

FLASHPOINT HEADER

President's Message – Ken Desmond

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Happy New to all Maine Firefighters. We hope that we continue our downfall of this Pandemic a long two years. The Board met on Feb. 19th. Together the 2022/2023 memberships that will be going out to all departments. We have a new Membership Coordinator that has taken over on Jan. 1st. Lisa Archer our Treasurer will be updating all records. The Board herd from the 2022 convention committee from Oxford County that plans are going well. This year's convention is Sept.16-17-18 at the Fryeburg Fairgrounds. Hope to see everyone at the 58th Maine State Fire Convention.

Ken Desmond

President

Who to Contact

President: Ken Desmond Phone: 504-1949 E-mail: kdesmond49@comcast.net Executive VP: Mark Gay Phone: 337-2124 E-mail: kappy241@yahoo.com Secretary: Lisa Donaldson Phone: E-mail: lisacbarnett@yahoo.com Treasurer: Lisa Archer Phone: 350-7434 E-mail: lisa.archer@maine.edu Legal Rep: Bill Vickerson Phone: 772-0303 E-mail: billy@maine.rr.com	Aroostook So: Dale Morrison Phone: 764-5466 E-mail: firepi57@hotmail.com Cumberland East: Richard O. Sylvain Phone: 865-1950 E-mail: richowensy@aol.com Cumberland West: Ben McKenney Phone: 653-3647 E-mail: bmckenney15@hotmail.com Franklin: Jeff Brackett Phone: 778-3652 E-mail: jeffbrackett@yahoo.com Hancock: Albert "Bim" Snow Phone: 326-4252 E-mail: bimsnow41@yahoo.com Kennebec: Scott Holst Phone: 873-7334 E-mail: scott.holst@yahoo.com Knox: Jeannie Conway Phone: 248-1484 E-mail: jnewt10399@aol.com Lincoln: Roland Abbott Phone: 882-9618 E-mail: emt57us@yahoo.com Oxford: Richard Jones Phone: 890-5620 E-mail: jonesy192@gwi.net	Penobscot No: David E. Manzo Phone: 723-9695 E-mail: manzodbe@myfairpoint.net Penobscot So: Robert DiBona Phone: 848-5106 E-mail: dibonab@hermon.net Piscataquis: Joseph Guyotte Phone: 564-2187 E-mail: dffdfire1@yahoo.com Sagadahoc: Dickey Brigance Phone: 443-6726 E-mail: dickeylb@comcast.net Somerset: Marshall King Phone: 649-8359 E-mail: mackfire13@gmail.com Waldo: Thomas Brown Phone: 213-7272 E-mail: coulseyj@yahoo.com Washington: Wayne Seeley Phone: 726-4674 E-mail: wseeley@myfairpoint.net York No: James T. Howard Phone: 468-1003 E-mail: jimhoward132@yahoo.com York So: Jonathan Gay Phone: 451-7071 E-mail: jgay@yorkmaine.org
--	--	---

Membership:

Your current MSFFF membership expires on June 30th, send your 2022-2023 membership to your County VP as soon as possible!

For detailed information about membership benefits, visit our website at:
<http://www.msfff.org/benefits.html>

Join NVFC! Click the following link for more information!
<http://www.nvfc.org/join-nvfc/>

President



Ken Desmond
21 Aspen Lane Bath,
Maine 04530
kdesmond49@comcast.net
207-504-1949

Exec Vice President



Mark Gay
PO Box 543 York Beach,
Maine 03910
kappy241@yahoo.com
207-337-2124

Treasurer



Lisa Archer
16 Perry Driver
lisa.archer@maine.edu
207-350-7434

Secretary

Lisa Donaldson
31 Sagadahoc Bay Rd Georgetown, Maine 04548
lisacharnett@yahoo.com
207-460-3077

Advertising with the MSFFF:

The Maine State Federation of Firefighters is pleased to offer exclusive annual advertising opportunities to select businesses. If you work with a vendor who would benefit from advertising with us, send them here for all the information they need:

http://msfff.org/images/PDF/RateMarketingSheet_MSFFF_2018.pdf

County News

Androscoggin:

Androscoggin County



Jared Blake MSFFF-VP
PO BOX 911, Sabattus, Maine 04280
ffemtjblake@gmail.com , 207-329-2273

Durham Fire Rescue:



Familiarization drill with our Air Bag Equipment. This drill only displays the lifting and cribbing of a small ladder, however the time spent familiarizing ourselves with a high risk low frequency event allows us to save time when it's time to save a life.

Minot Fire Department:



On November 18th, The Minot Fire Department responded to a vehicle fire on the Woodman Hill Road this afternoon. We were assisted by Mechanic Falls and Hebron Fire Departments. The vehicle was a total loss. Thank you to Trooper Tyler Nadeau for providing this photo and providing traffic control allowing us a safe scene to operate in.

Turner Fire Department:



Turner Fire Department 2021 Firefighter of the year.

Aroostook North:



Dylan Cyr MSFFF-VP
PO Box 1067, Caribou, Maine 04736
Dylancyr171@gmail.com, 207-554-0283

Van Buren Fire Department:



Early morning on November 19th VBFD responded to a structure fire at 103 Notre Dame St. In VB. Upon arrival VB fire attacked the fire from the second story window while the attack team gained entry from the inside, fire was knocked down quickly and then checked for extensions. FD was on scene for 2 hours along with Grand Isle fire, (St. Leonard fire was put on standby until the fire was under control) VB Water was on hand to help VB Light & Power was called in to disconnect power. Single occupant did make it out safely and was evaluated by VB Ambulance then released. Red Cross was called in to assist with occupants needs and shelter.

