MISSION STATEMENT

The Roanoke Fire-EMS Department exists to protect and preserve the lives and property of residents and visitors of the City of Roanoke from damage or loss due to fire, medical emergencies, environmental hazards, and traumatic accidents.
VALUES
The Roanoke Fire-EMS Department will:
• Work to prevent emergencies from occurring through fire code enforcement, investigation and public education
• Strive to be the recognized leader in Fire-EMS in the Commonwealth of Virginia and the United States
• Be the department of choice for our employees to work and achieve professional development
• Develop innovative training techniques and a research and development program for all aspects of Emergency Service delivery
• Be recognized as a resource of chief officers for other departments through superior officer training and development

LEADERSHIP PHILOSOPHY
We are a team of dedicated, hard-working individuals who want to do a professional job. We trust, train, empower, and hold each other accountable to accomplish our mission.

CORE VALUES
The employees of the department are our most valuable resource. Only through them will our mission be accomplished.

The residents and visitors of Roanoke are our customers. We will constantly strive to provide them with the highest quality of service possible. We will consider every contact with them as an opportunity to demonstrate our mission and values.

Employee and customer safety will affect our approach to the services we provide. A philosophy of participative management involves employees in issues that affect them, encouraging open dialogue, teamwork, trust, and the sharing of ideas among employees and management.

We will maintain department integrity and longevity through fiscally sound and proactive planning and budgeting.

Through research and development, visioning and creativity, we will constantly strive for better ways to fulfill our mission in services to our customers.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

“Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does.”
William James

The Roanoke Fire-EMS Department exists to protect and preserve the lives and property of residents and visitors of the City of Roanoke from damage or loss due to fire, medical emergency, environmental hazards and traumatic accidents. For us to be successful in our mission, each department member must believe and embrace our purpose.

In 2014, the department transitioned to a new Fire and EMS records management system which allowed for a more stable mobile operating environment. This was a significant accomplishment and will allow for more accurate tracking for statistical information of performance data. Additionally, in 2014 the department experienced a 35 percent increase in significant fires as compared to 2013 with 85 working fires for the year. Increases in accidental fires (cooking and discarded smoking material) and arson fires drove the increase. There were also three fire related deaths in 2014.

In addition, the department, as always, did an outstanding job with community outreach, participating in the Guns and Hose Hockey Game, Relay for Life and many other community activities and programs. Roanoke Fire-EMS community outreach plays a vital role in keeping our community safe and healthy.

I am very proud to present this annual report and be the Chief of Roanoke Fire-EMS Department and I am looking forward to 2015.

In the Service,

David Hoback, Chief
2014 SUMMARY
Land Area: 43 square miles
Population: 96,922
Stations: 11

PERSONNEL
Uniformed: 238
Civilian: 31
Total: 269

Fire Related Deaths: 3
Fire Related Injuries (Civilian): 19
Fire Related Injuries (Firefighters): 17
Total Fire Loss: $3,627,886

* "working fire" is the designation given to fire calls when the arriving officer sees smoke or flames come from the structure. By notifying "radio control" of the "working fire", additional resources are dispatched to the scene.
### Valley View Village Apartment Fire

On Wednesday, March 12, 2014, Roanoke Fire-EMS responded to a second alarm structure fire at 4815 Rutgers St., at the Valley View Village Apartment complex. Thirty-four Fire-EMS personnel responded to the scene, as well as the Roanoke Police Department and a crew from Roanoke County Fire & Rescue. When crews arrived they found smoke and heavy black smoke coming out from around them. That victim was quickly rescued by ground ladders with an additional four other rescues being performed shortly after. Three civilians were injured - two were transported to the hospital with severe smoke inhalation. No firefighters were injured. The American Red Cross responded to the scene and assisted 16 of the 34 people displaced. A total of 12 apartments were affected by the fire. Damage estimates are approximately $375,000. The fire was ruled accidental and caused by cooking.

### Roanoke Fire-EMS Rescues Critically Burned Victim from Fire

On Thursday, March 20, 2014, Roanoke Fire-EMS responded to a fire at 320 Hershberger Ave., Friendship Retirement Community. Friendship Retirement Community is an assisted living/independent living facility. When Engine 3 arrived they found smoke and fire showing from a second floor window of the five story building. Facility staff was attempting to evacuate the building. When crews gained entrance they found a victim in the hallway that they helped to safety. This victim was transported to Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital with burns and then sent to the UVA Medical Center. An additional civilian was transported to Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital for smoke inhalation and four additional residents were treated on scene and released. Roanoke County Fire & Rescue and Salem Fire-EMS also responded to the scene to assist Roanoke Fire-EMS. The fire was contained to the apartment but other apartments sustained water and smoke damage. Damage was approximately $156,000.

### Fatal Fires

A total of 31 fatal fires were reported in Roanoke, VA in 2014.

### Maxey’s Seat Cover Fire

Crews responded to a commercial fire on Thursday, September 25th in the 2400 block of Melrose Ave. at Maxey Seat Cover. When crews arrived they found smoke and flames and escalated to a 2 alarm. No one was injured. This fire was internationally set.

