannequins represented standing and crawling fire fighters. The standing mannequin is engulfed in flames as he falls through the floor assembly behind the crawling fire fighter mannequin.

In 2005, under the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) office began funding research and development studies designed to reduce fire fighter deaths and injuries. This is the first in a series of articles that will review the findings of the AFG-supported fire fighter safety and wellness research and development activities.

The Hidden Dangers of Residential Fires

Although fire fighters respond to all hazards, many fire fighter line-of-duty injuries and deaths occur during a typical “bread and butter” residential fire.

An investigation of 21 separate incidents between 1997 and 2008 by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Fire Fighter Fatality Investigation and Prevention Program highlights the problem. These incidents involved fire fighting operations in residential buildings and resulted in 26 fatalities and 11 injuries. These deaths and injuries were due to rapidly spreading fire in areas of unprotected wood construction, the collapse of unprotected dimensional lumber or the collapse of lightweight engineered wood components.

Fire fighters who respond to a “routine” residential fire should be adequately trained, and have the necessary tools and skills to operate safely. Their initial task is to determine if there is enough available staffing and time to conduct a successful interior operation, and if so, whether or not the environments that they are entering are manageable and structurally stable. These key factors drive the on-scene tactical decisions when citizen and fire fighter lives

are at risk. The common denominator in cases of death or injury is that something unforeseen goes terribly and tragically wrong during fire ground operations.

In response to a growing number of line-of-duty deaths and injuries from fires involving engineered lumber, Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. (UL), in partnership with the Chicago Fire Department (CFD), the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) and Michigan State University, proposed to investigate this disturbing trend and better understand the hazards faced by fire fighters when confronted with lightweight and wood-constructed residential buildings.

The results of tests comparing the fire performance of conventional and modern construction will improve the understanding of the hazards of lightweight construction and assist incident commanders, company officers and fire fighters in evaluating the fire hazards present during a given incident, and allow a more informed risk-benefit analysis when assessing life safety risks to building occupants and fire fighters.

Residential buildings are increasingly replacing conventional solid joist construction with modern lightweight

construction, such as wood trusses and engineered wooden I-joists, in roof and floor designs.

Details on the methodology and results of this research are available online at www.ul.com/fire/structural.html.

Given the changes in how buildings are now constructed and how modern materials burn, survival may well depend on how fire fighters pay attention and respond to the results of this work.

Where Will Your Next Fire Be?

The size up of any given structure is, for the most part, based on previous fire ground experiences, and most of that experience comes from fighting fires in the homes of yesterday that are constructed with solid dimensional lumber. But today, as more homes are constructed with lightweight materials, traditional size ups may not provide proper risk assessment. Whether it's an existing renovated home or a newly constructed “McMansion,” these modern homes are the new reality. Many of today's typical house fires are in buildings that could readily be categorized as commercial structures with commercial fuel loads. The increased size of these buildings, use of large unprotected areas of lightweight construction

and the resulting fires from modern synthetic fuel loads have proven to be catastrophic, and today's fire ground operations and the assignment of early additional personnel need to reflect this new reality.

For more than 35 years, repeated concern has been expressed within the fire service community regarding the structural performance of engineered wooden beams and trusses. An October 1992 National Fire Protection Research Foundation (NFPRF) report cited 60 articles related to the fire performance of lightweight wood construction between 1970 and 1990. This report also documents the recognition and struggle within the fire service regarding deficiencies in the current model building codes.

The use of unprotected non-fire rated combustible dimensional lumber and lightweight wood in single family homes is the least regulated under existing model building codes. The NFPRF research report recognized that additional testing was needed to generate fire performance data and identified the need for additional training focusing on lightweight wood construction.

Many recommendations of the NFPRF report have remained dormant due to a lack of funding, forcing the fire service to rely mostly on notable experts from within the fire service for written information and lectures on the hazards associated with lightweight construction. Local fire departments have tried for decades to make their case through informal fire testing of small scale assemblies to demonstrate to the media — and in turn the public — how serious the problem has become and the potential life hazards posed to fire fighters.

Opponents argue that the hazards of lightweight construction are overstated or exaggerated and that the use of various line-of-duty death case studies is an attempt to play on the emotions of the public. Modern home builders and manufacturers maintain that today's modern homes are constructed following "very stringent building codes." Building industry professionals also suggest that the existing model codes are adequate as there is no credible scientific research corroborating the fire service's claims regarding the clear and present danger of lightweight construction. Now, as a result of the efforts of the UL research team and its partners — the Chicago Fire Department, IAFC and Michigan State University — there is an evidence base that describes the fire-related properties of these assemblies.

The Current State of Building Codes

Building code and regulatory service groups have only recently identified the fire service as one of the potential user groups for buildings under the existing model building codes.

A provision in the 2006 International Building Code, section 101.3, adopts new language stating that one of the intents of the building code is to "provide safety to fire fighters." However, this code provision — which could offer a possible long-term solution — does not define to what extent the building code in any given jurisdiction adequately satisfies this requirement.

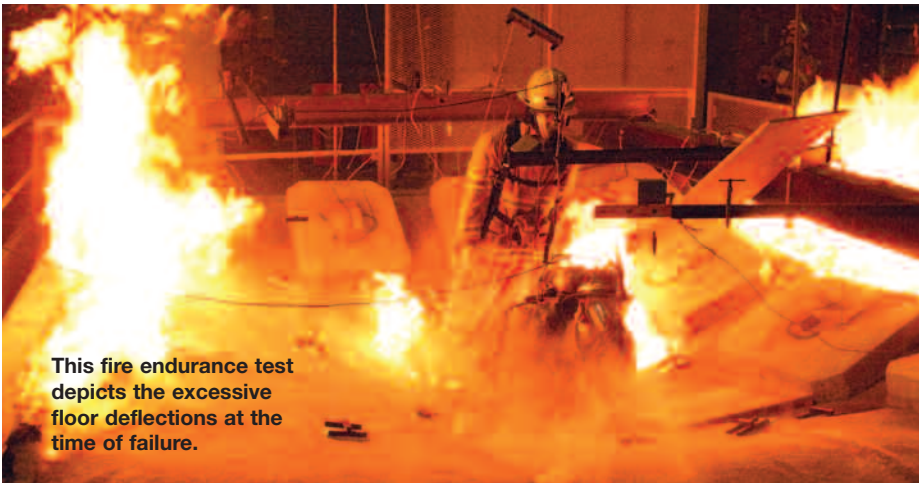
Changes to model building codes often occur after a tragic loss of life. Cumulative numbers documented by NIOSH case studies alone justify the need for future changes to existing model building codes. This is especially true for one of the model building code's most unrestrictive subgroups, the Type V-wood frame or Type III ordinary constructed residential occupancy. The fire resistive requirements for most single family residential occupancies are minimal for the



Tests show the deterioration of roof sheathing and the ultimate failure of the roof shingle materials.



The out-of-plane failure of wood truss metal gusset plate connectors is illustrated in testing.



This fire endurance test depicts the excessive floor deflections at the time of failure.

exterior of the building and virtually non-existent with regards to the interior floor and roof assemblies. The inherent hazards posed by these structures could be more clearly documented by revising the existing National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) to accurately record civilian and fire fighter injuries and deaths in residential occupancies made with lightweight construction.

There is currently a movement to defend the adoption of residential sprinklers in future editions of the model building codes, but the momentum needs to continue until the recommended changes include both active and passive measures of fire resistance for buildings comprised of mostly combustible materials.

The recommendation in the NIOSH Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation Investigation Report # F2006-26 is for jurisdictions to modify the current codes to require lightweight trusses be protected with a fire barrier on both the top and bottom. The results provided by this new research study will provide substantiation for fire rating of lightweight construction in residential structures as a clear means of enhancing fire fighter safety.

The online outreach program (www.ul.com/fire/structural.html) provides selected highlights of the research findings and includes a module dedicated to testing methodology, the resources used to document the performance of the assemblies during the fire endurance tests. Another module addresses the limitations of thermal imaging cameras. They do not provide an adequate indication of a weakened floor or pending collapse.

Understanding the testing methods employed and the results of this study, even on a basic level, will assist fire fighters in conducting a safer fire ground operation the next time the alarm bell sounds. A working knowledge of these results is also a critical step for all members of the fire service who are actively engaged in the growing movement to enhance fire fighter safety by modifying the current code requirements for residential construction. ■



2009 Media Awards Contest

➔ **DEADLINE: MAY 1, 2009**

The International Association of Fire Fighters Media Awards Contest is conducted annually to honor reporting and photography that best portray the professional and dangerous work of fire fighters and emergency personnel in the United States and Canada. The contest also recognizes outstanding work by IAFF affiliates in communicating with their members and the public.

AWARDS ARE GIVEN IN FOUR MAJOR CATEGORIES:

Category I. PRINT MEDIA

- A:** Best news story, series or feature published in a newspaper or magazine with a circulation of less than 100,000
- B:** Best news story, series or feature published in a newspaper or magazine with a circulation of more than 100,000
- C:** Best editorial or column
- D:** Best photo published in a newspaper or magazine with a circulation of less than 100,000
- E:** Best photo published in a newspaper or magazine with a circulation of more than 100,000

Category II. BROADCAST MEDIA

- F:** Best breaking television news story
- G:** Best television news feature or documentary
- H:** Best radio news story or editorial

Category III. INTERNET JOURNALISM

- I:** Best news story originally published on a web-based news site
- J:** Best fire service photo originally published on a web-based news site

Category IV. IAFF AFFILIATE

- K:** Best IAFF affiliate publication (circulation less than 1,000)
- L:** Best IAFF affiliate publication (circulation more than 1,000)
- M:** Best IAFF affiliate web site
- N:** Best IAFF affiliate public relations or political campaign or project
- O:** Best IAFF affiliate calendar
- P:** Best IAFF affiliate special/one-time/annual publication or project (such as annual reports, commemorative programs, educational materials)
- Q:** Best public relations campaign for a Fire Ops 101 event
- R:** Best fire service photo (not previously published) taken by an IAFF member

HOW TO ENTER

Entries in the 2009 Media Awards Contest must have been published or broadcast between January 1 and December 31, 2008.

Entrants must complete an entry form for each item submitted. Each entry must be nominated and signed by the president of a local or state/provincial affiliate, or by a member of the IAFF Executive Board.

Entries must be accompanied by a signed statement of release from the copyright-holding authority giving IAFF reproduction rights for use of the entry.

AWARDS COMMITTEE AND JUDGES

The IAFF Media Awards Committee consists of the IAFF's two principal officers and three IAFF district vice presidents, appointed by the General President. The Committee appoints a panel of up to five judges with experience in or knowledge of the fire service. Members of the committee or other representatives of the IAFF are not eligible to be judges or assist judges in any capacity other than as technical advisors. The IAFF reserves the right to reclassify entries.

PRIZES AND CITATIONS

Awards are given in each of the subcategories:

- **First Place: \$400**
- **Second Place: \$200**
- **Honorable Mention: Certificate**

Judges reserve the right to decline to select winners in any of the subcategories.

Winners will be notified and recognized in the *International Fire Fighter* magazine and on www.iaff.org.

ENTRY FORMS

Additional forms and information are available at www.iaff.org. Contact the IAFF Communications Department at (202) 824-1588 or email mediaawards@iaff.org.



2009 Media Awards Contest ENTRY FORM

Entrants must complete an entry form for each item entered in the contest (copy or download additional forms). Each entry must be nominated and signed by the president of a local or state/provincial affiliate, or by a member of the IAFF Executive Board. Those with rights-holding authority must also sign each entry form.