Unfortunately, the house sustained substantial fire damage to the 2nd floor and heavy water damage to the first



floor. Fire is believed to have started by an Electric Space heater to close to combustible materials. Please be extra careful with electric space heaters! Also, make sure you have working smoke /fire alarms. If you need help with alarms, please let the FD or Red Cross know and we will assist you. Chief Caron



At approximately 12:15am on December 10th the VBFD responded to a report of a structure fire at 109 Champlain st. In VB with reports of an occupant out on a roof and unknown if other occupants made it out. Upon arrival flames were shooting out the windows on 2nd floor, we rescued the occupant off the porch roof and were advised that the other 2 occupants had made it out safely.

The occupant rescued from the roof was taken and

evaluated by Van Buren Ambulance then later transported to CMC for smoke inhalation.

The fire was confined to the 2nd floor of the house and quickly extinguished, a cat and a dog were also rescued from the house.

The 2nd floor has major fire damage and 1st floor suffered major water damage. Red Cross was called in to assist occupants that were left homeless.

Fire is currently under investigation.

Thank You to Grand Isle Fire also VB Water, and VB light & power.



Aroostook South:



Dale Morrison MSFFF-VP
43 Lombard Street, Presque Isle, Maine 04769
firepi57@hotmail.com, 207-764-5466

Easton Fire Department



On Saturday November 13 Easton Fire Department held and conducted a live training burn in their community mutual aid department were invited those department were Presque Isle and Fort Fairfield after several burns the building was taken down.



Mapleton, Chapman, Castle Hill Fire Department



December 7th Members from Mapleton, Chapman, castle hill fire department decorated one of their trucks for the light parade that is held every year in Presque Isle their hard work for this entry got them first place trophy.

Northscape Photography

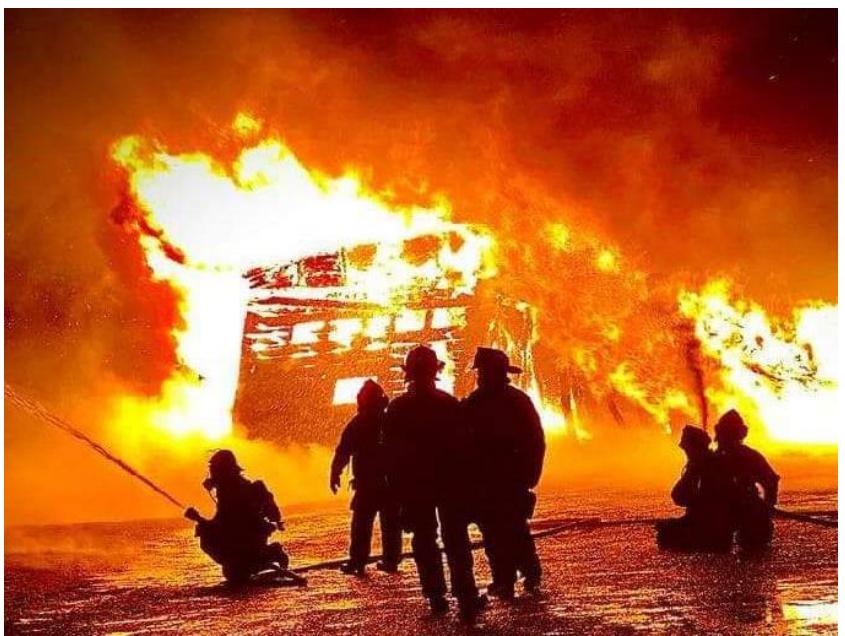
Mars Hill Fire Department

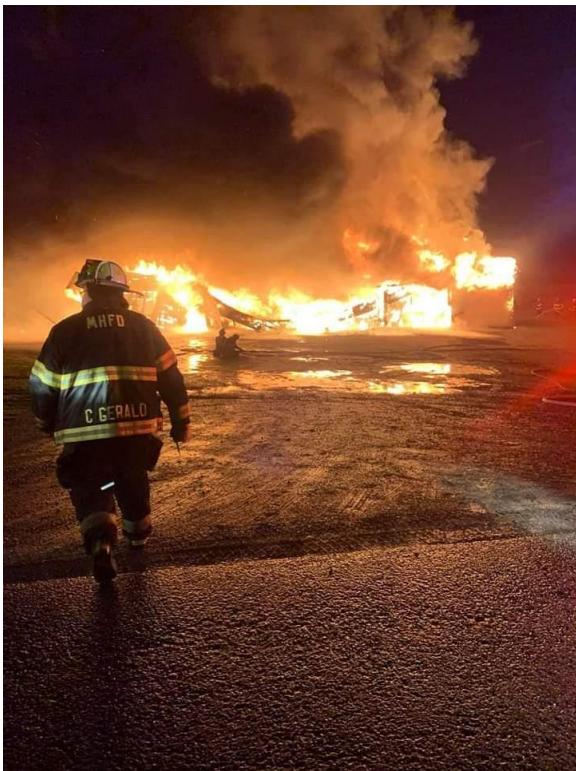


October 7 around 0900 hours Mars Hill fire department received a call for a structure fire on main street building was close to our buildings and a request for a ladder truck from Presque Isle fire was sent to assist with this fire along with bridge water fire for a truck and man power building was not saved, equipment was brought in to help tear it down to put out the fire.