### Significant Incidents

#### Roanoke Fire-EMS Responds to a Commercial Fire

On Wednesday, May 21, 2014, Roanoke Fire-EMS responded to a 3 alarm fire at Stratford Village Apartments. Four people were treated on scene along with a cat. Roanoke Emergency Management responded to the scene along with the American Red Cross to assist the 47 people that were displaced. A shelter was set up at the Roanoke Civic Center Performing Arts Theatre for those in need. The cause of the fire was the improper disposal of smoking materials.

---

**APPARATUS RESPONSE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APPARATUS</th>
<th>TOTAL CALLS</th>
<th>DAY/AVERAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGINE 1</td>
<td>1,398</td>
<td>988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGINE 2</td>
<td>1,492</td>
<td>747</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGINE 3</td>
<td>1,319</td>
<td>867</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGINE 4</td>
<td>875</td>
<td>1028</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGINE 5</td>
<td>1,273</td>
<td>906</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGINE 6</td>
<td>1,061</td>
<td>209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGINE 7</td>
<td>1.16</td>
<td>2.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGINE 8</td>
<td>1.121</td>
<td>2.153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGINE 11</td>
<td>763</td>
<td>2.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGINE 13</td>
<td>1.413</td>
<td>3.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGINE 14</td>
<td>1.018</td>
<td>2.79</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEDIC</th>
<th>MEDIC 101</th>
<th>BC1</th>
<th>HTR6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MEDIC 1</td>
<td>2,771</td>
<td>1,412</td>
<td>957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDIC 2</td>
<td>2,768</td>
<td>463</td>
<td>966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDIC 3</td>
<td>2,646</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>1,825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDIC 4</td>
<td>2,431</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDIC 5</td>
<td>3,057</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDIC 6</td>
<td>3,098</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDIC 7</td>
<td>2,402</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDIC 8</td>
<td>2,153</td>
<td>5.90</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDIC 901</td>
<td>906</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDIC 902</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDIC 903</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDIC 904</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDIC 905</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDIC 906</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0.20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS**

#### Valley View Village Apartment Fire

On Wednesday, March 12, 2014, Roanoke Fire-EMS responded to a second alarm structure fire at 4815 Rutgers St., at the Valley View Village Apartment complex. Thirty-four Fire-EMS personnel responded to the scene, as well as the Roanoke Police Department and a crew from Roanoke County Fire & Rescue. When crews arrived they found fire and smoke showing from a first floor window of an apartment complex with heavy smoke showing from the third floor. When firefighters got off the truck, they found a victim in the third story window above the fire with heavy black smoke coming out from around them. That victim was quickly rescued by ground ladders with an additional four other rescues being performed shortly after. Three civilians were injured - two were transported to the hospital with severe smoke inhalation. No firefighters were injured. The American Red Cross responded to the scene and assisted 16 of the 34 people displaced. A total of 12 apartments were affected by the fire. Damage estimates are approximately $375,000. The fire was ruled accidental and caused by cooking.

### Roanoke Fire-EMS Responds to a Commercial Fire

On Thursday, March 20, 2014, Roanoke Fire-EMS responded to a fire at 320 Hershberger Ave., Friendship Retirement Community. Friendship Retirement Community is an assisted living/independent living facility. When Engine 3 arrived they found smoke and fire showing from a second floor window of the five story building. Facility staff was attempting to evacuate the building. When crews gained entrance they found a victim in the hallway that they helped to safety. This victim was transported to Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital with burns and then sent to the UVA Medical Center. An additional civilian was transported to Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital for smoke inhalation and four additional residents were treated on scene and released. Roanoke County Fire & Rescue and Salem Fire-EMS also responded to the scene to assist Roanoke Fire-EMS. The fire was contained to the apartment but other apartments sustained water and smoke damage. Damage was approximately $156,000.

### Maxey’s Seat Cover Fire

Crews responded to a commercial fire on Thursday, September 25th in the 2400 block of Melrose Ave. at Maxey Seat Cover. When crews arrived they found smoke and flames and escalated to a 2 alarm. No one was injured. This fire was internationally set.
Deputy Chief Beckner Retires
On Friday, September 12th, we wished a fond farewell to one of our own! Deputy Chief Jeff Beckner retired from the Roanoke Fire-EMS Department after nearly 30 years of dedicated service. It’s not goodbye - just see you later brother! Jeff will still be in the fire service as the Chief of Botetourt County Fire & EMS. His smile, good humor and wealth of knowledge will truly be missed! We love you Buddy!

New Officers Promoted

Newly Appointed Deputy Chief Sanders
On December 23, Melvin Sanders started his new position as Deputy Chief. Sanders has devoted nearly 30 years of service to the Roanoke Fire-EMS Department and the citizens of Roanoke. He has been a native of the City of Roanoke since 1962. He graduated from William Fleming High School and joined the Armed Forces as a paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne Division. Sanders started his career with the Roanoke Fire-EMS Department on January 25, 1985. He rose through the ranks and most recently served as an operations Battalion Chief.