CATEGORIES (Check one for each entry)

I. PRINT MEDIA

(a copy of the printed material as it was published must accompany the entry form; original photographs and a clipping of the material published with the photo must accompany photo entries)

- A. Best news story or feature published in a newspaper or magazine with a circulation of less than 100,000
- B. Best news story or feature published in a newspaper or magazine with a circulation of more than 100,000
- C. Best editorial or column
- D. Best photo published in a newspaper or magazine with a circulation of less than 100,000
- E. Best photo published in a newspaper or magazine with a circulation of more than 100,000

II. BROADCAST MEDIA

(Beta or VHS format video must be provided for television/video entries; radio entries must be sent as audiotapes or unedited transcripts)

- F: Best breaking television news story
- G: Best television news feature or documentary
- H: Best radio news story or editorial

III. INTERNET JOURNALISM

- I: Best news story originally published on a web-based news site
- J: Best fire service photo originally published on a news-based web site

IV. IAFF AFFILIATE

- K: Best IAFF affiliate publication (circulation less than 1,000)
- L: Best IAFF affiliate publication (circulation more than 1,000)
- M: Best IAFF affiliate web site
- N: Best IAFF affiliate public relations or political campaign or project
- O: Best IAFF affiliate calendar
- P: Best IAFF affiliate special/one-time/annual publication or project (such as annual reports, commemorative programs, educational materials)
- Q: Best public relations campaign for a Fire Ops 101 event
- R: Best fire service photo (not previously published) taken by an IAFF member

NAME OF ENTRY: _____

EXPLANATION OF ENTRY:

(required for affiliate public relations and political campaigns, special/one-time/annual publications or projects)

(Use separate sheet if more space is needed.)

NAME OF MEDIA OUTLET: _____

NAME OF AWARD NOMINEE(S): _____

DATE OF PUBLICATION/BROADCAST: _____

FREQUENCY OF PUBLICATION (required for affiliate and state association publications):

IAFF AFFILIATE SPONSORING ENTRY:

LOCAL NO. _____ LOCAL CONTACT: _____

EMAIL: _____

CITY _____

STATE/PROVINCE _____

SIGNATURE OF LOCAL PRESIDENT: _____

STATEMENT OF RELEASE: By submitting a photograph or other material to the IAFF, I disclaim any copyright interest in the full use of the same by the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF), and grant the IAFF, without additional consultation with me, all rights to use this material on its web site, in its printed publications and for public relations, education and training materials, and for any other IAFF purposes as it sees fit without further consideration to me. I also acknowledge the IAFF's right to crop or treat the photograph at its discretion, and warrant that I am the sole owner of the copyright to this material.

SIGNATURE OF RIGHTS-AUTHORIZING PERSON FROM MEDIA OUTLET: _____

NAME: _____

TITLE: _____

MEDIA OUTLET ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

MAIL TO:

IAFF Media Awards Contest
 1750 New York Avenue, NW
 Suite 300
 Washington, DC 20006

Additional forms and information are available at www.iaff.org. Contact the IAFF Public Relations Department at (202) 824-1588 or email mediaawards@iaff.org.

IAFF Wins Unfair Labor Practice for Florida Union Leader

More than a year after the city of Plantation, Florida, terminated Jude Diaz, an EMS worker and member of Plantation, FL Local 4430 in retaliation for leading co-workers in a lawsuit for overtime pay and in organizing a union of rescue employees, the Florida Public Employees Relations Commission (PERC) has ruled in the unfair labor practice charge filed by the IAFF under its Legal Guardian Policy on behalf of Diaz.

Diaz lost his job in January 2008 when Fire Chief Robert Pudney refused to place him on light duty — or even grant an unpaid medical leave of absence — after undergoing surgery for a knee injury. The department ostensibly fired Diaz because of his extended absence.

“The real reason they fired me is that they have never forgiven me for standing up for my rights, and the rights of my colleagues,” Diaz said in 2007.

City officials in Plantation fought from the start to prevent formation of Local 4430 and in 2005 began firing and disciplining union leaders, including Local 4430 President Jeffrey Poole, also a plaintiff in the overtime suit. A retaliation lawsuit, also filed by IAFF Legal Counsel Woodley & McGillivray, is pending against the City and department chiefs for these earlier retaliatory actions against Poole, Diaz

and other Local 4430 members and former members.

Meanwhile, the PERC hearing officer took only three weeks to conclude that the assistant chief and fire chief had not provided “credible testimony” justifying Diaz’s discharge and ordered reinstatement, back pay and attorneys’ fees.



“The city of Plantation has no excuse for treating Jude Diaz — or any of the members of Local 4430 in this way — and the IAFF will not tolerate this reprehensible behavior by city

officials,” says IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger. “This positive ruling is a major victory for the IAFF, Local 4430 and Jude Diaz, but we will not rest until justice is brought to all of our Plantation members.”

The City will likely appeal the PERC decision, but IAFF Legal Counsel Tom Woodley expects that the City will have more incentive to settle outstanding claims.

Diaz told the *South Florida Sun Sentinel* that he feels vindicated and plans to renew his attempts to start a union in the fire department’s rescue division. In the meantime, Local 4430 continues to call for better pay and benefits for Rescue Division employees, including a better disability and retirement system, and for improved working conditions. ■

“The city of Plantation has no excuse for treating Jude Diaz — or any of the members of Local 4430 in this way — and the IAFF will not tolerate this reprehensible behavior by city officials.”

— General President Harold Schaitberger

FIREPAC Sets All-Time Fundraising Record

During the past decade FIREPAC has enjoyed a number of significant firsts. In 2002, it raised \$1 million. During the 2006 election cycle, FIREPAC raised \$3 million. Now, at the end of the 2008 election cycle, FIREPAC has raised a record \$4.8 million, with \$1.5 million for the year coming in via FIREPAC Check-Off — the largest totals ever!

“Members are benefitting from the growth of FIREPAC and the IAFF’s political program,” says IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger. “In addition to playing a critical role in helping to elect Barack Obama the next president of the United States, FIREPAC also had many successes in electing pro-IAFF gubernatorial, congressional, and state legislative and local municipal candidates.”

The efforts of IAFF affiliates, along with graduates of the IAFF Political Training Academy, played a pivotal role in key battleground states and races. The IAFF also continues to witness growth in the number of IAFF members who hold public elective office.

For the first time in this union’s history, an IAFF member — Bob Bergren — was elected Speaker in the Montana state house. In addition, Secretary-Treasurer of the Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts Ken Donnelly is now a member of the Massachusetts State Senate, and Jeff Danielson, a member of Cedar Falls, IA Local 1366 and the state senate pro tem, won a tight re-election. Scores of other members were elected or re-elected to numerous offices at the state and local level as well.

FIREPAC is now the 8th largest federal PAC in terms of donations to candidates, and the third largest contributor among labor unions, according to OpenSecrets.org.

In keeping with the IAFF’s philosophy of supporting candidates and not political parties, FIREPAC once again was the top union in terms of contributions to Republican candidates, demonstrating to both the membership and the politicians that this union supports those who support it.

During the elections last November, FIREPAC undertook several independent expenditures to further boost the candidacy of three specific campaigns that had the support of the IAFF and FIREPAC.

Nationally, in a number of targeted media markets, FIREPAC produced and aired a television commercial exposing Senator John McCain’s health care proposal and its tax implications for fire fighters and other citizens. His plan called for a tax increase on individuals who receive employer-provided health care benefits.

Register for the 2009 IAFF Legislative Conference

Register online at www.iaff.org for the 2009 IAFF Alfred K. Whitehead Legislative Conference, scheduled for March 15-18, 2009, in Washington, DC. The annual legislative conference is the cornerstone of the IAFF’s legislative efforts, and has led to significant victories on Capitol Hill — largely as a result of the relationships that local IAFF leaders

have formed with their elected officials.

In addition to discussing important legislative issues, the conference will include a session on Wednesday, March 18 on the current economic crisis featuring experts on the economy.

For more information, contact the IAFF Government Affairs Department at (202) 824-1581. ■

The ads were targeted in critical battleground states, including Ohio, North Carolina and Florida, and aimed to target voters who would be adversely affected by this proposal. FIREPAC also ran similar ads in New Hampshire and in North Carolina to help promote the candidacies of Jeanne Shaheen and Kay Hagan, respectively, both of whom were successful in defeating incumbent senators who historically had not been supportive of the IAFF’s legislative agenda.

With the elections over, FIREPAC is aggressively working to replenish its funds as the campaigns for the 2010 elections are already gearing up in a number of states. Four U.S.

Republican senators have announced that they will not seek re-election (Mel Martinez-Florida, Sam Brownback-Kansas, Christopher Bond-Missouri and George Voinovich-Ohio). And, Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson (R) has all but declared her candidacy for governor of Texas.

In addition to 37 U.S. senate races in 2010, 36 states will hold gubernatorial elections, and in a number of those states, the seats will be vacant because of term limits. The IAFF anticipates that FIREPAC will be involved in a number of those campaigns, but to do so FIREPAC must continue to raise the resources it needs to ensure that the interests and issues of the nation’s professional fire service are heard during these campaigns.

Your local can help FIREPAC continue to grow by starting a FIREPAC Check-Off program in your local. FIREPAC is fast approaching 200 locals with an established program. Check-Off is by far the easiest and best way to contribute to FIREPAC. ■

IAFF, IAFC, CFSI Support Keeping FEMA in DHS

The IAFF, in conjunction with the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) and the Congressional Fire Services Caucus (CFSI), is urging the Obama administration to retain the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as a core component of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). In recent weeks, some organizations have called for removing FEMA from DHS and making it an independent agency so that

DHS can focus on its law enforcement missions.

The letter, signed by IAFF General President Schaitberger, IAFC President Larry Gorud and CFSI President Bill Jenaway, urges President Obama to ensure that emergency preparedness and response remain an integral part of the nation’s homeland security strategy. ■

Canadian Legislative Conference Set for April

As the political drama slowly subsides and Canada’s members of Parliament (MPs) and senators prepare to move forward in the 40th session of Parliament, the IAFF is preparing to ensure fire fighter issues remain in the forefront with the return of the Canadian Legislative Conference.

The 16th Canadian Legislative Conference takes place April 26-29, 2009, at the Delta Ottawa Hotel. Information about conference registration, legislative issues and hotel reservations will be mailed to affiliate presidents and secretaries in the coming weeks.

Already, three legislative motions have been introduced on behalf of the IAFF in the new session of Parliament. New Democratic Party (NDP) MP Libby Davies has introduced Motion M-188, which calls on the Canadian government to establish a national Public Safety Officer Compensation (PSOC) benefit for the families of fallen fire fighters, and NDP MPs Irene Mathysen and Charlie Angus have each introduced motions calling on the government to establish a national office for fire service statistics.

The need for a national Public Safety Officer Compensation (PSOC) benefit for the families of fallen fire fighters remains atop the IAFF’s Canadian legislative agenda in 2009, along with the need for national fire service statistics and Canada Pension Plan (CPP) reform for professional fire fighters. The IAFF also expects to raise the need for third-party investigations of fire fighter line-of-duty deaths as well as problems with the National Building Code.

All members of Parliament and senators will receive a copy of the IAFF Canada 2009 Legislative Briefing Book in advance of the conference so that they will be knowledgeable about fire fighter issues in advance of lobby meetings. ■



Philadelphia Fights Fire Company Cuts

Philadelphia, PA Local 22 has launched an aggressive battle against the City after Mayor Michael Nutter announced his plan to close five fire engine companies and two ladder companies. Nutter says the cuts are necessary to help compensate for the City's projected \$108 million deficit.

"The IAFF is steadfast in its commitment to stand by our Philadelphia brothers and sisters as they fight to keep their City safe," says IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger. "In this difficult economic time, budgets are being slashed everywhere, but it is our responsibility to oppose cuts that risk fire fighter and public safety."

The Nutter administration based the cuts on an internal study conducted by mayoral appointed commissioners. Unfortunately, the study did not take into consideration significant safety issues — merely the bottom line. The City determined that by closing the seven companies, it could save \$10.8 million annually.

"The study does not look at critical factors, like how fires are fought, workload, traffic and detours," says Brian McBride, president of Local 22. "These cuts are putting the City's citizens at a serious safety risk."

Before the company closures, vacancies were compensated for with fire fighter overtime. "Hiring new fire fighters would have been cheaper than paying current fire fighters overtime, and would save the City almost \$5 million annually," explains Local 22 Secretary Dave Kearney.

Since safety was not given appropriate consideration in the study, Local 22 asked the City to conduct an independent review. The City denied this request.