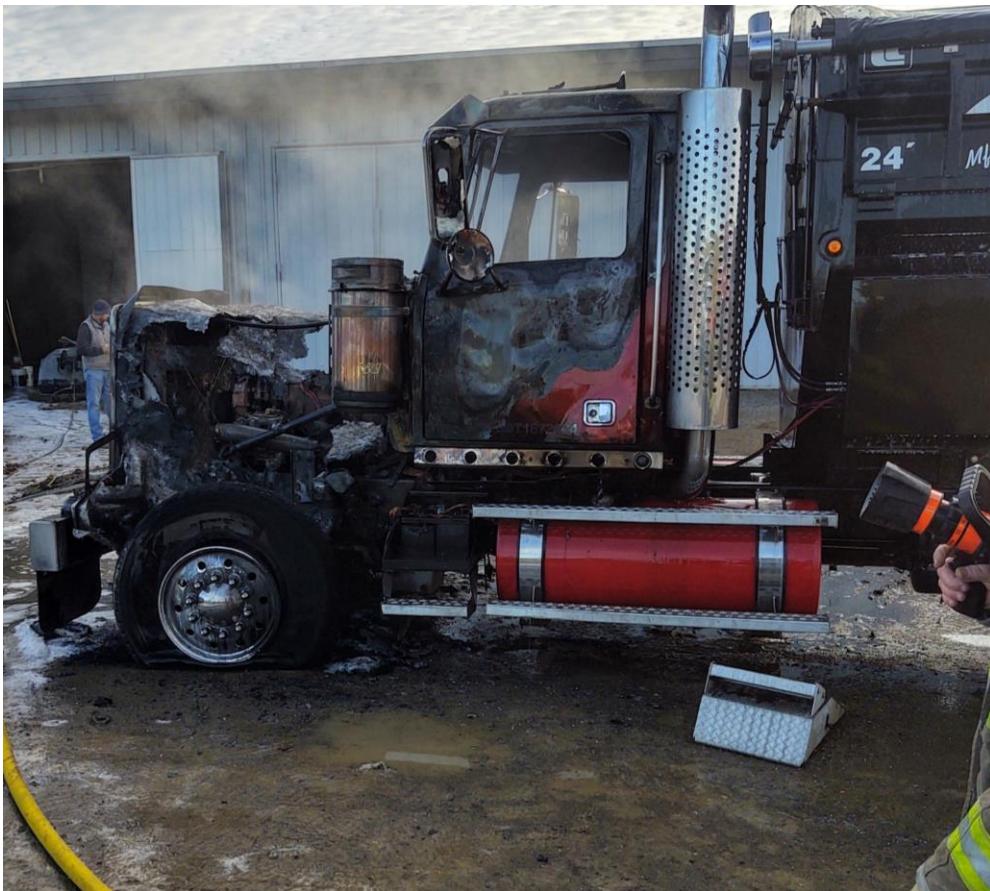


On November 16 Mars Hill Fire Department received a call for a fully involved structure fire in Blaine mutual aid was given by Bridge Water fire department.

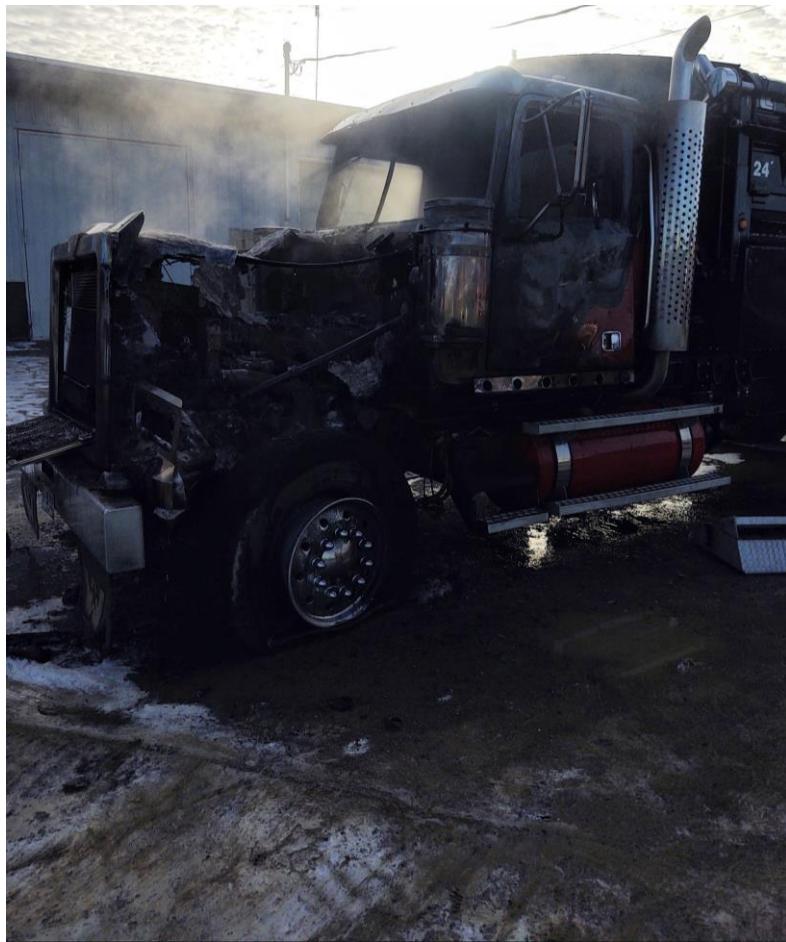




Washburn Fire Department



November 2, 2021.
Washburn Fire
Department received a
call for a potato truck on
fire in the parking lot of
the farmers property
truck was loaded with
potatoes and was just
brought outside of the
storage facility and was
getting ready to go to
the plant when it caught
fire, truck and the load
were a total loss.