TIMES ARE CHANGING: NEWS AND NOTES

Deputy Chief Beckner Retires
On Friday, September 12th, we wished a fond farewell to one of our own! Deputy Chief Jeff Beckner retired from the Roanoke Fire-EMS Department after nearly 30 years of dedicated service. It’s not goodbye - just see you later brother! Jeff will still be in the fire service as the Chief of Botetourt County Fire & EMS. His smile, good humor and wealth of knowledge will truly be missed! We love you Buddy!

New Officers Promoted

Newly Appointed Deputy Chief Sanders
On December 23, Melvin Sanders started his new position as Deputy Chief. Sanders has devoted nearly 30 years of service to the Roanoke Fire-EMS Department and the citizens of Roanoke. He has been a native of the City of Roanoke since 1962. He graduated from William Fleming High School and joined the Armed Forces as a paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne Division. Sanders started his career with the Roanoke Fire-EMS Department on January 25, 1985. He rose through the ranks and most recently served as an operations Battalion Chief.

New Faces- Chaplains
Roanoke Fire-EMS continued to grow our chaplain program in 2014. This program has proven to be a great resource for our department and our chaplains have really stepped up to the plate and gotten to know us. They stop by the stations, respond to scenes and have shown a genuine interest in the well-being of our firefighters. In 2015 we will add an addition to the team - David Peck from Acts2 Ministries.

Contact info:
Charlie Evans
charles.a.evans@gmail.com
Kyle Ferguson
kyleferguson@westpca.org
David Peck
dpeck@acts2ministry.org

THE PUBLIC SAFETY EQUITY & DIVERSITY CONFERENCE
On October 8-10th, 2014, the Roanoke Valley hosted the Annual Roanoke Valley Equity & Diversity Conference. Each year this conference moves from city to city throughout the Commonwealth. The conference is steered by the Virginia Fire & Emergency Service Equity & Diversity Association.

This year’s conference was a little different than in years past. It was a collaborative effort between the City of Roanoke, Roanoke County, the City of Salem, Town of Vinton and the Western Virginia Regional Jail. Fire-EMS departments, Police departments and Sheriff department’s in all localities assisted in the planning and implementation of the conference that took place on October 9th and 10th at the Roanoke Sheraton Hotel.

Twenty presenters hosted various tracts for attendees ranging from leadership to diversity and equity in the workplace, as well as crisis communication and even laughing yoga to help cope with PTSD. Governor Terry McAuliffe attended the opening ceremonies and Art Jackson gave a memorable keynote address. The conference moves to Arlington, VA in 2015.
GIVING BACK

Firefighters Take Part in “Murph Challenge”
On a gorgeous Memorial Day morning, our firefighters took part in the “Murph Challenge”. This is an annual fund-raiser benefiting the Lt. Michael P. Murphy Memorial Scholarship Foundation. Lt. Murphy was the officer-in-charge of a 4 man SEAL element in support of Operation Red Wings, tasked with finding a key anti-coalition militia commander near Asadabad, Afghanistan. He gave his life to protect his team. His sacrifice is honored and remembered through the Murph Challenge. For more info about the Murph Challenge, check out the website: http://themurphchallenge.com.

Guns & Hoses Hockey
Guns and Hoses is an annual charity ice hockey tournament played in Roanoke, Virginia, to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association, the official charity of the International Association of Firefighters. Last year alone, the I.A.F.F. raised more than $25 million for the MDA through events such as this.

Each year, local Roanoke-area firefighters (the “Hoses”) take on a team of local Roanoke-area police officers and law enforcement personnel (the “Guns”). During the last 10 years, Roanoke’s Guns and Hoses has raised more than $130,000 for the MDA, and more than 33,000 people have attended the games. For more info about Guns & Hoses, check out www.gunsandhoseshockey.com

Mission BBQ
In November, Mission BBQ opened their 13th restaurant right here in Roanoke, VA. Leading up to their grand opening, this gracious restaurant chain fed our firefighters (A LOT!) and even catered our Fire Prevention Week Art Contest and a Veteran’s Day Ceremony. They also hosted a charity night to honor our department. 100% of their proceeds from the charity night went to the MDA totaling over $1,300. If you haven’t checked them out, make sure to have lunch or dinner at the Towers Mall location.

Dinner at the Firehouse
Roanoke Fire-EMS teamed up with the Roanoke Heart Ball to auction off a dinner at the firehouse! The winners had a spaghetti dinner with station 5 on March 22! Fun was had by all!

Citizen’s Fire Academy
On January 6, Roanoke Fire-EMS began a Citizen’s Fire Academy. It’s been over 10 years since the department has been able to hold such an academy for the citizens of Roanoke. During the course of the Academy, citizens participated in the following activities: History of Roanoke Fire-EMS, Station Tours & Specialty Apparatus, Basic

BITS & PIECES

First Aid & CPR, Fire Prevention/Public Education, Firefighting, Vehicle Extrication/Driving Simulator, and even graduation! Fourteen citizens took part in the academy and graduated February 24th.