Protesting the City's ongoing disregard for public safety, President Schaitberger led a march and rally on December 15, 2008, with an estimated 1,500 fire fighters and other AFL-CIO union members marching from the Local 22 union hall to City Hall.

At the rally, Schaitberger said, "It is not okay to tell someone whose house is burning down that they need to wait a little longer because 'our study' says it's okay. When lives are at stake, you can't afford to close engines and ladders."

"The City's unwillingness, especially that of the mayor, to work with us on this public safety matter is appalling," says McBride. "In fact, in 2004, when Mayor Nutter was a City Council member, he stood with us and opposed fire safety cuts very similar to the ones we are talking about now."

Local 22 has filed a formal grievance challenging the mayor's plan. Meanwhile, Local 22 is appealing to the State Supreme Court regarding a 2005 arbitration-awarded contract provision that states that when considering closures, the City must commission and complete an impact study conducted by a mutually agreed to third party



PHOTO BY NATHAN ROTENBERG

IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger joined Philadelphia, PA Local 22 President Brian McBride and 1,500 fire fighters for a march and rally to City Hall to protest budget cuts that will put public safety at risk.

to determine whether the closures are safe.

In another legal action, Local 22 also attempted to get a City Common Pleas Court injunction preventing any company closures pending the outcome of the grievance and the appeal.

An expert IAFF witness testified that the City's study failed to take into account whether the Philadelphia Fire Department could still meet nationally recognized fire safety standards if the cuts were made. Additionally, the IAFF provided a detailed GIS mapping study, which demonstrated the cuts would result in a significant increase in emergency response time.

Despite these valid public safety concerns, the judge in the case ruled in favor of the City. Since the State Supreme court case and grievance are still pending, all seven fire companies were closed on January 5.

Taking its fight against public safety cuts to a new arena, in February, the Philadelphia fire fighters union began airing one-minute radio ads and posting billboards designed to heighten public pressure on Mayor Nutter to reverse his decision to eliminate the engine and ladder companies.

The radio ad — scripted to sound like a real emergency call — features a woman, in a panicky voice, asking a male dispatcher to send help to her burning house, only to learn that the nearest ladder company was eliminated and that she will have to wait for the next-closest company. "Please hurry, it's spreading," she cries. "The smoke. I can't breathe!" Then a narrator's voice says: "We're the members of Philadelphia Firefighters Union Local 22 and we paid for this message so you'd join us in telling Mayor Nutter, 'Stop playing with fire. Stop the cuts to fire services.'"

To listen to the ad, go to www.savepfd.com

The design for one billboard shows a photograph of Nutter and a quote from a 2006 letter he sent to a constituent in the district where Nutter was once a council member when the John Street administration had proposed cutting Engine 39 in Nutter's district. "Reducing fire fighting services is very misguided," reads the quote, followed by the union's



PHOTO BY AARON WALIZER

pointed question: Guess Who's Misguided Now? Engine 39 was eliminated as part of Nutter's recent cuts.

Kearney says that Local 22 fire fighters are already feeling the effects of the closures. "We have seen civilian injuries and deaths almost double and a nearly 50 percent increase in fire fighter injuries compared to this same time last year."

He cites another example. "We recently had a seven-alarm fire for which we had to call in dozens of off-duty fire fighters to staff nine reserve apparatus," he explains. "Because those seven companies were no longer in operation, many of our fire stations were left with no back-up. Essentially, during that fire, large parts of our City went unprotected."

The State Supreme Court case is scheduled to be heard on March 3. No official date has been set regarding the grievance.

"We have shown that Local 22 is not afraid of a fight and we will not back down until we win a contract that protects fire fighter and citizen lives," says McBride. "Saving lives is really what all of our battles with the City are about. We cannot and will not stop fighting... it's what we're sworn to do." ■

Double Nickels: The IAFF-MDA Partnership Is 55 Years Old and Going Strong

This year marks a full 55 years of partnership between the IAFF and the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) in the fight against muscular dystrophy and related diseases.

“The IAFF is MDA’s biggest champion,” says MDA President and CEO Gerald Weinberg. “The dedicated efforts of fire fighters and paramedics help fuel our clinic, services, camp and research programs.”

Everybody knows the IAFF and MDA summer camp go together like popcorn and butter. But IAFF fundraising provides much more than summer camp for kids with neuromuscular disease. IAFF contributions also help MDA fund cutting-edge research and provide an unparalleled array of services and information for children and adults.

As MDA’s largest national sponsor, the IAFF has raised nearly \$350 million for MDA over the past 55 years, contributing a record-breaking \$26.6 million in 2008 alone. Fundraising has grown dramatically under the leadership of General President Harold Schaitberger, who also is an MDA national vice president.

In communities across the country, MDA combats more than 40 forms of neuromuscular disease by:

- Supporting basic and clinical scientific research
- Offering a comprehensive program of clinical care and support services to individuals and families
- Improving lives through advocacy in matters of public policy affecting people with disabilities
- Providing widespread professional and public health education

Research

At a time of unrelenting bad news in the world at large, there’s plenty of good news in MDA’s quest to find treatments and cures for muscle-wasting diseases.

Efforts to find genetic solutions for Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD) continue to move ahead in clinical trials. The MDA-supported biotech company PTC Therapeutics is well into a large-scale trial of its experimental compound PTC124, which causes muscle cells to ignore a molecular stop sign and make the protein lacking in people with DMD. In a similar vein, basic research conducted by MDA-supported investigators has moved a strategy known as “exon skipping” from the laboratory to clinical testing. Exon skipping, like PTC124, causes cells to skip a part of a gene that contains an error. Although developed for DMD, this technique

potentially is applicable to people with other types of genetic mutations.

New thinking in amyotrophic lateral sclerosis or Lou Gehrig’s disease (ALS) and spinal muscular atrophy (SMA) research may lead to additional targets for treatment.

Traditional thinking is that these diseases affect only the motor neurons, but recent research has led scientists to believe the problems may be more widespread —

perhaps involving the junctions of nerve and muscle fibers, the muscle fibers themselves or the nervous-system support cells. The implications of these findings are enormous. If confirmed, they could affect the way motor neuron diseases are understood and how treatments for them are pursued.

A potential drug for Friedreich’s ataxia (FA) is currently under development and showing great promise. MDA recently awarded a \$1 million grant to the biopharmaceutical company Repligen for development of histone deacetylase (HDAC) inhibitors to treat this disease, which causes severe weakness and heart problems. Researchers hope HDAC inhibitors will activate genes that produce frataxin, the essential protein missing in FA.

“The IAFF is MDA’s biggest champion. The dedicated efforts of fire fighters and paramedics help fuel our clinic, services, camp and research programs.”

—MDA President and CEO
Gerald Weinberg

As more research discoveries move from the laboratory into clinical trials, MDA is ready. The MDA’s new clinical trial network will make this complicated, lengthy and expensive process more efficient. Ten elite MDA centers and clinics around the country were selected to participate; five will focus on DMD and five on ALS. The networks will support trials and studies and collaborate on projects.

Essential Services

MDA provides medical services at some 225 MDA clinics in the United States and Puerto Rico. In addition, 36 MDA/ALS centers provide highly focused research and treatment programs for people with Lou Gehrig’s disease. MDA clinics are staffed by top health professionals skilled in the diagnosis and medical management of neuromuscular diseases.

Clinic services also include consultations and recommendations for programs of physical, occupational, respiratory, and speech therapy; genetic counseling; and assessments for needed mobility and communication equipment.

In addition to its clinic program, MDA pays for flu vaccinations and assists with the purchase and repair of wheelchairs, leg braces and communication devices.

Each year, MDA loan closets lend thousands of pieces of vital — and often costly — adaptive equipment to those it serves, such as lift chairs and hospital beds.

MDA sponsors nearly 250 support groups, coordinates a Phone Friends support network and organizes several Internet chats for people affected by muscle diseases.

And of course, there’s camp. In 2008, thousands of children attended some 90 MDA summer camps across the country at no cost to their families. Besides filling the boot to help send these kids to camp, hundreds of IAFF members take a week of their time as counselors.

Professional and Public Health Education

IAFF contributions also help make possible MDA educational materials, including informative booklets, care guides, videos, the award-winning Quest magazine, the monthly MDA/ALS Newsmagazine and three comprehensive, up-to-date web sites (www.mda.org, www.als-mda.org and www.mdaen espanol.org). Quest Magazine Online provides links to the magazine and online-only features at www.mda.org/questmagazineonline.

Each May, MDA’s ALS Division participates in national ALS Awareness Month, sponsoring educational and support activities in communities across the country.

MDA also helps disseminate cutting-edge treatment information among health professionals through scientific and medical conferences and meetings for researchers, physicians and other health care professionals.

A Worthy Mission

MDA is on a lifesaving mission, so it makes sense that the IAFF, whose members save lives every day, has been an MDA national sponsor for 55 years.

“The MDA family is deeply grateful for the love and support we receive from fire fighters,” says Weinberg. “Hope is so important, especially when coping with a devastating muscle disease. By helping MDA fund vital human services and research, the IAFF literally keeps hope alive.” ■



IAFF Member Targets Upland Game Grand Slam on TRCP's Escape to the Wild on VERSUS

While working on a wildland fire fighting crew, Mike Perry, a member of Bakersfield, CA Local 1301, developed a bad case of Valley Fever and spent eight months on bed rest, feeling at times like he would die. Valley Fever is a disease that would have ended most careers, but that was not the case for Perry. He rebounded with a great zest for life and adventure, hiking to the summit of Mount Whitney, participating in charitable 10k runs and pursuing a great passion for hunting — especially upland game birds.

Three years ago, that newfound passion led him to apply for his dream hunt on the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership's (TRCP) "Escape to the Wild," knowing full well his chances of winning were slim at best. Nonetheless, he knew that "if you never try, you never know."

The "Escape to the Wild" television series is produced by TRCP, VERSUS television and sponsoring unions — including the IAFF — and takes hardworking union members on the hunting or fishing trip of a lifetime.

Perry became the runner up to another lucky contestant in season one, and though he was disappointed, he did not waver in his support and appreciation for TRCP or its union-dedicated hunting and fishing club, the Union Sportsmen's Alliance (USA). Perry bounced right back for season three, and this time, his application grew wings.

"Escape to the Wild" host Tom Ackerman was in rare form as he climbed to new heights (in a tree) under the guise of catching his runaway cat, when Perry was called to the rescue. He recalls, "I started thinking this guy was crazy and 'what kind of man loves a cat this much?' I'm trying to calmly talk him out of the tree, and he's telling me a story about how his cat is a bird hunter."

Shortly after being told he'd won his dream upland bird hunt, Perry was shocked to discover that his wife, Amanda,



Mike Perry, a member of Bakersfield, CA Local 1301 poses with his spoils from the days hunt along side "Escape to the Wild" host Tom Ackerman.

had known for more than two months.

"I kind of knew what to expect, but I was really nervous about hunting in front of a camera," Perry says. The opportunity to harvest an upland game grand slam, which Perry described as taking a pheasant, chukar, Hungarian partridge and a bobwhite quail in one morning or afternoon hunt, occupied his thoughts most of the visit.

During morning and afternoon hunts, Perry kept his eye on the grand slam, shooting only when he had opportunities to achieve it, while he watched in admiration as the ranch dogs worked through the grasses, flushing out and harvesting fallen birds. "The dog work was unbelievable," he says.

Hunting world-class upland game birds is quite a challenge, especially when you're pursuing a grand slam and being followed by a camera. How did Perry react under the pressure? Did he harvest his grand slam? Watch and find out. ■



The new IAFF affiliates listed below joined the International in November and December 2008.