Cumberland East



Richard Sylvain MSFFF-VP
3 Buttercup Drive, Freeport Maine 04032
RichOwenSy@aol.com, 207-865-1950

Freeport Fire Rescue:



Freeport appointed Paul Conley as the town's new fire and rescue chief on Tuesday.

Conley, who has been with the department for 25 years, is replacing former Chief Charles Jordan who retired in September after five years in that position. The town council unanimously appointed Conley at Tuesday's

meeting.

"There's things that work really well at the fire-rescue department now, there's things that need improvement," said Freeport Town Manager Peter Joseph at the meeting. "We seem to have a lot of the same ideas about where improvements can come."

Between 2019 and 2021 to date, Freeport Fire and Rescue went on 5,113 calls. In 2019 that figure broke down to 1,441 EMS calls and 525 fire calls and in 2020, 1,155 EMS calls and 581 fire calls. To date in 2021, the break down is 1,097 EMS calls and 387 fire calls.

Cumberland West

Ben McKenney, MSFFF-VP
103 Murch Rd, East Baldwin, Maine 04024
bmckenney15@hotmail.com 207-653-3647

Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Ben McKenney, and I live in North Baldwin, Maine I'm married with 3 daughters. Cassidy, Emma and Myla. My family resides at the family farm in North Baldwin where we produce Pure Maine Maple Products. The maple business is called Grandpa Joe's Sugar House (www.grandpajoesmaple.com).

I'm obtained my EMT license when I was 17 years old while I was on Sacopee Junior Rescue. I went onto to SMCC and graduated in 1998 with a Fire Science Degree and in

2001 with a Prehospital EMS degree and obtained his EMT- Intermediate while I was in college. I also received his Firefighter 1 certification in 1999. I also have been taking classes towards my bachelor's degree for a few years now

In November of 1997 I was hired at PACE Paramedic Service/Western Maine Health in Norway where they operate at the Paramedic level covering 911 for 9 towns and 2 ski areas along with interfacility transfers, and I became full time in 1999. I joined Sebago Fire/ EMS since 1993 along with Stoneham Rescue since 2015 and serves as Lieutenant and Infection Control. I also teach American Heart Association CPR/First Aid classes and do some maple consultant work for the University of Kentucky

Along with my wife Jen, we are very active in the community. We both volunteer for the Baldwin Community Auxiliary. The Auxiliary provides scholarships, moneys for fire victim, flag replacements and other civic philanthropy. They started ' Baldwin's Monday Market' which is a vendor's market located at the Brown Memorial Library lawn in East Baldwin in the summertime.

I'm a member of the Greenleaf Masonic Lodge in Cornish, Presumscot Tribe #21 of Sebago The Improved Order of Redmen, Founding member of the Southern Maine Maple Sugarmakers, Maine Maple Producers Association, Kentucky Colonels, and serves as chairman for the Baldwin Republican Committee. I also served as the Northeast delegate for the American Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers committee from 2007-2009

I look forward to serving the firefighters and members of Cumberland West and the Maine State Federation of Firefighters. Feel free to reach out to me at 207-653-3647 or bmckenney15@hotmail.com

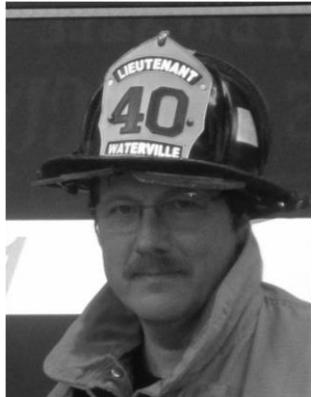
Franklin County

Jeff Brackett MSFFF-VP
52 Starks Rd, New Sharon, Maine 04955
jeffbrackett@yahoo.com, 207-778-3652

Hancock County

Albert "Bim" Snow MSFFF-VP
201 Bayview Rd, Penobscot, Maine 04476
bimsnow41@yahoo.com, 207-326-4252

Kennebec County



Scott Holst MSFFF-VP
133 Cushman Rd, Winslow, Maine 04901
Scott.holst@yahoo.com, 207-837-7334

Waterville Fire Rescue



Jason started with WFD in August of 2021 after working for a year out of our station as an AEMT for Delta Ambulance. Jason is an Advanced EMT and certified FFI/II. Jason entered the fire service in 1995 as a Junior Firefighter with the Belgrade Fire Department. He is a graduate of Messalonskee High School in 1998, graduate of Southern Maine Community College in 2000 with an Associate's Degree in Fire Science. He has worked in various areas of public safety including fire, EMS, dispatch and corrections. Jason lives in Oakland, Maine and is also a member of the Oakland Fire Department.

He has been a great addition to the Waterville Fire Department and has a great attitude, strong work ethic and is a joy to work with.





In 2016, FHPSF donated \$30,590.08 toward the purchase of our jet ski shown to the right in the photo below. Since then, WFD has performed 7 searches for missing persons utilizing watercraft, 3 water rescues/recoveries, and 5 additional water/ice related incidents. While the number of emergency call outs for these specific emergencies is small, its important that we stand ready to answer every call for service. Having this lifesaving equipment allows for fast deployment of resources and increases

chances of survival for those experiencing a water related emergency. Thanks again to Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation for your support!