Public Safety Memorial
2014 saw big changes at the State level when it comes to recognizing public safety personnel that gave the ultimate sacrifice. On Friday, January 3rd, ground was broken on the Commonwealth Public Safety Memorial. The memorial is located in Richmond, VA near the Governor’s Office. Over 350 people attended the groundbreaking. Then in December, the memorial was dedicated, honoring 670 public safety officials that died in the line of duty. Chief Hoback serves on the Board of Directors for the Memorial. The memorial’s completion was the culmination of a long four-year capital campaign. The goal of the memorial is to ensure that no Virginia hero is forgotten. For more information about the memorial or the Virginia Public Safety Foundation, log on to www.vpsf.org.

Governor Meets with Firefighters
On March 28, Governor Terry McAuliffe and his staff visited with firefighters at Station 1. They discussed a variety of topics and had a great round table discussion discussing challenges for the fire service and how the Governor’s Office could assist.

Carilion HR Feeds Us Breakfast
On Friday, December 12, Carilion Clinic’s Human Resources Department treated our firefighters and Administrative staff to breakfast! They cooked up pancakes, sausage and eggs at Stations 1 and 5 and delivered goodies to our other stations. This was much appreciated and very unexpected! Thanks to those that prepared the food and planned the event.

Hoback Appointed to State EMS Advisory Board
Governor Terry McAuliffe announced additional appointments to his administration in 2014. The appointees will join McAuliffe’s administration focused on finding common ground with members of both parties on issues that will grow Virginia’s economy and create more jobs across the Commonwealth. Chief David Hoback of the City of Roanoke Fire-EMS Department has been appointed to the State Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board. This board serves as the formal liaison between the Office of EMS and the public and provides advice and counsel regarding methods and procedures for planning, developing and maintaining a statewide emergency medical services (EMS) system to the Office of EMS and the State Board of Health. Hoback has over 30 years of experience in the public safety and EMS field.
GRANTS, AWARDS, & RECOGNITIONS

Governor’s Award
Roanoke Fire-EMS has received the 2013 Governor’s Award for Outstanding Fire Department Response. On two occasions during 2013 (July 3rd and July 10th, respectively) the City of Roanoke’s Division 6 Swift Water Rescue Team’s skills were put to test in various efforts to assist residents trapped in vehicles and buildings following flash flooding. Efforts in both areas were focused around removing persons who were trapped due to rapidly rising flood waters. Over the course of a week, members of the Roanoke Fire-EMS Departments Swift Water Rescue Team rescued over 50 people from imminent danger. The team also received the prestigious and nationally recognized Higgins and Langley Award for this event.

Roanoke Fire-EMS Receives Assistance to Firefighters Grant
Roanoke Fire-EMS is pleased to announce that we have received the Assistance to Firefighters Grant totaling $138,601! These funds will be used to purchase power load systems for our front line ambulances. These systems will allow for a safer transport for not only the patient but also for firefighters and will also alleviate additional strain on the backs of those loading patients in and out of ambulances.

Roanoke Fire-EMS Receives Rescue Squad Assistance Fund(RSAF) Grant
Roanoke Fire-EMS is pleased to announce that we have received the latest RS AF Grant. This grant will provide funding for an ambulance, (2)Lucas C PR devices and a power load stretcher. We were also awarded 100% funding for a public education program that will focus on safe sleep for babies. This campaign will roll out in Feb. 2015.

Off-Duty Firefighter Hailed a Hero
Monday, March 24th was just a normal day for Firefighter Alex McKinney. He, along with his fiancé, were traveling down Route 460 from Roanoke to Bedford set for a day of shopping for their upcoming wedding. Little did he know that he was going to be put in a situation that his fire training had prepared him for! While driving down Rt. 460, they came upon a motor vehicle crash where the car was upside down – the wheels were still spinning on the car so McKinney knew the accident had just happened. He stopped the car and had his fiancée’ call 911 while he went to check on the injured driver. As he approached the vehicle he saw smoke and knew that he had little time to rescue the patient. The driver was okay but their leg was pinned. McKinney helped to free the driver just before the car burst into flames! Our department is so proud of Firefighter McKinney for his act of bravery that saved this person’s life – I guess it’s true what they say….on or off duty, if you are a firefighter, you are always a firefighter!

Hoback Assumes Role of President of the VFCA
In 2014, Chief David Hoback was appointed to the position of President of the Virginia Fire Chiefs Association (VFCA). He had recently held other seats on the board including 2nd Vice President and 1st Vice President. Hoback was sworn in during the Virginia Fire & Rescue Conference that took place in Virginia Beach in February, 2014. During Chief Hoback’s tenure as president he saw the Public Safety Memorial completed, helped to launch the Chief Officer 101 program and was instrumental in getting Mutual Aid Net funded in conjunction with the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) and the Virginia Department of Fire Programs(VDFP). Hoback also brought all of the new stakeholders of state agencies together for the first time and monthly meetings including VDEM, VDFP and OEMS. This made for much better communication at the state level which makes for better working relationships at the local level. Hoback helped to develop a leadership summit that was held in Virginia Beach. Under Hoback’s and the VFCA Board Of Directors leadership, VFCA membership rose, an automated renewal/membership process was launched making for better customer service and attendance at the yearly conference increased. Hoback stepped down in February of 2015, but still serves on the VFCA Executive Board of Directors as Immediate Past President.