Local 4683
South County Professional Fire Fighters Association
Springs, TX
President: Paul Brown
18 members

Local 4709
Graham Professional Fire Fighters Association
Graham, TX
President: Julian Griego
7 members

Local 4697
San Juan Professional Fire Fighters Association
McAllen, TX
President: Oscar Lopez
12 members

Local 4714
Jefferson Parish 3rd District Professional Fire Fighters Association
Metairie, LA
President: Eugene Schwing
10 members

Local 4705
Canmore Fire Fighters Association
Canmore, AB
Canada
President: David Cipollone
10 members

Local 4716
Star Fire Fighters Star, ID
President: Tyler Lewis
9 members

Local 4706
Professional EMS of Berkeley County
Inwood, WV
President: Mark Longerbeam
24 members

Local 4717
East Point Professional Fire Fighters
East Point, GA
President: Douglas Stanley
28 members

Local 4708
Eureka Springs Fire Fighters
Eureka Springs, AR
President: Jason Morris
8 members

Local 4718
Southeast New Hampshire Professional Fire Fighters
Kingston, NH
President: Steven Turner
4 members



Tune in to TRCP's "Escape to the Wild" on VERSUS Country.

The episode airs Sunday, March 8 at 9:30 a.m. Eastern.



PHOTO CREDIT: ASSOCIATED PRESS

New York Fire Fighters Respond in Hudson River Crash

Minutes after U.S Airways Flight 1549 crashed shortly after takeoff into the Hudson River, Fire Department of New York (FDNY) fire fighters from the Uniformed Firefighters Association (UFA) of New York Local 94 and the Uniformed Fire Officers Association (UFOA) of New York Local 854 were on the scene working to bring the 150 passengers and five crew members to safety.

“I am truly proud of our members’ dedication to the great city of New York and the people who live and visit there,” says IAFF General President Schaitberger.

Flight 1549 was leaving New York’s La Guardia airport for Charlotte, North Carolina, January 15, when birds knocked out both engines. The first call came to the FDNY at 3:31 p.m. Local 854 and 94 members were on scene less than five minutes later.

Time was of the essence because temperatures were at 40 degrees in the water and 21 degrees outside. Hypothermia and death were serious possibilities.

On land, other members of Local 854 and 94 were ready to assist the injured. By all reports, the rescue went off without incident. “The New York City fire fighters’ bravery, dedication and training are called upon when disaster strikes,” says Steve Cassidy, president of Local 94. “It is especially gratifying when all involved in a major disaster go home safely.”

“The coldness of the water could have sent the passengers into cardiac arrest within five minutes,” says Jack McDonnell, president of Local 854. “Clearly, there was a chance 155 people were going to die in that river, but that did not occur because of our members. This

incident demonstrated just how well-trained and well-equipped our members are.”

FDNY marine crews worked quickly to get everyone off the sinking plane and onto various watercrafts from the fire department, police department, Coast Guard and the Port

Time was of the essence because temperatures were at 40 degrees in the water and 21 degrees outside. Hypothermia and death were serious possibilities.

Authority of New York and New Jersey.

The following day — January 16 — New York’s mayor honored all of the involved responders at City Hall.

The crash comes on the heels of a proposal to cut water rescue teams to save money because the teams do not get a high volume of calls. Fire fighters argue that emergencies and incidents like the Hudson River crash are unpredictable and demonstrate the continuous need for fire department marine resources.

Meanwhile, members of Local 854 and 94 went to New York City Hall on January 16, 2009, to try to stop four FDNY units in lower Manhattan, Brooklyn and Staten Island from shutting down between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. New York’s fire commissioner proposed the closures to save what he says is \$8.9 million per year.

Fire fighters and city council members

expressed concern that cutting services would put large areas of the City in danger when residents are asleep and most vulnerable, arguing that New York’s fire fighters are already doing more with less as department resources decrease and the number of calls increases. In 1958, FDNY had 364 companies to answer 72,942 calls. In 2008, FDNY had only 357 companies to respond to 473,335 calls.

Despite the valid arguments against the nightly closures, the fire commissioner proceeded with the plan. City Council does not have authority to override the fire commissioner’s budgetary decisions. ■

Union Effort

Fire fighters weren’t the only union members to respond to the crash landing of US Airways Flight 1549. In fact, nearly everyone involved in the successful landing and rescue of all 155 passengers is a union member.

Chesley Sullenberger is the former safety chairman for the Air Line Pilots Association and is now represented by the U.S. Airline Pilots Association. The flight attendants, who are first and foremost safety professionals, are members of the Association of Flight Attendants-CWA. The air traffic controllers are represented by the National Air Traffic Controllers Association and the ferry crews are members of the Seafarers International Union. And the wet-suited police divers are represented by the Patrolmen’s Benevolent Association. ■

Two Kilgore, Texas Fire Fighters Remembered

Fire fighters, family and friends bid emotional farewells to two fallen Kilgore, TX Local 2996 fire fighters. Services for Kyle Perkins, 45, were held on Thursday, January 29, and for Cory Galloway, 23, on Friday, January 30.

IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger spoke during both services. “We know when we get this calling that it could take any one of us, at any time,” he said. “Everyone who has taken the oath to serve in our profession comes into it knowing the risk. But, nothing prepares us to cope with the grief that we feel when we lose a brother or sister in the line of duty, let alone two.”

“Their untimely deaths were a shock to all of us,” says IAFF 11th District Vice President Sandy McGhee. “While I never met either of them personally, I know by all reports that they were both dedicated to



Kyle Perkins



Cory Galloway

duty and to serving their community. They will be missed.”

Full fire fighter honors were extended to both fire fighters as emergency vehicles from area departments lined the streets, bagpipes played and fire fighters in dress blues flooded the churches.

“The support has been amazing,” says Ramon Coven, president of Local 2996. “The loss of our two brothers is heartbreaking, but we are holding up the best we can.”

Perkins had been with the Kilgore Fire Department and a member of Local 2996 since 2004. His job was to protect those in need, and in his free time he still worked for others, whether it was organizing a walk to raise money for cancer research, actively taking part in fire prevention programs or singing in the choir. Perkins’ good deeds did not go unnoticed when he was named “Fire Fighter of the Year” in 2008.

Galloway joined the fire department and Local 2996 in January 2008 and was bursting with enthusiasm, ready to hop on a rig and respond to any call. “He was ready to give everything he had to do the job — committed, duty-bound, ready to serve in the hardest and most rewarding job imaginable. That’s who Cory was,” said Schaitberger of Galloway’s reputation as a fire fighter.

Both Perkins’ and Galloway’s names will be etched into the IAFF Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial in Colorado Springs, Colorado,

a permanent reminder of their dedication and sacrifice.

Schaitberger, McGhee and Coven also presented both families with the IAFF Medal of Honor.

While investigations are still ongoing, investigators know that Perkins and Galloway were training on a newly acquired E-One 95-foot platform aerial truck with a bucket attached. Both were inside the bucket eight stories in the air when they were thrown to the ground. They later died of injuries sustained in the fall. ■

IAFF District Vice President Emeritus Dies

The IAFF is sad to report the January 25 passing of IAFF 1st District Vice President Emeritus James King. King, 93, joined the Fire Department of New York (FDNY) in 1939 and remained active until 1969, serving in fire companies in Queens and Manhattan.



James King

In his 93 years, he experienced many historical events, including the great depression, the stock market crash and seeing the first man on the moon.

As a dedicated fire fighter, King held two positions within the Uniformed Firefighter Association (UFA) Local 94. He was elected treasurer in 1951 and vice president in 1957. He served as IAFF 1st district vice president from 1957 until 1969 when he resigned. King continued to serve as an IAFF staff representative until he retired in 1981.

Not only was King a devoted family man, he also had a true passion for the fire service.

A union man through and through, he will always be known as political, diplomatic and dedicated. King was also active in passing legislation in Albany, including a bill to increase fire fighter pensions.

During his later years, he served as vice president and president of the FDNY St. George Association and president of the FDNY Retired Members Association. He also held memberships in the Veteran Firefighters Association, Emerald Society, Fire Bell Club and New York State Fire Chief’s Association.

King is survived by his lifelong partner, Elsie “Linda” Bergo, and his daughter, Cathy. ■



Biden Meets With Those Who Serve

The day before his inauguration as vice president of the United States, (also Martin Luther King Day), Joe Biden spent the day working on a Habitat for Humanity project in Northeast Washington, DC, where he also had the opportunity to meet with three IAFF local presidents and other emergency responders. Pictured: Vice President Biden flanked by Prince George’s County, MD Local 1619 President Douglas Bartholomew (far left), Howard County, MD Local 2000 President Richard Ruehl (orange and black jacket) and Fairfax County, VA Local 2068 President John Niemic (far right).

Sounding the Alarm on High Blood Pressure

IAFF partners with Novartis to launch the Stop, Drop and Control High Blood Pressure program

If you're fighting fires, chances are you could also be fighting a different threat — high blood pressure. In fact, each year, 45 percent of on-duty fire fighter deaths are caused by heart disease¹ — and high blood pressure (presumably uncontrolled) is one of the contributing factors.² To address this urgent health issue, the IAFF has partnered with Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation to develop the Stop, Drop, Control High Blood Pressure (HBP) campaign.



The program, launched in December at the IAFF Affiliate Leadership Training Summit (ALTS), is a community health outreach campaign that engages fire fighters to raise awareness of high blood pressure (HBP) within their own ranks and in their communities. Affiliate leaders who attended ALTS heard former NBA star Darryl Dawkins share his high blood pressure story, which inspired 225 of the 275 IAFF affiliates represented at ALTS to request the Stop, Drop, Control Implementation toolkit.

“Not only does the Stop-Drop-Control program help our members monitor and manage their high blood pressure, the program also gives affiliates the tools to conduct blood pressure screenings in their communities — which helps promote a positive public image for fire fighters,” says IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger.

More information about high blood pressure and the Stop, Drop, Control campaign and toolkit is available online at www.iaff.org/SDC. ■

References

1. Kales SN, et al. Emergency Duties and Deaths from Heart Disease among Firefighters in the United States. *NEJM*. 2007; 356: 1207-1215
2. Geibe JR, Holder J, Peoples L, Kinney AM, Burress JW, Kales SN. Predictors of On-Duty Coronary Events in Male Firefighters in the United States. *The American Journal of Cardiology*, 2008 101:588
3. Rosamond W, Flegal K, Friday G, et al. Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics — 2008 Update. A report from the American Heart Association Statistics Committee and Stroke Statistics Subcommittee. *Circulation*. 2008;117:e1-e122.
4. American Heart Association. Available at www.americanheart.org/presenter.jhtml?identifier=4623. Accessed 1/7/09.
5. Cappuccio FP, Kerry SM, Forbes L, et al. Blood pressure control by home monitoring: meta-analysis of randomized trials. *BMJ* 2004; 329:1-6
6. Ong KL, Cheung BM, Man YB, et al. Prevalence, awareness, treatment and control of hypertension among United States adults 1999 — 2004. *Hypertension* 2007; 49:69-75.

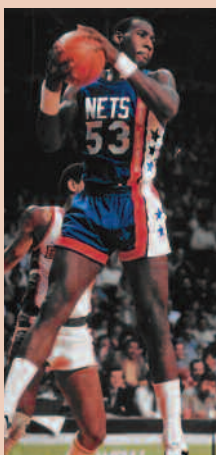
“Not only does the Stop-Drop-Control program help our members monitor and manage their high blood pressure, the program also gives affiliates the tools to conduct blood pressure screenings in their communities — which helps promote a positive public image for fire fighters.

— IAFF General President Schaitberger

High Blood Pressure Statistics

- An estimated 73 million Americans^{3b} — nearly one in three adults^{3b} — suffer from high blood pressure.
- High blood pressure is a serious chronic disease that can cause damage to the body with every beat of the heart⁴.
- HBP is easily detected and managed,⁵ however, if left uncontrolled high blood pressure can increase the risk of heart attack and stroke.⁶

Darryl Dawkins Thunders High Blood Pressure



Darryl Dawkins

IAFF: We all know you are legendary for your play on the 76ers and the Nets. But, let's talk about your personality on the court.

Dawkins: I played reckless and dangerous. I feared no man and I challenged everybody. I broke my first backboard in 1979 against Kansas City. The

Commissioner wasn't too happy and wanted to fine me \$5,000, but I went ahead and broke another one. I was playing with guys like Dr. J, so I had to do something to let people know I was there. I just had a good time. Ever since those days of breaking backboards, I've felt pretty invincible, which is why I was so surprised when I was diagnosed with high blood pressure. It jolted me back to reality.