A rollover crash Tuesday night caused a vehicle to catch fire and closed Interstate 95 for a time.

A spokeswoman for the Maine State Police told NEWS CENTER Maine that a trooper came across a crash in the northbound lanes near mile marker 129 in Waterville around 8 p.m.

Police said Jace Tillson, 25, of Clinton was driving too fast in a 2006 Chevrolet pickup truck and attempted to go around a 2015 Mercedes SUV driven by Kemily Benes, 65, of Embden.



Tillson attempted to pass Benes in the breakdown lane but struck the SUV in the passenger side. He then lost control of his pickup truck. It rolled over into the breakdown lane just before the Messalonskee Stream Bridge and caught fire.

The interstate was shut down for approximately 1 ½ hours while emergency crews worked to put out the fire and remove both vehicles.

Police say there were no injuries in the crash.

Knox County



Jeannie Conway MSFFF-VP
75 East Main Street, Vinalhaven, Maine 04863
jnewt10399@aol.com 207-248-1484

Owls Head Fire Department:



Owls Head new Engine 1, put in service November 2021.

Lincoln County

Roland Abbott MSFFF-VP
PO Box 170, Edgecomb, Maine 04556
emt57us@yahoo.com 207-380-1703

Oxford County

Richard Jones MSFFF-VP
19 Swett Ave, Mexico, Maine 04257
jonsey192@gwi.net, 207-364-8426



Hiram Fire Department



In late November, Hiram Fire Department did some extrication training with Brownfield and Denmark FD. The departments use the same Amkus Ion platform and were able to learn techniques and gain valuable experience with the tools.

Thanks to Fire Tech & Safety and Emery's Towing for making the session possible.

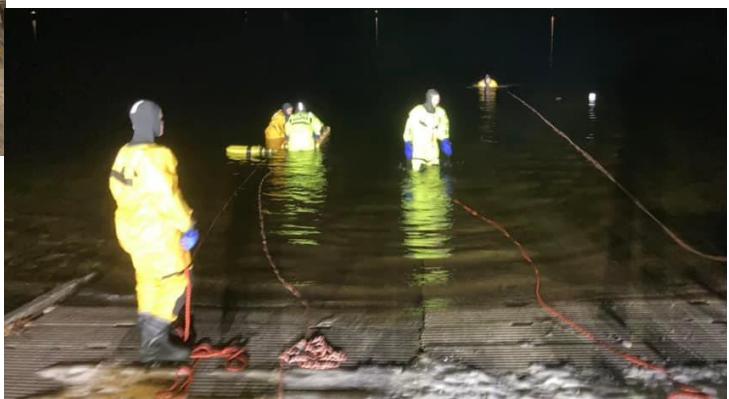


Norway Fire Department



Our December training last night was our annual cold water/ice water rescue gear training. This training we had a in service training on 4 new water rescue suits we

purchased this summer. We now have 8 water suits ready to go. Huge thank you to Members from Otisfield Fire for coming out and training with us! We used Norway car1 and Otisfield squad 7 for scene lighting. We utilized Otisfield



rescue sled and our members all worked together. We worked on hand signals, rescue tactics, rope techniques, and different rescue tools

Otisfield Fire Department



The big guy arrived in style once again this year! Chief Jordan is happy to escort Santa to visit our community children for pictures and so they can watch him sprinkle his magic dust on our tree so it lights up for the season!

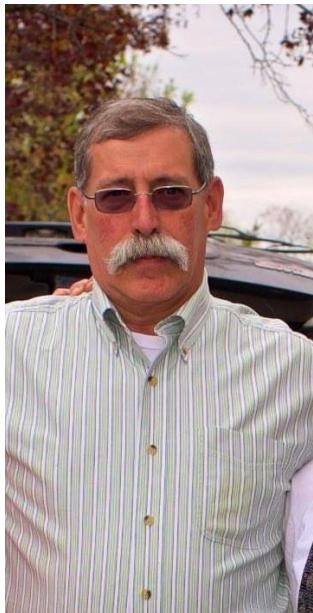
Paris Fire Department



This truck is built on an International 4 door chassis with a Cummins L9 450 HP engine. The apparatus is equipped with a Waterous 1250 GPM pump, a Waterous Aquis 3 foam system with a 30-gallon foam tank, and a 1250-gallon water tank. The heavy-duty extruded aluminum fire body features high side compartments on the left

side, a folding tank compartment on the right side, ladders and two suction hoses stored in a compartment next to the tank, and a 10" stainless steel dump valve at the rear.

Penobscot North



David Manzo MSFFF-VP
20 Maple Street, Millinocket Maine 04462
manzodbe@myfairpoint.net 207-723-9695

East Millinocket Fire Department

The last quarter of 2021 has been exciting for East Millinocket Fire Department. East Mill Fire has been the recipient of several grants and donations. These opportunities will provide East Mill resources that the community and region do not have at this time.

East Mill was lucky to receive some donations that would cover the cost and outfitting of an aerial. The Katahdin Region has not had an aerial of any kind for over a decade. With the change in construction materials and techniques the need of an aerial of any kind was identified. East Mill was able to find a 1998 Pierce 100ft Platform, without any cost to the taxpayer for purchase. The new to us, Tower 57, has a 1500gpm pump, 200 gals of water and foam capabilities. We are looking to transition this to our first out apparatus. Delivery is supposed to be mid-January 2022.