Firefighter of the Year
Captain Robert Perdue & Firefighter Jason Focht were recognized by the Roanoke Firefighters Association Local 1132 as Firefighters of the Year. This group was responsible for rescuing civilians from a three story apartment fire that occurred on March 12, 2014 on Rutgers St. Also recognized as Firefighter of the Year for the fire at Friendship Retirement Community area is firefighters Rachel Miller and Aaron Parker. They helped to rescue a civilian from her apartment after the fire broke out. Congratulations!

VWEMS Regional Awards
In June, Battalion Chief David Bishop and Fire Prevention Specialist Tiffany Bradbury were recognized by Western Virginia EMS and awarded two regional awards. Bishop received the award for EMS Administrator and Bradbury received the award for EMS Education. Both were recognized at the EMS Symposium in Norfolk.

JCHS Awards
In June, Captain Werner Van Damme was recognized by Jefferson College of Health Sciences as Preceptor of the Year. Firefighter Eric Mullford was also recognized and received the David O. Palmer EMS Precepting Excellence Award.Congratulations!

Firefighter of the Year
Captain Robert Perdue & Firefighter Jason Focht were recognized by the Roanoke Firefighters Association Local 1132 as Firefighters of the Year. This group was responsible for rescuing civilians from a three story apartment fire that occurred on March 12, 2014 on Rutgers St. Also recognized as Firefighter of the Year for the fire at Friendship Retirement Community area is firefighters Rachel Miller and Aaron Parker. They helped to rescue a civilian from her apartment after the fire broke out. Congratulations!

VWEMS Regional Awards
In June, Battalion Chief David Bishop and Fire Prevention Specialist Tiffany Bradbury were recognized by Western Virginia EMS and awarded two regional awards. Bishop received the award for EMS Administrator and Bradbury received the award for EMS Education. Both were recognized at the EMS Symposium in Norfolk.

JCHS Awards
In June, Captain Werner Van Damme was recognized by Jefferson College of Health Sciences as Preceptor of the Year. Firefighter Eric Mullford was also recognized and received the David O. Palmer EMS Precepting Excellence Award.Congratulations!
PUBLIC EDUCATION

Roanoke Fire-EMS Celebrates 10th Annual Fire Prevention Week Art Contest
For the last 10 years, Roanoke Fire-EMS has teamed up with Roanoke City Public Schools for a fire prevention week art contest! This year’s contest was bigger and better than ever, with the theme “working smoke alarms save lives”. Fifty-seven pieces of artwork were submitted from 9 different schools. After the judging, 20 winners and their families and teachers were chosen and they were treated to dinner at Fire-EMS Station 5 on Thursday, November 13th. Mission BBQ donated food for the event, serving up BBQ and all of the fixings! Chick-Fil-A was a generous sponsor and donated chicken nuggets and Chuck E. Cheese delivered pizza and visited with the children. The Rockingham Group Insurance Company has been a wonderful partner and is the sponsor of the event. The insurance company liked Roanoke’s contest so much that now they host contests in Vinton, Moneta, Rocky Mount and Harrisonburg! Over 80 people enjoyed the dinner served by the firefighters and everyone was given fire safety information and smoke alarm batteries to take home.

Roanoke Fire-EMS Teams Up with the American Red Cross
On a chilly November morning, Roanoke Fire-EMS along with volunteers from the American Red Cross went door to door to install smoke alarms for families in need. This was an awesome event that allowed us to remind our citizens to have working smoke alarms and to change their batteries when they changed their clocks on November 2. If you own your home and live in the City of Roanoke you are eligible for a free smoke alarm. For more info about the program, call Tiffany at (540)853-5785.

Roanoke Fire-EMS Celebrates Fire Prevention Month
During the months of October & November, Roanoke Fire-EMS was very busy educating our community about the importance of fire safety. We participated in 58 community events ranging from school visits, puppet shows, fire safety trailer visits, parades, and fire station tours. Thousands of people were taught about fire safety and the importance of checking smoke alarms. On November 1, we teamed up with the American Red Cross and went door to door installing smoke alarms for our citizens. The alarms were graciously donated by the American Red Cross.

Seat Check Saturday
Did you know that 9 out of 10 car seats are improperly installed? On Saturday, September 20, 2014, our department along with Roanoke Police and Carilion participated in National Seat Check Saturday! We set up at Target near Valley View Mall and checked over 20 car seats! Roanoke Fire-EMS and its partners hold a monthly seat check on the third Thursday of each month from 4pm-6pm at Station 6 located at 1333 Jamison Ave., SE.