IAFF: Who taught you to play basketball?

Dawkins: My mother was my first coach and teacher. She was a tough woman! I couldn't beat her in a one-on-one game until I was 13. She still calls me her baby, but she was the toughest defense I've ever faced. She also has high blood pressure; the condition runs in my family.

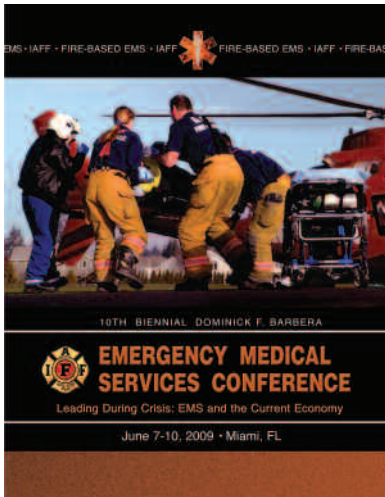
IAFF: Let's talk about your commitment to your health today as a retired athlete. How did you react when first diagnosed with high blood pressure?

Dawkins: Denial, denial, denial. It was about 11 years ago. I thought — I'm 6'11" and 350 pounds of steel — there's no way I could be sick! I was still doing 200 sit-ups and running a few miles every day. I went through three doctors until I finally realized I had a serious problem. I realized that I needed to take charge of my health for myself and my family. Looking back, I shouldn't have been so surprised. My parents and my brother have high blood pressure too.

IAFF: What is your affinity with fire fighters?

Dawkins: It's easy to have fun, push guys around and break backboards, but fighting fires is a whole different ball game; it takes much more courage. But, there are still some similarities between competitive athletes and occupational athletes. Both jobs require top physical condition and both rely on teammates. If one guy is lacking, then the whole team suffers. You rely on each other to get the job done. When it comes to high blood pressure, none of us is immune. That's why it is so important to take steps to manage the condition. I'm focused on telling my high blood pressure story to fire fighters in the hope that my experience will motivate others to get their blood pressure checked and take action to manage the condition.

Become a **program champion** and sign-up for a free Stop, Drop, Control toolkit today! For more information, visit the Stop, Drop, Control web site at www.iaff.org/SDC, call (877) 352-6474 or e-mail sdc@iaff.org to receive a full program toolkit and details on how to implement the program in your local.



Save the Date for the IAFF EMS Conference

Mark your calendars for the 10th Biennial Dominick F. Barbera EMS Conference, to be held June 7-10, 2009, in Miami Beach, Florida.

Because the economic downturn and subsequent changes are altering the way professional fire fighters and paramedics do their jobs, the focus for the 2009 Conference is on “Leading During a Crisis: EMS and the Current Economy.”

Register online at www.iaff.org.

A room block has been reserved at the Fontainebleau Miami Beach Hotel. The room rate for this Conference is \$179/single or double, plus tax. Make your room reservation using the Conference Code you receive when you register for the EMS Conference. Reservation deadline with the hotel is May 1, 2009, at 5:00 p.m. All reservations made after the deadline are on space available basis at prevailing room rates.

A pre-conference Fire Ops 101 will be held June 6, 2009, and is free with your paid registration for the EMS Conference. Plan now to bring your mayor, city/county manager, council members or commissioners to this Fire Ops 101 event. ■

Kaplan Acquires NPI

For the last three years, the IAFF has been partnered with National Paramedic Institute (NPI) to provide online continuing education to IAFF members. On November 2, 2008, NPI was sold to Kaplan Inc. in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, the premier provider of online education, with more than one million students worldwide.

“This is a very exciting opportunity for the IAFF as Kaplan’s entry into fire and EMS education has the ability to scale the business and create a much more robust

online solution than would have previously been possible,” says Dr. Steve Katz, former president and CEO of National Paramedic Institute and currently chief medical officer at Kaplan Continuing Education.

Katz notes that Kaplan is 100 percent committed to the educational needs of the fire and EMS community and to providing second-to-none fire and EMS continuing education. “We are very excited about working with the IAFF and finding opportunities for additional course offerings,” says Katz, who has retained all of the NPI employees and has relocated the business to its headquarters in Ft. Lauderdale.

One of the advantages of the Kaplan acquisition of NPI is that all IAFF members and their families will now be eligible for discounted online training for Kaplan’s entire suite of online certificates and degrees, including financial planning, insurance, pharmacy technician, nursing,



and university degree offerings.

In addition to ongoing fire and EMS continuing education, the program allows for tracking of fire and EMS skills, including intubations, fire fighter refresher training and live training exercises.

For more information, visit www.iaff.org or call (800) 671-9411. ■

Seatbelt Saves Falling Fire Fighter

This National Near-Miss Reporting System Report discusses an apparatus door flying open and a fire fighter’s seat belt saving him from being ejected from the vehicle. The first report of 2009 is a positive reminder to wear our seatbelts.

A fast-growing category of fire fighter fatalities are vehicle accidents. Vehicle accidents are also among the most preventable (see the story, “Vehicle Accidents: Deadly But Preventable,” in the September-October issue of the *International Fire Fighter* or online at www.iaff.org). In 2008, there were 114 fire fighter fatalities, and 25.4 percent were vehicle related. Fire fighters die when not wearing their seatbelts. We sign pledges, participate in awareness programs, provide and receive training, have zero tolerance policies and read NIOSH reports. When the tones go off, do we forget it all? This near-miss report validates why it’s important to always wear a seatbelt.

Brackets [] denote identifying information removed by the reviewer.

“While responding to a report of a furnace malfunction, I was riding in a 1999 [manufacture name deleted] pumper. I was riding in a forward facing position behind the driver and I was wearing my seatbelt. We made the turn onto the street

in front of the station and my cab door flew open. The force from rounding the turn also started to pull me out of the unit. At this point, I was in shock and physically could not speak to tell the driver to stop. The person riding next to me immediately reached over and grabbed a hold of me and told the driver to stop. Had I not been wearing my seatbelt, I would have been ejected from the vehicle.”

To read the entire report, visit www.firefighternearmiss.com, click on search reports, and in keyword search type seatbelt. Scroll down to report number 09-0000001.

Discussion Questions:

- Drivers: what practice do you follow to ensure passengers a safe belted ride?
- Officers: what steps do you take to ensure your crew is safely transported to the scene?
- Fire fighters: are you still getting dressed while the rig is moving?
- Chiefs: what seatbelt policies and procedures are in place and how are they enforced?

Note: The questions posed by the reviewers are designed to generate discussion and thought in the name of promoting fire fighter safety. They are not intended to pass judgment on the actions and performance of individuals in the reports. ■

Stay safe — Enter your near-miss report — www.firefighternearmiss.com

ALTS and LMI: A Combined Success

The IAFF Affiliate Leadership Training Summit (ALTS), held December 7-9, 2008, in Phoenix, Arizona, drew a record-breaking 950 affiliate leaders from the United States and Canada, making it the largest ALTS to date.

ALTS offered more than 40 workshops and 12 informational sessions, providing IAFF leaders with critical information on pensions, health care, negotiation skills and more. Attendees benefited from the expertise offered by IAFF staff, experienced union leaders, active fire fighters and other outside practitioners.

The most notable sessions included workshops addressing strategies for surviving an economic downturn (see pages 14-18), the results of the November 2008 elections and their impact on fire fighter issues, as well as important Supreme Court decisions that impact the fire service and first responders.

The three-day ALTS also included two pre-conference sessions: a Fire Ops 101 (Train-the-Trainer) and a New Leadership Seminar.

Eighty union leaders visited the Phoenix Fire Academy for Fire Ops 101. Fire Ops 101 events are designed to teach elected officials and community leaders about the risks and challenges involved in fire fighting by exposing them to realistic scenarios. Participants learned how to conduct their own Fire Ops 101 events and best practices for ensuring safety when local leaders suit up in protective gear to feel the heat of live fires.

The New Leadership Seminar was unveiled to more than 250 affiliate leaders who learned about the invaluable services and resources provided by IAFF Divisions, including the IAFF Financial Corporation (IAFF-FC) and the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). Participants also networked with other affiliate leaders from across North America, allowing an exchange of experiences and ideas with their peers.

The first Labor Management Initiative (LMI) Conference, which was jointly sponsored by the IAFF and IAFC, was held immediately following ALTS. More than 500 affiliate leaders and management representatives attended LMI to focus on building, improving and maintaining positive labor-management relations. Participants discussed strategies to help fire departments safely survive the economic downturn, the cost-effective benefits of positive labor-management relations and leadership skills from IAFF and IAFC staff, city officials, fire fighters and fire chiefs.

During the LMI conference, the IAFF and IAFC introduced an expanded labor-management initiative program



IAFF affiliate leaders used the Affiliate Leadership Training Summit (ALTS) to improve their union leadership skills. The two-day ALTS offered more than 40 workshops.



ALTS attendees learned how to conduct their own Fire Ops 101 event during a pre-conference Train-the-Trainer workshop.

customizable to individual states, departments or affiliates. The program, which consists of two, two-day sessions, is designed to increase confidence between fire chiefs and union presidents and improve interpersonal communications between labor and management.

Both events now offer a post-conference web site to provide participants with materials from the conferences for continued learning. Visit www.iaff.org/et to view the ALTS post-conference site. More details on the LMI post-conference site will be available soon. ■

IAFF Launches Presumptive Health Initiative Web Site

The IAFF has launched an improved web site (www.iaff.org/hs/phi/) to provide affiliates and members information on presumptive legislation in their states or provinces.

“Our goal is to enact these laws in every U.S. state and Canadian province so that every IAFF member is covered by these diseases that result from hazards on the job,” says IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger. “It is shameful that there are fire fighters who contract these horrible diseases and conditions who have to spend time and energy proving their condition is job related when they need to be focusing their time and energy on fighting their disease and restoring their health.”

A presumptive disability law links a particular occupation with a disease or condition that has been shown to be a hazard associated with that occupation. For fire fighters and emergency medical responders, scientific evidence has demonstrated an increased risk for heart disease, lung disease, cancer and infectious diseases. As a result of this presumption, if

“Our goal is to enact these laws in every U.S. state and Canadian province so that every IAFF member is covered by these diseases that result from hazards on the job.”

— IAFF General President Schaitberger

a fire fighter contracts a disease or condition that is specified in the presumptive law, then that disease or condition is presumed to have come from his or her employment as a fire fighter. In most cases, the burden of proof shifts from the fire fighter to the fire department to demonstrate that the condition was not in fact associated with the occupation but with another cause.

The web site includes general information about presumptive legislation, a table summarizing what presumptions exist in



The Presumptive Health Initiative web site lists presumptive law coverage by state and province as well as by specific disease.

each state and province, tables presenting snap shots of the legislation for each disease and the specific language of the legislation in each state and province. ■

With Group Savings Plus[®], IAFF members can get more from their auto and home insurance.

CAR

HOME

- Savings of up to 10% on auto insurance with a special group discount. Additional savings with several other discounts¹
 - 12-month rate guarantee unlike the six-month policies that some other insurers offer
 - Help when you need it with 24/7 emergency roadside assistance and 24-hour claims service
 - Additional coverages for added security including motorcycle, condo, renters, personal liability (umbrella), watercraft and identify theft insurance.
- Get more. Save more.**
Find out just how much more today.
- Call 1-800-835-0894 and mention client #110032 or visit libertymutual.com/lm/iaff.



Responsibility. What's your policy?



¹Discounts and credits are available where state laws and regulations allow, and may vary by state. To the extent permitted by law, applicants are individually underwritten; not all applicants may qualify. Coverage provided and underwritten by Liberty Mutual Insurance Company and its affiliates, 175 Berkeley Street, Boston, MA. A consumer report from a consumer reporting agency and/or a motor vehicle report, on all drivers listed on your policy, may be obtained where state laws and regulations allow. Please consult a Liberty Mutual specialist for specific details. ©2008 Liberty Mutual Insurance Company. All Rights Reserved.