The Platform is not the only thing coming to East Mill. Recipient of a DHS grant, East Mill is in the process of purchasing and outfitting an MCI/Incident Command/Mobile Rehab trailer. This multidisciplinary trailer is going to be allow a

single operated to bring this resource to an incident with our department utility truck. The deployment of this trailer will be used for emergency deployments involving long-term incident command or rehab, but equipment staged for a mass causality incident. The front aspect of the trailer will be set up with the ability to run complete operations while the back can be used for rehab. Even the consideration of deploying this as a mobile clinic during emergency incidents or pandemic response operations. East Mill Fire has a deployable UTV and this trailer is going to be designed to bring that, if needed. Again, making it easy for one person to bring all the resources needed to an incident. Manpower is our greatest asset and maximizing their potential is a focus of East Millinocket Fire.

As we talk about manpower, protecting the manpower we have is paramount. East Millinocket Fire was selected by the Mackenzie Foundation to support their need for new SCBA's and supporting equipment. East Mill has been fighting fires with wire frames Scott 2.2. Our packs have served the community and region for years, but it was time for a much-needed upgrade. The department brought in both Scott and MSA for and SCBA open house. East Millinocket decided to stay with Scott and match the rest of the region. We are looking at December delivery date. Upgraded from the 2.2's meant we need to upgrade our cascade system and with this grant opportunity we are going to have a new high-pressure cascade and compressor system. Moving from Paper Mill hand me downs to new and improved with a focus on safety.

Penobscot South

Robert Dibona MSFFF-VP
720 Black Stream Rd, Hermon Maine 04401
dibonab@hermon.net, 207-356-3457

Piscataquis County



Joseph Guyotte MSFFF-VP
162 Bolton Rd, Dover-Foxcroft Maine 04426
dffdfire1@yahoo.com, 207-564-2187

Somerset County



Marshall King MSFFF-VP
PO Box 193 Fairfield, Maine 04937
Mackfire13@gmail.com 207-649-8359

Fairfield Benton Emergency Services:



The town's future Fire Training Facility is one step closer to becoming a reality as work begins preparing the site for construction. Local officials gathered Saturday for a groundbreaking ceremony.

Fire Chief Duane Bickford, Somerset County Commissioner Robert Sezak, Town Council Chairman John Picchiotti, Town Council Vice Chairman Michael Taylor, Councilor Peter Lawrence, Councilor Stephanie Thibodeau and Town Manager Michelle Flewelling gathered for a brief ceremony at the future site of the facility. The Fire Training Facility has been in the works for years. The town has finally lined up the funding and is ready for construction — as long as the fall weather cooperates. The Fairfield Public Works department has already removed the existing clay and installed filter fabrics and base gravel.

"It's been a long time coming," Picchiotti said.

The building will have three separate sections, Bickford said. A one-story burn room, a two-story residential-model area and a 40-foot tower. The building will also have an outside staircase and a space for confined space training in the tower.

"It's great. This has actually been in the works since I was on the council, so it's been a dream come true for many of us," Sezak said.

The facility will be located off of Industrial Drive in Fairfield, on the newly named Flashover Drive, behind the high school track. Construction will be done by J.Reed Constructors, which was chosen through a bidding process by the state.

There have been conversations about a need for a facility like this for years, as most of the training facilities for firefighters are located in the southern part of the state, which makes it difficult for departments in the rest of Maine to travel for training.

The plan is to use the facility for trainings for any fire departments in the area, not just Fairfield. And [in the past, Flewelling has said](#) that there is potential to use the space for trainings for other departments, not just fire.



Sagadahoc County

Dickey Brigance MSFFF-VP
384 Montsweag Rd, Woolwhich, Maine 04579
dickeylb@comcast.net 207-443-6726

Waldo County



Thomas Brown MSFFF-VP
229 Waning Rd Unity, Maine 04988
tom.brown994@gmail.com 207-213-7272

Unity Fire Department:



Unity Fire Department is raising money to replace a vital piece of its fire-fighting arsenal, its 1980 American LaFrance ladder truck. In an interview with The Republican Journal Nov. 12, Chief Blaine Parsons said the 41-year-old truck has served the department well, but the time has come to look at other options. On an emergency call July 4, 2019, the truck blew a radiator hose. With the engine located behind the cab, Parsons said no one saw that anything had happened until it was too late. "It cracked a jug," he said, using mechanic's slang for an engine cylinder. To make matters worse, they learned that replacing the engine would cost \$25,000 to \$30,000. Taking into account the age of the truck, which has started to show surface corrosion, it is not feasible to put the money into a 41-year-old truck, he said. Unity bought the ladder truck through a private bid in 2009 from the Hamilton, Massachusetts, Fire Department. Parsons said the