Taking it to the Streets for Fire Safety
For the third year in a row, Roanoke Fire-EMS, along with the American Red Cross, Roanoke Police and Hope Worldwide “took it to the streets for fire safety”! On Monday, January 20th, the sun was shining and we went door to door in the Melrose community near Fire-EMS Station 5 located at 1920 Orange Ave. to share fire and life safety with our citizens. This was a time for us to give back and commemorate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day. 58 HOPE Worldwide volunteers helped with the event, 13 of them were children along with 15 public safety officials and 10 American Red Cross volunteers. We handed out 200 fire safety door hangers and goody bags that contained batteries, fire and life safety information and crime prevention tips. We visited 165 households and had 75 conversations regarding fire safety with our citizens.

Junior Achievement Disaster Preparedness Day #1
On Monday, July 7, Roanoke Fire-EMS took part in Junior Achievement’s Disaster Preparedness Day. This was a partnership between Junior Achievement and Roanoke City Public Schools. Our department showed our swift water rescue equipment and had students tour the fire safety/severe weather house.
Marci Stone Receives Chief Fire Officer Designation

Emergency Management Coordinator Marci Stone in 2014, received notification from the Commission on Professional Credentialing that she had been awarded the Chief Fire Officer (CFO) designation. Ms. Stone was previously a Deputy Chief for Bedford County Fire & Rescue.

Emergency Management in 2014

2014 was a busy year in the Emergency Management Division. An Emergency Management Team was formed consisting of Marci Stone, Captain Jim Cady, Lt. Trevor Shannon and Firefighter Stephen Curry. This team worked tirelessly to educate the public and other stakeholders about the importance of Emergency Preparedness.

The City’s Emergency Operations Center had seen better days, so in 2014 a grant was written to upgrade what we like to call the Emergency “Nerve Center”. The new and improved EOC is outfitted with flat screen televisions, new tables & chairs, electrical upgrades and new projectors. This was made possible through a Virginia Department of Emergency Management Grant.

The Emergency Management Division also worked on the following initiatives:
- Increased participation in the Community Animal Response Team (CART) and Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT)
- After action review of the Lynchburg Train Deraiment
- Assisted residents after numerous multi-family residential fires (Stratford Village, Burks St. Apartment Complex)
- Partnered with Junior Achievement for an Emergency Preparedness Demo at Virginia Western Community College
- Rewrote the Regional Hazardous Materials Plan
- Initiated the reactivation of the Roanoke Valley Emergency Planning Committee
- Started publishing an “Emergency Management Brief” that is shared with the department quarterly
- Increased social media presence on Facebook & Twitter
- Taught Incident Command at various levels to 450+ City of Roanoke employees

ROANOKE VALLEY REGIONAL FIRE-EMS TRAINING CENTER

The Roanoke Fire-EMS Training Division is located at the Roanoke Valley Regional Fire-EMS Training Center, located at 1220 Kesler Mill Rd. in Salem. The training center is used to train personnel from four jurisdictions: The City of Roanoke, Roanoke County, Vinton, and Salem. A variety of training is conducted at this facility, from the Roanoke Regional Fire-EMS Academy to continuing education for Fire and Emergency Medical Services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personnel # of Personnel attending classes varies</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>1,349</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Man Hours</td>
<td>Personnel Training Hours</td>
<td>9,514</td>
<td>7,076</td>
<td>5,360</td>
<td>2,495</td>
<td>5,032</td>
<td>984</td>
<td>4,224</td>
<td>6,085</td>
<td>2,048</td>
<td>5,633</td>
<td>51,263</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recruit School 17 Graduates

On Wednesday, July 9th, 20 recruits graduated from the Roanoke Valley Regional Recruit Academy. Nine firefighters from Roanoke Fire-EMS, 9 firefighters from Roanoke County Fire & Rescue & 2 firefighters from Salem Fire-EMS completed the 20 week course. Congratulations & welcome to the family!
FIRE MARSHAL’S OFFICE

Inspections

Fire safety inspections are conducted pursuant to authority granted in the code of Virginia. The City of Roanoke adopted the “Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code” in the early 1990’s. The City of Roanoke Fire Marshal and Sworn Assistant are granted local authority to enforce the provisions of the fire prevention code to include local amendments within the City of Roanoke in accordance with § 17-97 of the code of Virginia.

The goal of the Fire Prevention Code Enforcement is to ensure public safety through compliance with various fire safety regulations. In 2014, there were 3 reported fire deaths of a citizen. The most common hazards noted during regular fire safety inspections include blocked exits, overcrowding, storage quantity and height, improper use of extension cords and non-working emergency lighting.