Retirees

A Salute to Dedication, Service and Courage

ALABAMA L0980 Bessemer—Michael Bolack, L1349 Mobile—Gerald Hatch, Howard Ollhoft, L2676 Northport—Daryl Patterson, Philip Turner

ALASKA L4303 Juneau Career—Vernon Fiehler

ALBERTA L0237 Lethbridge—Henry Berry, Terry Haney, William Howes, L1190 Red Deer—Roland Jones, Ron Polutnik, Don Young

ARIZONA L0479 Tucson—Daniel Bertoldo, L0493 Phoenix—Darryl Bair, Melvin Burt, Lorenzo Delacruz, Mike Duran, David Ellett, Gary Flannery, Peter Hobel, Ricky Kimball, David Mathis, Carlos Pisano, David Vera, David Warnecke, Richard Wolfe, L2260 Mesa—Larry Spade, Leeroy Tryon, L3573 United Sun Cities Fire Fighters—Robert Towner

ARKANSAS L2866 Fayetteville Fire Fighters Association—Fred Lawley, L3007 Springdale—Charles Walden

BRITISH COLUMBIA L0323 Burnaby—Ken Jensen, L0905 Nanaimo—Jacquelyn Scott, L1183 District Of North Vancouver—Terry M. Abrams, Keith Burdett, B. Doyle, Glenn Foster, William Galway, Debbie Gibson, Kent Hodson, Lynette Hughes, Simon Jung, D. A. Marshall, Jayne Metcalf, Gerald Parkinson, Gregory Smith, L1286 Richmond—Gerald Metcalfe, L1372 Prince George—Thomas Aldoff, Allan Leier, L1525 West Vancouver—Harry Boswell, L1763 Delta Firefighters—James Kittson, L2407 White Rock—David Haugo, Terry Richardson

CALIFORNIA F0085 Federal Fire Fighters Association—Joseph Griener, F0289 Miramar—Kenneth Derr, Kenneth Wedel, L0055 Oakland Alameda County And Emeryville—Brian McKenna, Tim Terzian, L0112 Los Angeles City—William Alderson, David Baiz, Van Bergquist, Michael Crandall, James Finn, Robert Gladden, Michael Gross, Dory Jones, Roger Krueger, Donald Kusar, John Loyd, Miguel Martinez, Glen Prine, George Shipp, Patrick Vignery, Michael Walker, Terry Waters, James Westling, William Zaring, L0145 San Diego—Steven Johnson, David Oney, Patricia Stone, Peter Vredenburg, L0456 Stockton—Carl Eck, L0522 Sacramento—Steven Hauser, L0753 Fresno—Albert Orozco, L0776 Glendale—Chuck Manente, L0809 Pasadena—Kermit

Johnson, L0935 San Bernardino County—Richard Flint, L1067 Riverside City—Eric Botkin, L1138 Torrance—Daniel McNeley, L1230 Contra Costa County—Glen Lewis, L1301 Kern County—Donald Clark, L1483 Newark—Douglas Gray, L1578 Alhambra—Paul Curtis, Timothy Gardner, Paul Volz, L1689 Fremont—Alan Baxter, L1775 Marin Professional Fire Fighters—Elmer Collett, L1927 Culver City—Jeffrey Nisbet, L2046 Santa Barbara County—William Green, L2606 Salinas Rural—Michael Terry, L2881 CDF Fire Fighters—Ryan Bentrim, Joe Depaoli, Mahlon Schanzenbach, Roger Simms, Gerald Wehrly, Theodore Yarbrough, L2899 Anaheim Fire Fighters Association—Jeffrey Ash, Joe DeLeon, Dover Ford, Dennis Pettitt, Larry Vandenberg, L3058 North Monterey County—Chung Earley, Clifford Fasnacht, L3124 Napa City—James Gholson, L3355 Tracy City—Terry Hein, L3399 Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Fighters—Rich Boyd, L3507 Santa Fe Springs Fireman's Association—Timothy Lynch, L3631 Orange County Professional Fire Fighters Association—James Boggs, Kenneth Duncan, Jerry Galati, Gerald Howard, William Sinclair, L3682 El Segundo—Michael Chidester, Daniel Evelyn, John Gutierrez, L3707 Monterey—Rob McCay, L3719 Visalia—Bill Alves, Dwane Anthony, Frank Reed, Dale Renftle, L3736 Oceanside—Alex Obregon, L3757 Corona Fire Fighters Association—Mike Warren

COLORADO L0003 Pueblo—Phillip Gianetto, Robert Zingg, L0900 Boulder—Daniel Cutler, L1290 Aurora—Robert Simmons, L2086 Littleton—Melanie Zuther, L2808 Grand Junction—Pat Archuleta

CONNECTICUT L0760 Hartford—Richard Bergen, Kenneth Bryant, Michael Callahan, Gregory Carr, Francis DeBella, James Doyle, Raymond Kasey, Valentin Rodriguez, Richard Sampson, Alfonso Tenore, Carlos Vargas, Thomas Vassar, L0834 Bridgeport—James Morley, Rodney Vining, L1148 Meriden—Laurence D'Addario, Michael Majeski, L1241 West Hartford—John Oates

aaaaa33

FLORIDA L0122 Jacksonville Association Of Fire Fighters—Allan Elomaa, Frank Parrish, L0587 Miami Association Of Fire Fighters—Richard Ferry, L0727 West Palm Beach Association Of Fire Fighters—William

Cejmer, L0747 St. Petersburg Association Of Fire Fighters—Cathrine Washington, Robert Winters, L0765 Fort Lauderdale—William Earle, Robert Edgar, Daniel Hanes, Steven Paine, L1673 Deerfield Beach Fire Fighters & Paramedics—William Gray, L1951 Melbourne Fire Fighters Association—Rennell Moreland, L2057 Orange County Professional Fire Fighters—Deborah Cecchi, Martin Laszaic, David Murphy, Richard Wetterstrom, L2201 Indian River County Fire Fighter/Paramedic—Steven Hayes, L2294 Hillsborough County Fire Fighters—Ronald Powell, Clarence Weinsheimer, L2427 Largo Professional Fire Fighters Association—Dale Cheatham, Shaughn Gulliver, William Hartley, Otto Sandleben, Timothy Wedin, L2546 Suncoast Professional Fire Fighters & Paramedics—William Costello, James Leib, Cody Marsh, Timothy Mason, Timothy Mitchell, Clifford Prince, Paul Spradlin, James Strandlof, Glenn Taylor, Glennon Taylor, L2928 Professional Fire Fighters & Paramedics Of Palm Beach County—Dawn Donaldson, Roger Forrest, L3080 Metro-Broward Professional Fire Fighters—Johann Ballenger, Michael Brown, Robert Dawes, David Fearnley, Jeffrey Hunter, Richard McCormick, Michael Selvanik, Dave Viele, Jeffrey Wasylink, L3254 Seminole County Professional Fire Fighters Association—James Van Wormer, L3865 St. Johns County—Robert Grimm, L4216 Baker County EMS—John Motherwell

GEORGIA L3920 Fulton Professional Fire Fighters—Larry Beal, John Benton, Karen Brack, Tim Callahan, Wayne Carter, Emory Casper, Paul Chaknis, William Coursey, Rodney Cowan, William Craton, Joey Daniels, Melvin Drayton, Ruben Dupree, Ruben Dupree, Reginald Ferguson, Scott Gibbs, John Gilbert, William Gilliam, Phillip Gossett, Willis Hardy, David Harris, Harold Harrison, Quinton Haygood, Jesse Heard, Greg Hofer, Bill Hopper, Gary Huffman, Gary Huffman, Michael Ivey, Michael Johnson, L Kimbrell, Randy Lacey, Jerre Ledbetter, Marion Lee, Barry Lipham, William Lyle, George Mangum, William Millians, Patrick O'Neill, Thomas Pinyan, Grant Porter, Larry Rousseau, Ryan Seelbinder, Harold Shelton, Shannon Smith, Richard Spencer, Barry Tatum, Jason Taylor, William Tribble, Robert Vincent, James Vincent, William Wall, Kevin Wallace, John Walton, Rodney Wilson

HAWAII L1463 Hawaiian Islands—Ernest Akana, Jason Gushiken, Stephen Kishida, Clyde Sasaki, Douglas Silva, Alexander Zavalishin

IDAHO L1565 Idaho Falls—Terry Drollinger, L1773 Lewiston—John Crawford, James Holcomb, Larry Knewbow

ILLINOIS L0002 Chicago—Steven Adesso,

Donato Binetti, James Brichetto, Nathan Clark, Robert Dzedzic, Gregory Edingburg, James Moore, David Peck, John Sampson, Keith Wickery, L0037 Springfield—Gary Fleck, Thomas Hart, L0429 Danville—Richard DeCorie, Brian Morfey, Maridale Palmer, L0524 Pekin—Vaughn Bottemly, Donald Faux, Ronald Klien, L0742 Evanston—Richard Borre, Patrick Dillon, Tom McGuigan, Robert Nelson, L2754 Orland—Randy Reeder, Daniel Smith, L3005 Bolingbrook—Cary Krach, L3046 Sycamore—Duane Prather, L3084 Effingham—Patrick Dirks, Richard Kenter, L3200 Charleston—Johnny Hendren, L3437 Darien-Woodridge—David Lambricht, L3594 Wood Dale—Richard Chisenall, Jean-Paul Mansour, L4186 Glenview—John Hutchison

INDIANA L0124 Fort Wayne—Alan White, L0359 Gary—Reginald Barksdale, L0416 Indianapolis—William Cloud, James Greeson, Brian Quirk, Donald Thomas, L3433 Franklin Fire Department—Russell Irving

IOWA L0011 Cedar Rapids—Thomas Godfrey, Scott Tomash, L0608 Muscatine—Donald Bekker

KANSAS L0064 Kansas City—Michael Pettey, L0135 Wichita—Thomas Caudell, Mark Jenkins, L0179 Hutchinson—Donald Jones, L0818 Emporia—Tod Noble, Alan Sage, L1371 Johnson County Fire Districts 2 & 3—Jerry Wisdom, L2275 Manhattan—James Taylor, L3309 Junction City—Orin Auld, Richard Ross, Glen Rubash, Michael Ryan

KENTUCKY L0038 Covington—Buddy Wheatley, L0345 Louisville—George Bowling, L1570 Shively—Martin Humphreys, L1807 Winchester Professional Fire Fighters—Daniel Holt, L1928 Fort Thomas—James Specht, L2290 Henderson—Dan Pitt

LOUISIANA L0632 New Orleans—Orson Adams, Irvin Bubeck, Alan Campbell, Ron Hotstream, Verdall Hubbard, John Manning, Juan Manuel, Darrell Phillips, Michael Rouege, Guy Sproles, Wayne Verges, Kazell Williams, L1374 Jefferson Parish—Stephen Hux, Edwin Pigott, L1442 Crowley—Eva Hunter

MANITOBA L0867 Winnipeg—Victor Basarowich, B. H. Meyers

MARYLAND F0121 National Capital Professional Federal Fire Fighters—Thomas Groom, F0297 Andrews Air Force Base—Larry Smith, L0734 Baltimore—Steven Crawmer, Timothy Green, Michael MacCubbin, Duane Ritter, David Schickton, L1311 Baltimore County—John Alban, Timothy Badders, Glenn Coleman, Deborah Greene, Stanley Kuklinski, Stephen Riley, Frank Spears, Wayne Weigandt, L1563 Anne Arundel County—John Alexander, Daniel Bunker, Robert Copeland, Grafton Dietz, David Dohler, Terry Gero, Robert Griner, William Hein, Thomas Hnyla,