Fire Department paid \$5,000 for the truck, primarily for the newly built Mount View Complex, which required there be a ladder truck to access all floors of the school. "It has seen a lot of fires, even before coming to Unity," he said. While a new truck would solve all of the department's problems, they can range anywhere between \$950,000 to \$1.3 million, he noted. "If someone were to give us a million dollars, I'd buy a brand new truck," he said. "That's how much they are going for." Recently, he was researching a couple of used trucks in the \$25,000-to-\$50,000 price range. "If I can raise more than \$25,000, it will open more doors. "When I started as fire chief, we had six trucks," he said. "Currently we are down two trucks." The town of Unity purchased a new pumper tanker this year. The department also has another pumper truck, a rescue truck and a forestry truck. With his goal of consolidating equipment, he hopes to put the rescue truck out to bid once the equipment from it is transferred to the new pumper tanker. Parsons has started a fundraising campaign to purchase a quint ladder truck that can pump water from a small tank located inside the vehicle and also reach high places with several aerial ladder options. "There is definitely a need," he said. There are only three ladder trucks in the county, which are owned by Unity, Liberty and Belfast. "We cover ladder operations for Brooks up through Troy, and the whole northern half of Waldo County. Liberty covers the eastern third, and Belfast covers the rest," he said. "We also cover a private college, five elementary schools and one middle/high school in our community." Just in Unity, he said, many buildings have a third floor, which is about 40 feet high. The existing ladder truck can only reach 35



feet. "That puts a damper on trying to rescue someone on a third story if they are trapped," Parsons said. Also, 90% of the roofs they come across are steel, which are especially hard to stand on in winter. So far, they have been lucky and have not faced a situation where they could not rescue someone trapped on a floor higher than their ladders could reach. But just last week, Parsons said, the ladder truck was called to a chimney fire in Burnham that they could not reach. Another truck had to be called. Also, at a church fire on Depot Street in December 2020, he said, the Unity Fire Department had to wait 20 to 25 minutes for Liberty Fire Department, which had a high enough ladder truck to reach the steeple. Parsons noted the town does have a capital reserve account to purchase equipment, but with budgets as tight as they are, he does not think it would be enough. To buy the new pumper truck, the town had to take out a 7-year loan at \$35,000 a year, he said. "We're not the only fire department that is struggling between manpower and equipment," he said. "At the end of the day, like other fire departments in the state, everybody is behind and I'm trying to get us ahead."

Photos and Article by Fran Gonzalez

To donate, visit <https://tinyurl.com/c77f6hbk>

Washington County



Wayne Seeley MSFFF-VP
1935 Rt 1 Edmund Township, Maine 04628
wseeley@myfairpoint.net, 207-726-4674

Alexander Fire Department:

Home, blueberry coop levelled

by Karen Holmes

Early on the morning of Tuesday, September 28, nine-year-old Conner Cooper awoke realizing a fire was beginning to engulf his home at 69 Green Hill Road in Cooper. He awakened his parents, C.J. and Crystal Cooper, and they all fled the house. There was only a brief moment that allowed Crystal to run back in to get a cell phone. But the fire spread so quickly that they could not rescue their two cats and two dogs. They escaped with only the clothes on their backs.

The Alexander Fire Department responded at 8:35 a.m. with a fire engine and tanker. Alexander Fire Chief Ed Burgess says that the garage was already fully engulfed and the attached house was on fire. He quickly called for help from the Meddy-



THE COOPER FAMILY HOME and a garage housing the Down East Blueberry Coop in Cooper were destroyed by a fire on September 28. (Karen Holmes photo)

HOME AND BLUEBERRY COOP (from page 1)

bemps, Charlotte, Baileyville and Princeton fire departments.

The house and garage burned to the ground, and a nearby parked car was also scorched by the flames. No one was injured, but the family's pets died. Tankers and firefighters remained on the scene well into the afternoon to prevent any recurrence.

Conner Cooper's grandparents, Gerald and Sharon Cooper, say that their family considers Conner a true hero. He made sure to wake up his parents, which saved all of their lives.

According to Gerald and Sharon Cooper, five generations of the Cooper family have lived and farmed at 69 Green Hill Road, and local historian John Dudley confirms that history.

A small homestead was built in 1861 by two other families. But then Samuel and Corice Cooper bought the property in 1881. Their son Carleton Cooper and his wife Lida lived there for several years. There were several acres of wild blueberries, and the small house was enlarged and a garage added. Carleton Cooper began the Down East Blueberry Coop business in that garage. His son Gerald and Gerald's wife Sharon continued the business, buying a fresh-pack processing ma-

chine. Their son C.J. and his wife Crystal joined the operation and picked over the berries so only the best were sold to the blueberry cooperative. Berries in two freezers were sold locally. Their business, "Coop's Blueberries," was the subject of an article with photographs in a past newsletter of the Crawford and Alexander Historical Society.

All of the freezers, the processing machine, two harvesters and other equipment burned up in the garage. The Coopers not only lost their home and belongings but also their business.

People and organizations are beginning to help the family. Austin Porter has set up a page on <GoFundME.com>, and the Alexander Town Office is taking donations. Rhonda Oakes says the Alexander Grange may have a take-out supper soon to raise funds. She can be reached at 454-2344 for more information on the supper or where clothing and other donations can be delivered.

The cause of the September 28 fire has not been determined.

Fire Chief Burgess says five fire departments responded, but only 13 firefighters arrived. This lack of manpower confirms that local fire departments need more volunteers to help in such emergencies.



Edward Ralph Storey Sr.

Princeton - Edward R. Storey Sr., 61, passed away after battling many health issues, on Thursday, November 18, 2021, at Calais Community Hospital. Ed was born at home on West Street in Princeton, on May 25, 1960, son of the late Ralph and Mildred (MacKenzie) Storey.

Ed was a volunteer firefighter for 47 years; he joined the Princeton Fire Department as a junior firefighter at the ripe age of 14. Ed worked as a mechanic and heavy equipment operator for the majority of his life. He enjoyed being a firefighter, hunting, fishing, and chasing the ladies. Ed had a great sense of humor and loved to tell jokes and make people laugh. He had a big heart and was always willing to lend a helping hand to anyone in need.