The Fire Marshal’s Office prioritizes inspections by potential for injury or loss of life. Public assembly buildings, such as restaurants, meeting halls, and theaters, as well as public and private educational facilities, represent the greatest threat to life safety. These are followed by inspections of institutional buildings such as hospitals and correctional facilities, factory and industrial buildings, locations that store or sell extremely hazardous substances (EHS), flammable and combustible liquids or liquefied petroleum gas (LPG). The Fire Marshal’s Office is also mandated by the Code of Virginia to issue permits for operations involving the transportation, storage and use of commercial explosives. In 2014, The Fire Marshal’s Office completed the following inspections:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Inspection</th>
<th>Number of Inspections</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fire Code Inspections</td>
<td>1,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Re-Inspections</td>
<td>1,486</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Related Inspections</td>
<td>571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Protection System Tests</td>
<td>391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plan Reviews</td>
<td>220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Activities</td>
<td>765</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>4,983</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Plans Review

The Fire Marshal’s office is tasked with the review of construction site plans. The objective of careful and concise building plan reviews is to identify design deficiencies that could result in operational emergency response issues once a project is completed. Plans are reviewed for fire department access, hydrant location, FDC location and other issues that affect fire department operations. Many of the design issues corrected during review are relevant to emergency vehicle access to a building or a community.

The Fire Marshal’s office, in conjunction with the Building Commissioner’s Office, is tasked with the review of Fire Protection System Plans. The Fire Marshal’s office performs all new fire protection system acceptance testing. In 2014, 286 plan reviews were completed and 224 fire protection system tests were completed.

Fire Investigations

Pursuant to §27-31 of The Code of Virginia, all fires and explosions are mandated to be investigated for the purpose of establishing the cause. Fire and/or explosion cause determination is needed for many reasons: a fire may be set intentionally; this constitutes incendiary fires, which are crimes against the state and can result in criminal prosecution as either a misdemeanor or a felony; a fire or explosion may occur unintentionally by way of a human act or equipment malfunctions. This would be an accidental event which, through investigation, may determine the need to increase public awareness to prevent a future occurrence or to identify product deficiencies which require redesign. A fire can result by way of nature’s process, such as a lightning strike in some cases, the actual combination of a fuel and a heat source near it’s location can be determined; these fires are classified as undetermined.

Each year there are numerous fire related incidents that occur. In 2014, 98 fire related incidents required the response of the Fire Marshal’s office for an investigation. The cause determination breakdown is listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accidental</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incendiary</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undetermined</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
It was a bitter sweet year as we said farewell to eight Roanoke Fire-EMS personnel but we welcome thirteen new personnel.

To our Retirees,
Thank you for your service to Roanoke Fire-EMS and the Roanoke Valley. We greatly appreciate all of your hard work and dedication. We wish you the best in your future endeavors!

To our New Hires,
From recruit school 17 graduates to our three new administrative office personnel, we are so excited to start this new journey with you. Welcome to the family!
### ROANOKE FIRE-EMS PERSONNEL

#### Fire-EMS Administration
- **Chief/PM**: David Hoback
- **Deputy Chief - Technical Services/PM**: Billy Allman
- **Deputy Chief - Operations**: Melvin Sanders
- **Batt. Chief - EMS/Health/Safety/PM**: David Bishop
- **Fire Marshal**: Daniel Rakes
- **Deputy Fire Marshal**: Ronnie Campbell
- **Fire-Prevention Education Specialist**: Tiffany Bradbury
- **Emergency Manager**: Marci Stone
- **Fire Marshal**: Daniel Rakes
- **Deputy Fire Marshal**: Ronnie Campbell
- **Fire Protection Support Assistant**: Magdiel Fisher

#### Fire-EMS Training Staff
- **Battalion Chief**: Dale Barker
- **Captain**: Tim Cady
- **1st Lieutenant/PM**: Ellen Plaza
- **Lieutenant/EMT-I**: Trevor Shannon
- **EMS Training Specialist/PM**: Melissa Brock

#### Station 1 (Engine 1, Ladder 1, Medic 1, Battalion 1, RS-1)
- **Decker, C.T., Captain**
- **Stump, S.P., 1st Lt./PM**
- **Foley, A.L., Lt./PM**
- **Kincer, B.A., FF/EMT-I**
- **Green, H.I., FF/EMT-I**
- **Sweeney, B., FF/EMT**
- **Perdue, A., FF/EMT**
- **Sneed, K., FF/EMT**
- **Coleman, C., FF/EMT**

#### Station 2 (Engine 2, Medic 2)
- **Forst, C.J., Captain**
- **Hinton, T.L., Lt./PM**
- **White, B.H., Lt.**
- **Wright, T.W., Lt./PM**
- **Collins, J.R., FF/EMT-I**
- **Waller, T.R., FF/EMT-I**
- **McClain, M., FF/EMT**
- **Henderson, A.J., FF/EMT**
- **Parziale, J., FF/EMT**

#### Station 3 (Engine 3, Medic 3)
- **Loftin, C.A., Captain**
- **Hickman, R.C., Lt./PM**
- **Woods, J.M., Lt.**
- **Means, J.T., FF/EMT-I**
- **Simpson, G.R., FF/EMT**
- **Hansard, J.M., FF/EMT-I**
- **Finnegan, J.K., FF/EMT**
- **Martin, J., FF/EMT**