Robert O'Brien, Michael Pyle, Eric Reckner, Charles Spaar, Carl Travers, Timothy Ward, L1619 Prince George's County—John Beardmore, Alan Billings, Charles Bond, Chauncey Bowers, Robert Bramhall, James Brinkley, Saverio Cappetta, Micarleo Cole, Christopher Cooke, Lisa Dunaway, William Dunn, Curtis Eaby, Deborah Eikenberg, Lewis Etter, John Fletcher, Franklin Fluharty, Robert Fuller, Stephen Garrett, Gregory Gigliotti, Wanda Gorham, Sandra Grubb, Thomas Hayden, Lindsey Hazelton, Christopher Helminiak, Tyrone Henson, Dalvin Hutton, Roger Leak, James Maloney, Robert McCoy, David McGarry, Joseph Morris, Dwight Neal, George Olds, Phillip Proctor, Rose Proctor, Darryl Queen, Randy Robinette, George Rodgers, Denton Rourke, Anthony Ryan, Joshua Shaffer, Samuel Smiley, Tchaikowsky Smith, Kirk Souder, James Sullivan, John Taltavull, Kevin Vermillion, Jeffrey Vogts, Terrence Ward, Jennifer Wicker, Marianna Widmann, Lloyd Woodall, L2000 Howard County—Brian Moe

MASSACHUSETTS L0144 Brockton—Michael DeGrace, Lawrence Kelley, Thomas Simpson, L0146 Lawrence—Douglas Bunker, L0718 Boston—Patrick Macauley, Richard McSweeney, L0792 Quincy—Dominic Conso, John Coughlin, Paul D'Olimpio, James DeVarennes, Richard Murphy, Joseph Walsh, L0848 Professional Fire Fighters Of Attleboro—Theodore Kloc, L1003 Saugus—John MacKenzie, James McQuaid, William O'Malley, James Zelinski, L1009 Worcester—Randy Chavoor, James Doherty, John Fiorino, James Rutkiewicz, Michael Stomski, L1268 Randolph—Joseph Dupras, Frederick Lewis, L1616 Weymouth—John Johnson, L1631 Norwood—Brian Hebner, L1656 Everett—Gordon Stillwell, L1706 Needham—William McDaniel, L1768 Plymouth—Henry Adams, Thomas Minahan, William Roncarati, L1839 Chelmsford—John Carroll, Brian Stanton, L2035 North Andover—John Garvey, L2124 Harwich—Daniel Spencer, L2212 West Springfield—Dennis Egan, L2313 Burlington—William Callahan, Michael Nolan, L2398 Hingham—Kevin Carnrick, L2586 Dracut—Gary Ziemba, L2610 West Bridgewater—Gerald Stetson, L4139 Blackstone—Sherry Cook, Craig Cook

MICHIGAN L0116 Bay City—Robert Davey, L0335 Battle Creek—Jay Smith, L0344 Detroit—Allen Allison, Brent Gilbert, Herman Hurst, Raymond Stone, Laura Wilcox, L0352 Flint—Lloyd Anderson, L0366 Grand Rapids—Donald Quick, L1029 Southfield—Kevin Kuney, Dean Masser, Richard Rakestraw, L1383 Warren—Keith Matro, L1557 Sterling Heights—Stephen Pruchniak, L1831 Hampton Township—Edward Stagra

MINNESOTA L0082 Minneapolis—Jennifer

Cornell, Kevin Jones, Bradley Larson
MISSOURI L0042 Kansas City—Charles Inzerillo, L0073 Union of Prof. Fire Fighters Paramedics EMT's and Dispatchers of St. Louis—Greg Brockman, L0152 Springfield—Terry Gregory, Tim Robertson, L0757 Saint Charles—Michael Christie, Craig Dodson, Harry Rahn, L0781 Professional Fire Fighters of Independence—James Pallo, L1084 Cape Girardeau—Charles Brawley, L.Gene Golden, Robert Kembel, Ron Kistner, Andrew Serandos, L2195 Lee's Summit—Jason Jones, L2665 Professional Fire Fighters of Eastern Missouri—John Buckley, John Corbett, Andrew Gillham, Thomas Harwin, David Hill, Michael Mudd, Paul Richard, L2945 Fulton—Charles Ellis

MONTANA L0436 Anaconda—Ed Proxell, L2457 Missoula-Rural—Dale Walker

NEBRASKA F0191 Offutt Air Force Base—Michael Young, L0385 Omaha—Michael Caniglia, Randal Smith, L0644 Lincoln—Bruce Worth

NEVADA L1607 North Las Vegas—Michael Lodge, Jeffery Stone, L3895 Sierra Fire Fighters Association—Mark Lathrop, Chuck Perkins, Paul Wilford

NEW BRUNSWICK L1053 Fredericton—Kenneth Pike

NEW HAMPSHIRE L4546 Professional Fire Fighters of Pelham—Robert Chatel

NEW JERSEY F0114 Navy Lakehurst—Walter Abramowicz, L0305 Irvington Professional Fire Fighters Union—Brian McCarthy, L1064 Jersey City Fire Officers—John Austin, Robert Cobb, Robert Morello, L1860 Newark Fire Officers—James Titcomb, L2578 Camden Officers—Steven Serrano, Abraham Smalls, L2883 Edison Professional Fire Officers—Michael Costello, L4363 Cinnaminson Uniformed Fire Fighters Association—Robert Yearly

NEW MEXICO L2059 Santa Fe—Robert Alire, Paul Baca, Joseph Garcia, Gilbert Gonzales, Tony Jaramillo, Albert Jaramillo, Albert Olivias, Rick Ortega, John Penner, Richard Tafoya, John Valdez, Michael VanDiver, L2362 Las Cruces—Alonzo Madero, L3279 Los Alamos—Jimmy Leal

NEW YORK L0094 Uniformed Fire Fighters Assoc. Of New York—Steven Amen, John Barnych, John Barrett, Gregory Batkay, Robert Christensen, Michael DeBenedetto, Salvatore Dell'Olio, Joseph DeSerto, Dion Esposito, Karl Fassberger, Richard Frain, Michael Gargiso, Richard Grassia, Anthony Gurrera, Michael Hinchy, Steven Homan, Kerry Horgan, Konstant Kapetanakis, Kevin Kelly, David Kelnhofer, Gary Kresse, Raymond Longo, Steven McNoble, James Mills, Michael Minnock, Thomas Morgan, Thomas Nicolosi, Steven Olsen, Paul Picciano, Danny Porciello, Peter Quintalino, Ralph Rivera, William Rohl,

James Rooney, Nicholas Sasso, John Schulken, Joseph Slattery, Kenneth Specht, Alfred Suwara, Brian Williams, L0191 Watertown—Jon Grant, L0274 White Plains—Ronald Gramolini, L0282 Buffalo—Patrick Galvin, William Kwiatkowski, L0343 Saratoga Springs—Carl Conklin, Paul Staulters, L0628 Yonkers Mutual Aid Association—Kenneth Gallagher, Robert Gianotti, Ronald Lamanna, Francis Travers, L0779 Johnstown—Daniel Ackerknecht, L0835 Hornell—William Clifford, Vincent Kelly, Greg Tsubulsky, Steven Weed, L1071 Rochester—John Cocca, Mitchell Shipp, L2707 Oswego—Michael Cutro, Anthony Osetek, Michael Ross, L2733 Dewitt Professional Fire Fighters Association—Jeff Conlon, L3359 Niagara Falls Fire Officers—Paul Barr, L4151 Niskayuna—Arthur Breault

NORTH CAROLINA L0129 Wilmington Professional Fire Fighters—Joseph Gebbia, L0548 Raleigh—William Artis, James Clayton, King Harris, Ricky Moore, Terry Partin, Patricia Pickard, L0660 Charlotte—Terry Austin, Kenneth Collins, Randy Ensley, Thomas Frazier, Mike Gallagher, Merrick Lee, Jeff McManus, Tommy Thornwell, L0947 Professional Fire Fighters Of Greensboro—Douglas Patton, L3064 Lexington—Charles Corn

NORTH DAKOTA L0242 Grand Forks—John Brown, Dale Look

NOVA SCOTIA F0065 Halifax Naval Yard—David Gorton, L0268 Halifax—Mark Boone, Steve Morris, L2779 Cape Breton Regional Municipality Fire Fighters Association—Brendon McQuaid, L2779 Cape Breton Regional Municipality Fire Fighters Association—Blaise Poirier

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES L2890 Yellowknife Fire Fighters—Adam Catcher, Jason Clarke, Dean Diguier, Gerda Groothuizen, Craig Halifax, Mike Lowing, Dave Sundberg, Jared Wiebe

OHIO L0024 East Liverpool—Dwayne Fleming, L0067 Columbus—Spencer Cooper, Russell Parkinson, Craig White, L0093 Cleveland—Michael Daley, Patrick Daugherty, Jeffrey Fischer, Max Kozlowski, Albert Lugo, L0109 Newark—Vincent Waller, L0291 Lancaster—Edward Breining, L0442 Marietta—Dan Benson, L1220 Girard—Frank Cappella, L1723 Norwich Township—D. Michael Hull, L2291 Willoughby—Gordon Woodworth, L3029 Jefferson Township—Jeffrey Hockenbery, L3907 Sycamore Township Professional Fire Fighters—James Imholte, Trace Lawless, L4024 Trotwood—Mark Reigle, L4322 1st Consolidated Professional Fire Fighters—Jacob Cvetan, L4429 Mantua Shalersville Professional Fire Fighters—Matt Benner

OKLAHOMA L0157 Oklahoma City—

Darrell Witt, L1969 Miami—Donald Willy, L2066 Midwest City—Thomas Canfield, Charles Kuettel, Jason Martin, Alan Sanders, L2067 Norman—Mark Helm, Charles Kilgore, L2479 Ponca City—Marion Ham, Kevin Ivers, Bruce Williams

ONTARIO F0004 Chalk River A.E.C.L.—Dave Plumb, L0193 Thunder Bay—Garry Boyer, Ken Ketonen, Murray McLeod, Lorne Skogberg, Paul Viens, L0455 Windsor Professional Fire Fighters—William Ferguson, Raymond Gauthier, Richard Marr, James Wheeler, L0485 St. Catharines—Jack Beaulieu, Gerald Harpwood, L0486 Chatham Kent—Wayne Brown, L0534 Stratford—Terry Martell, Bob Murphy, L1068 Brampton—Laurence Taylor, L1595 Vaughan Professional Fire Fighters—Lori Albione, Jerry Brooks, Robert Engel, Garry Hilliard, Vaino Kumpulainen, Lori Macri, L2036 Whitby—David Chalmers, L3888 Toronto Professional Fire Fighters—Kenneth Boyd, James O'Farrell

OREGON L0851 Eugene—J. A. Fredrickson, L0939 Bend—Mark Taylor, L2406 North Bend—Joseph Henry

PENNSYLVANIA L0022 Philadelphia—James Atkinson, Ralph Capaldi, Oliver Cospelich, Harvey Davis, Wayne Deloatch, James Dreyer, Dennis Moran, James Pizzo, Anthony Rossi, Gary Schaefer, L0302 Allentown—Richard Anewalt, W. Scott Kappes, L0736 Williamsport—James Creeley, Douglas Martin, Kenny Roush, L0955 Uniontown—Jerome Dupey, L1803 Reading—Steven Orlosky

RHODE ISLAND L1363 Cranston—Thomas Dettore, David Fournier, Lee Gendreau, David Hansen, Timothy Hawthorne, James Quirk, Ralph Riccio, L1949 Portsmouth—Michael Hurley, L1950 Johnston—Kevin Cesana, L2050 Smithfield—Charles Brown, Scott Caron, L2334 North Providence—Lawrence Iavarone, L2722 Cumberland—Douglas Pratt, L2748 Warwick—Joseph Porcelli, L4421 Pawtucket Fire Fighters—Kevin Mulligan

SOUTH DAKOTA L0814 Sioux Falls—Nils Brobjorg

TENNESSEE L0140 Nashville—William Dozier, Harold Drake, James Wilson, L1784 Memphis—Elbert Bain, J. D. Berry, David Britt, Louis Morris, Wayne Peeler, Fred Person, Roger Powell, W. Lee Smith, Johnny Webb, James Wilson, Gary Winfield, L1850 Jackson—Roger Cox, Ralph Holmes, Ronnie Murphy, William Pigue, Eric Skinner, L3180 Clarksville—Mark Carpenter, Lucien Connell