In addition to his parents, Ed was predeceased by his sister, Deloris Storey; granddaughter, Hailey Rose Storey and his cousin James Storey.

Ed leaves behind his children, Edward Storey II and his companion Kalee Dana, Jocelyn Storey and her companion John McPhee and his youngest, Taylor Storey; his grandchildren, Jaiden Rose, Teagan Malsom, Jaxon Edward, Delilah Rose, Jovanni Charles Scott, and a new grandbaby on the way; three siblings, Deborah Valentino and her husband Warren, Kathy Arsenault and her husband Bernie and Reggie Storey; along with many special nieces and nephews as well as his special canine companion Buster and grandpup, Bryn and his special friends, Gary Dubovick, Moses Cilley, Daryll Wentworth, Greg Hold and many, many more.

Due to Covid-19 Restrictions, a celebration of life will be held at a later date. Arrangements by Mays Funeral Home, Calais & Eastport.



Lifeflight helicopter is grounded in East Machias at Washington Academy since Monday evening, when the helicopter had an encounter with a truck ambulance. At press time it was being determined what action needed to be taken to move the helicopter either safely by air or by land . . . staff photo

By Brian Swartz
County Wide Free Press

EAST MACHIAS — A collision with a Machias ambulance grounded a Lifeflight of Maine helicopter in this town early on Monday, October 18.

According to executive director Thomas Judge, Lifeflight had dispatched a helicopter and crew to a landing site at Washington Academy to pick up a patient injured in a car crash. A Machias town ambulance brought the patient to WA, where the LOM pilots had already shut down their twin-engine Agusta 109E helicopter, tail number N901EM.

Its rotor blades were not turning. According to Judge, the ambulance moved too close to the helicopter and struck a rotor blade, leaving the helicopter unsafe to fly.

Lifeflight diverted an already airborne Agusta helicopter to pick up the patient at East Machias and sent the nonprofit's third helicopter to complete the mission being flown by the diverted helicopter.

According to the Bangor Daily News, engineers arrived at WA on Monday to check the rotor blade damage and ascertain if the blade can be replaced on site or if the helicopter must be transported to Bangor International Airport for repairs.

"It can't be flown until we complete the engineering. We have a team up there. This will take at least a couple of days," Judge told the BDN.

York North

James Howard MSFFF-VP
37 Grove Street Apt 1, Biddeford, Maine 04005
Jimhoward132@yahoo.com, 207-468-1003



York South

Jon Gay, MSFFF-VP
342 Chase's Pond Rd, York, Maine 03909
jgay@yorkmaine.org, 207-457-7071



York South Fire Departments taking part in vaccination efforts!

Over the last few months Ogunquit FD, South Berwick FD, Kittery FD, York Beach and York Village FD's have hosted or assisted in a number of community vaccine clinics in their communities. Members from their departments have also assisted York County EMA in the vaccination efforts taking place at the Vaccine Clinic in Sanford. These departments and their members continue to go beyond the every-day calls for service to do everything they can for their community. Strong work departments of York South!!

Berwick Fire Department:



Berwick FD and mutual aid crews tackled a two-alarm building fire on Charles St two days before Christmas. An aggressive transition al attack by the first due

crews held the fire from taking the whole building and protected the neighboring structures.



Photo Credit: Robert Nettles
Eliot Fire Department

EFD is expecting.....delivery of their new apparatus

Here is a sneak peak of Eliot FD's new Engine 3....Coming soon to the Town of Eliot!

Photo Credit: Eliot FD



Kittery Fire Department:



The Kittery FD now has a full time crew covering the day time 5-days a week at Gorges Road Station. The call company continues to be heavily relied on and recruitment for call company members is ongoing. This day time coverage is extremely beneficial to the community and Kittery Fire continues to show their commitment to providing exceptional service to their community. Photo Credit: Kittery Fire

York Beach Fire Department:

York Beach FD and mutual aid crews spent the evening of December 4 battling this well involved building fire. There were no injuries and the cause of the fire is under investigation.

Photo Credit: York Beach FD



MSFFF Fundraising:

If you have any ideas or suggestions for fundraising for the Federation, please contact President Ken Desmond.

Legislative News:

Classifieds:

Education & Training:

OAKLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT

PRESENTS A

LECTURE SERIES & TRAINING DAY



**TRI-COUNTY
TRAINING
ASSOCIATION**

FRIDAY NIGHT LECTURES



"THE TRAINING MINDSET"

PRESENTED BY:

CHRIS GROVER

NEW ENGLAND FIRE TRAINING



"DOWN AND DIRTY, THE STREET SMART SEARCH"

PRESENTED BY:

RYAN JOHNSTON

MAINE-IAC TRAINING



**MAINE-IAC
TRAINING**

APRIL 22 & 23, 2022

**OAKLAND FIRE
DEPARTMENT
15 FAIRFIELD STREET
OAKLAND, MAINE**

**FRIDAY NIGHT
LECTURES
6:00PM TO 10:00PM
DINNER PROVIDED**

**SATURDAY
PRACTICAL EVOLUTIONS
SCBA CONFERENCE
8:00AM TO 11:00AM
LUNCH PROVIDED
11:00AM TO 1:00PM
DOWN & DIRTY
SEARCH & RESCUE
1:00PM TO 4:00PM**

**\$150.00 PER PERSON
SIGN UP AT:
newenglandfiretraining.com**