#### Station 4 (Engine 4, Medic 4)
- **Jennings, J.A., Captain**
- **Mcllhany, K.H., Lt./PM**
- **Smith, M.A., Lt./PM**
- **Dixon, J.W., FF/EMT**
- **Bolton, R., FF/EMT-I**
- **Kogut, K., FF/EMT**
- **Sawyers, J., FF/EMT**
- **English, L.K., FF/EMT**

#### Station 5 (Engine 5, Medic 5)
- **Peay, J.A., Captain**
- **Price, J., Lt./PM**
- **Furrow, K.L., Captain**
- **Mcllhany, K.H., Lt.**
- **Smith, M.A., Lt.**
- **Dixon, J.W., FF/EMT**
- **Bolton, R., FF/EMT-I**
- **Kogut, K., FF/EMT**

#### Station 6 (Engine 6, Medic 6)
- **Riddleberger, C., Captain**
- **Fuhrman, J.P., Lt./EMT-I**
- **Furrow, K.L., Lt./PM**
- **Bolton, R., FF/EMT-I**
- **Kogut, K., FF/EMT**
- **Sawyers, J., FF/EMT**
- **English, L.K., FF/EMT**

#### Station 7 (Ladder 7, Medic 7)
- **Early, R.L., Captain**
- **Crouch, J., Lt./PM**
- **Vandam, J.P., FF/EMT-I**
- **Miller, G., FF/EMT-I**
- **Cannon, J., FF/EMT**
- **Lee, C., FF/EMT**
- **Price, J., Lt./PM**
- **Peay, J.A., Captain**

#### Station 8 (Engine 8, Medic 8)
- **Furrow, K.L., Captain**
- **Mcllhany, K.H., Captain/PM**
- **Smith, M.A., Lt./PM**
- **Dixon, J.W., FF/EMT**
- **Bolton, R., FF/EMT-I**
- **Kogut, K., FF/EMT**
- **Sawyers, J., FF/EMT**
- **Peay, J.A., Captain**

#### Battalion 2- North
- **McFall, C.T., Lt./EMT-I**
- **Whitlow, K.E., Lt.**
- **Brown, J., Lt.**
- **Roach, R.E., Lt./PM**
- **Weaver, S.H., Lt./PM**
- **Gherman, T., Captain**
- **Early, R.L., Captain**
- **Dixon, J.W., FF/EMT**
- **Bolton, R., FF/EMT-I**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station 2 (Engine 2, Ladder 2, Medic 2)</th>
<th>Station 3 (Engine 3, Medic 3)</th>
<th>Part Time EMS (M-101)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Branch, K.J., Captain</td>
<td>Craft, M.A., Captain/EMT-I</td>
<td>Altman, K. EMT-I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McFadden, S., Lt.</td>
<td>Hull, J.A., FF/PM</td>
<td>Amos, J. EMT-P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proulx, J., FF/PM</td>
<td>Curry, S., FF/EMT-I</td>
<td>Boettner, T. EMT-P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweeney, B., FF/EMT-I</td>
<td>Parker, A., FF/EMT</td>
<td>Cromer, M. EMT-P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watkins, A., FF/PM</td>
<td>Saunders, B., FF/EMT</td>
<td>Jennings, R. EMT-P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amend, B., FF/EMT-I</td>
<td>Armstrong, R., Lt.</td>
<td>Lussen, B. EMT-I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bryant, N., FF/EMT</td>
<td>Saunders, B., FF/EMT</td>
<td>Patterson, C. EMT-B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Armstrong, R., Lt.</td>
<td>Pfister, H. EMT-P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Saunders, B., FF/EMT</td>
<td>Puffenbarger, C. EMT-P</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station 5 (Engine 5, Ladder 5, Medic 5, Battalion 2)</th>
<th>Station 13 (Engine 13)</th>
<th>Part Time Prevention</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weeks, K.L., Captain</td>
<td>Flora, L.R., Captain</td>
<td>Cornett, D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gardner, N.C., 1st Lt. PM</td>
<td>Ferguson, B.L., Lt.</td>
<td>Ferris, C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goodwin, D., Lt/PM</td>
<td>Brown, T.W., FF/EMT</td>
<td>Gardner, C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradbury, K.L., Lt.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Hughes, B.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheeling, M.P., FF/EMT-I</td>
<td></td>
<td>Spaulding, M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noel, D.L., FF/PM</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sexton, D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abel, D.J., FF/PM</td>
<td></td>
<td>George, L.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fulton, G.M., FF/EMT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harrington, T.E., FF/EMT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilkerson, J., FF/EMT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station 14 (Engine 14)</th>
<th>Part Time Prevention</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bell, J.K., Captain</td>
<td>Flora, R.T., Captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan, S.W., Lt.</td>
<td>Ferguson, B.L., Lt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hughes, D.P., FF/EMT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part Time Prevention</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cornett, D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferris, C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gardner, C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hughes, B.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spaulding, M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexton, D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George, L.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>