TEXAS L0341 Houston—Dennis Aldrich, Marion Arias-Parada, Byron Bryant, Jimmy Bull, Richard Chandler, Mishie Craft, Robert Garza, Donald Havemann, Jon Hutchens, Waddell Jeffries, Edward King, William Love, Harry Matthews, Joe Miller, Thomas Patterson, Curtis Pratt, Tim Rudolph, Tom

Shankle, Jerry Swanson, Steven Williams, L0542 Amarillo—Patricia Baker, Johnny Doran, L0972 Lubbock—Tony Burrow, Larry Duyck, Mark Ethridge, Troy Luttrell, Stanley Mathes, Scott McGee, Jack Watkins, L0975 Austin—Shane Anderson, Scott Bloomer, James Boynton, Richard Collins, William Cook, Ronald Corrigan, Kenneth Cox, Stephen Grove, Terry Hill, Roel Marroquin, Richard Nino, Albert Papi, Robert Parker, Greg Paschall, Jesse Sanchez, Steve Titsworth, Victor Vreeland, Steve Woolverton, L1291 Denton—David Watson, L1329 Arlington—Dustin Brewer, Rick Mahan, L1390 Laredo—Lee Thornton, L1518 Mesquite—Mark Noble, L2149 Plano—James Lindsey, Michael Roberts, L2690 Nacogdoches—Neuman Ellis, Richard Ivy, L2917 Jacksonville Professional Fire Fighters Association—Mathew Smith, L3113 Grapevine—Steve O'Connor, L3320 Ennis—Johnny Pfeifer, L4331 Longview Professional Fire Fighters—Vincent Phillips

UTAH L1696 Salt Lake County—Steven Bowers, L3854 Roy City Fire & Rescue—Leland Watts

VERMONT L3044 Burlington—Christopher Gilbert

VIRGINIA L0068 Norfolk—James Hopkins, L0995 Richmond—Roscoe Bassett, James Walker, L2068 Fairfax County Professional Fire Fighters And Paramedics—Gary Bunch, Michael Graham, Gerald Nye, Andrew Snead, Michael Wood, L2141 Alexandria—Raymond Shanahan, L2598 Prince William Professional Fire Fighters—Andrew Lucas, L2924 Virginia Beach Professional Fire Fighters—Bruce Pensyl, L3194 Roanoke County P.F.F. And Paramedics—H. William Meador, L4314 Caroline County—Brady Grim

WASHINGTON F0283 Fort Lewis—Patrick Bennett, L0864 Renton—Johnny Bell, Charles Coffin, Henry Dykes, Kris Hanson, Kenneth McInnis, Michael Moeller, L0876 Spokane Valley—Pat Larvie, L1747 Kent—Robert Schmidt, L1760 Shoreline—James Batdorf, Mike Cooper, Dave Jones, Marcus Kragness, John Mounsey, L2024 South King County Professional Fire Fighters—Terrance Sullivan, L2052 Moses Lake—Tom Craghead, L4459 Orting Fire Fighters—Brian Kraft

WISCONSIN L0215 Milwaukee—Mark Ashworth, Paul Baerwald, Thomas Jeanpierre, John Konetz, L0311 Madison—Gregory Shortreed, L0415 Wausau—Richard Schultz, L1440 North Shore—Daniel Kral, L2051 Brookfield—Marcia Rosecky

NEVER FORGET

IN MEMORIAM

F0092	Ernie Snyder.....	Keesler Air Force Base	MS	L718	Raymond Morse.....	Boston	MA
L2	Howard Hively	Chicago	IL	L718	Charles Ryan	Boston	MA
L2	Thomas Karner.....	Chicago	IL	L718	Arthur Turk	Boston	MA
L2	Donald Senkpiel.....	Chicago	IL	L718	Edward Yalmokas	Boston	MA
L2	Joseph Shine	Chicago	IL	L731	Obert Reslock.....	Reno.....	NV
L2	Stuart Warren	Chicago	IL	L734	Thomas Boone.....	Baltimore	MD
L22	Harold Albertson.....	Philadelphia	PA	L734	Bernard Gruss	Baltimore	MD
L22	Richard Beier	Philadelphia	PA	L734	James Lane	Baltimore	MD
L22	James Curran.....	Philadelphia	PA	L734	James Williams	Baltimore	MD
L22	Francis McNulty	Philadelphia	PA	L734	John Wisenauer	Baltimore	MD
L22	Denis McCormick.....	Philadelphia	PA	L858	Joseph Cullen.....	Denver	CO
L36	John Slagle.....	Washington	DC	L877	Harley Rupprecht	Watertown	WI
L36	Eileen Smith	Washington	DC	L1268	Robert Heger	Randolph.....	MA
L36	Gerald Tassa	Washington	DC	L1349	Robert Brannon	Mobile	AL
L36	Harold Tornquist	Washington	DC	L1363	James Pagano	Cranston	RI
L38	Donald Kavanaugh	Covington	KY	L1364	Eddie French	Ventura County	CA
L42	Virgil DeWalt	Kansas City.....	MO	L1364	Michael Postma	Ventura County	CA
L42	Arthur Fields	Kansas City.....	MO	L1364	Donald Winkler	Ventura County	CA
L42	Rick Stebbins	Kansas City.....	MO	L1403	Daniel Hildoer	Metropolitan Dade County	FL
L55	Thomas Harris	Oakland Alameda Co & Emeryville ..	CA	L1403	George Kerr	Metropolitan Dade County.....	FL
L73	Virgil Braun	St. Louis	MO	L1403	David Longenecker	Metropolitan Dade County.....	FL
L112	William Dunn	Los Angeles City	CA	L1403	Terry Sperling	Metropolitan Dade County	FL
L112	Donald Farmer	Los Angeles City	CA	L1403	William Stephens	Metropolitan Dade County.....	FL
L112	Carlos Gallegos	Los Angeles City	CA	L1403	Hampton Wade	Metropolitan Dade County.....	FL
L122	Phelmer Barber	Jacksonville	FL	L1403	John Wesley.....	Metropolitan Dade County.....	FL
L122	Raymond Whitman	Jacksonville	FL	L1426	Frank DeFrancis.....	Fairfield.....	CT
L140	Clarence Lovell.....	Nashville.....	TN	L1463	Albert Branco	Hawaiian Islands.....	HI
L140	Riley Young.....	Nashville.....	TN	L1463	Albert Bright	Hawaiian Islands.....	HI
L144	John Sheehan	Brockton	MA	L1463	Kawika Ing	Hawaiian Islands.....	HI
L157	Richard Petty	Oklahoma City.....	OK	L1563	Wannie McMillion	Anne Arundel County	MD
L215	Frank Datzer.....	Milwaukee	WI	L1563	James Seibert.....	Anne Arundel County	MD
L215	Donald Horn	Milwaukee	WI	L1595	Robert Thomas.....	Vaughan	ON
L215	Norman Kadow	Milwaukee	WI	L1596	Craig Yeager	Lawrence	KS
L215	Robert Kraak	Milwaukee	WI	L1784	Billy Bradfield	Memphis	TN
L317	Heartley Anderson	Charleston.....	WV	L1784	Charles Ciulla	Memphis	TN
L341	Hillary Evans.....	Houston	TX	L1784	James Walker.....	Memphis	TN
L341	Joseph Hadley	Houston	TX	L1784	Eugene Wells	Memphis	TN
L341	Steve Jahnke	Houston	TX	L1813	Harold Gipe.....	Greater Chambersburg	PA
L341	Jose Mendoza	Houston	TX	L1839	James Flaherty.....	Chelmsford	MA
L416	Paul Doherty.....	Indianapolis	IN	L2000	Ivan Alexander	Howard County.....	MD
L416	Walter Hunt.....	Indianapolis	IN	L2000	Brenda Bonsal	Howard County.....	MD
L416	Warren Roller	Indianapolis	IN	L2043	Raymond Bates	Marblehead	MA
L416	James Toney	Indianapolis	IN	L2043	William Donovan	Marblehead	MA
L479	Arthur Brady	Tucson	AZ	L2731	William Wilkinson	Conroe	TX
L479	Leif Erickson.....	Tucson	AZ	L2733	Jeff Conlon	Dewit	NY
L548	Andrew Johnson	Raleigh.....	NC	L2786	George Grove.....	Howland	OH
L556	Donald Banik	Hammond	IN	L2881	Chris Ennis	CDF Fire Fighters	CA
L556	John Peters	Hammond	IN	L2881	Donald Winkler	CDF Fire Fighters	CA
L632	Joseph Blancher.....	New Orleans	LA	L3064	Douglas Stepp	Lexington	NC
L632	Branch Ehrhardt.....	New Orleans	LA	L3501	Donald Yarnall	Vacaville	CA
L632	Kenric Feehan	New Orleans	LA	L3586	Tadeusz Szwarc	West Des Moines	IA
L632	John Varnado	New Orleans	LA	L3864	Chealson Andre	Collierville	TN
L632	Manuel Zanco.....	New Orleans	LA	L3888	Stephen Buck.....	Toronto.....	ON
L718	Daniel Harrington	Boston	MA	L3920	Felix Roberts.....	Fulton	GA



LAST ALARM

DIED IN THE LINE OF DUTY

L2779	BERNARD W. TIMMONS	CAPE BRETON RMFFA, NS	12.25.08
L777	GARY V. STEPHENS	ELIZABETH, NJ	01.02.09
L452	ROGER K. DUKE	VANCOUVER, WA	01.02.09
L2928	TONY J. FALZARANO	PALM BEACH COUNTY, FL	01.03.09
L799	FRANCIS J. QUETTA	PROVIDENCE, RI	01.06.09
L718	KEVIN M. KELLEY	BOSTON, MA	01.09.09
L1311	THOMAS E. RICE	BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD	01.21.09
L2996	KYLE W. PERKINS	KILGORE, TX	01.25.09
L2996	CORY GALLOWAY	KILGORE, TX	01.25.09

NOTE: Children of IAFF members killed in the line of duty are eligible to receive the W. H. "Howie" McClennan scholarship which provides financial assistance to attend a university accredited college or other institution of higher learning. For more information contact the IAFF Department of Education at (202) 824-1533

IAFF Online Store

Hitch Cover

Hi impact ABS resin custom molded in maltese cross shape. Full color IAFF logo with protective coating. Fits 2" hitch.

Item F149 - \$18⁰⁰



Travel Tumbler

Full color collage with IAFF logo. Fits most auto drink holders. Features high gloss finish, dual wall insulation, and drink-through splash resistant lid.

Item F721 - \$10⁰⁰



IAFF 1/4 Zip Job Shirt

Top of the line heavyweight 90/10 cotton sweatshirt with quarter zip front and two pockets.

Navy with multicolor IAFF logo embroidered on left chest.

Available in sizes M-3XL.

(Size 2XL add \$3, 3XL add \$4)

Item F1150 - \$61²⁵



Custom Printed Long Sleeve T Shirts

Put your affiliate design on this generously cut, long sleeve 100% cotton T with mock turtle neck.

Available in white, ash, black, navy and red. Adult sizes S-4XL.

Price includes 1-color imprint.

Minimum order required.

Item FA505

As low as \$12⁰⁰ per shirt



Ladies Long Sleeve T

Soft cotton, long sleeve shirt is tailored to fit a woman's figure.

Black with gold IAFF logo embroidered on left chest.

Available in ladies' sizes S-2XL

(Size 2XL add \$2)

Item F1177 - \$20⁰⁰

SAVE OVER 40%

IAFF Mesh Jersey

Red and black, classic football-style mesh jersey with v-neck collar.

IAFF logo printed on front and the number "90" on back in honor of the IAFF's 90th anniversary.

Sleeves are accented with bengal striping and crossed axes.

Available in YOUTH sizes S-XL and ADULT sizes M-4XL.

Item F1018 - ~~\$85⁰⁰~~

Now Only \$50⁰⁰



Visit us online today to view our entire line of ready-made and customizable merchandise.

For more information, Call 1-800-562-5766 (ext. 105) or, send email to: customerservice@iaffonlinestore.com

INTERNATIONAL

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2009

Fire Fighter



1750 New York Ave. N.W.
Washington, DC 20006
www.iaff.org