

COUNTY NEWS CONT'D

The house, garage and apartment were insured, the fire chief said. In addition, the tenant had renters insurance.

The American Red Cross is assisting the tenant, who stayed at the Bates Motel on Thursday night, Dittmeier said. The elderly woman is staying with her brother, who owns the house and whose name also was not immediately available, Dittmeier said.

Structure Fire in Mt. Vernon

On August 2, 2011, lightning caused a fire on Wings Mill Road. The homeowner, Harold Webber, was surrounded by friends and family as he watched firefighters try to douse the fire.

Nobody was injured in the fire that was caused by lightning that passed through the area.

Mount Vernon Chief Tony Dunn said the house was a total loss.

Dozens of firefighters from the Lakes Region Mutual Aid – which includes Mount Vernon, Fayette, Manchester, Readfield, Vienna and Wayne.

It took firefighters about 90 minutes to get the fire under control.

The garage and home were engulfed by the time firefighters had arrived.

The construction of the house, with a metal roof, made it difficult to fight this fire.

ELLSWORTH

Written by Jennifer Osborn - Permission granted from Ellsworth News

City Manager Tabs Tupper as Ellsworth's Next Fire Chief

City Manager Michelle Beal has recommended Deputy Fire Chief Richard Tupper as her choice to fill the position of Ellsworth fire chief.

Beal said the City Council will vote at its July 18 meeting on whether to accept her recommendation.



Prospective Ellsworth Fire Chief Richard Tupper

"He has a great vision for the department moving forward," Beal said. "He is very much integrated into the community already and he's a very community-minded person, which I think is incredibly important.

"But above and beyond that his positive attitude about the department and the way the department should move forward was above and beyond."

Ellsworth's current fire chief, Jon Marshall, is retiring July 8 after 40 years with the department.

"I'm very pleased he's going to take the position," Marshall said. "I think he's well respected by the people in the department. He has the best interests for the Fire Department at heart. He's been very dedicated."

Tupper has been deputy fire chief for the past five years. He has been with the department for 25 years, 22 of those full-time.

Trenton Vol. Fire Department donates Tanker Truck to Islesford Vol. Fire Department

The Trenton Vol. Fire Department and Town of Trenton Selectboard recently donated their 1982 Chevrolet Tanker Truck to Islesford Vol. Fire Department. The 1982 Tanker was built by Trenton Vol. Fire Department members with former Chief Kelton Muise and Herbert Clement spearheading the project. The truck has a 2000 gallon tank with a 750 Daryl gallon per minute pump and was in service for Trenton for 29 years. Trenton Vol. Fire wishes Chief Howland (pictured here with some department members pictured from left to right are, Jason Pickering, David Thomas, Allen McCormick, Chief Richard Howland, Asst chief Jeremy Alley, Nick Hadlock Rick Alley and Bruce Fernald) and the Islesford Vol. Fire Department many years of use with the tanker.



Trenton Volunteer Fire Department members recognize 2011 Firefighter of the Year

The Trenton Fire Department recently recognized their 2011 Firefighter of the Year, Assistant Chief Steve Heckman. AC Steve Heckman has been involved in the department's public education program promoting fire safety at the town's elementary schools. AC Heckman is also the Chair for the TVFD Training Committee, a member of the Accountability Committee for the Hancock County Fire Departments, a member of the Hancock County HazMat team and has taught Fire Suppression classes at the Hancock County Fire Academy as well as being an alumnus of the HC Fire Academy. Congratulations to AC Heckman for the well deserved recognition.



Fundraising efforts net new Heavy Rescue and Pick up for Trenton Vol. Fire Department

The Trenton Vol. Fire Department is dedicated to their cause, their town and fundraising efforts to help support their mission. Throughout the years, the Department has hosted a blueberry pancake breakfast during the summer months to raise funds for equipment needed. By raising the money, the department mem-

bers, do not have to ask the tax payers for money to purchase vehicles other than the fire trucks.

The Trenton Vol. Fire Department recently purchased a 1996 Freightliner Heavy Rescue from the Daisy Mountain, AZ fire department. Deputy Chief Steve Corson traveled out to Daisy Mountain, Az to view the truck and had the opportunity to attend the Arizona Fire Chief's Expo while there.

The Heavy Rescue can seat five members, and it has a 500 gpm pump with a 300 capacity tank. It also has an Onan generator and will carry SCBAs, extrication equipment and eventually the department's cascade system.

The Department also purchased a 2003 GMC 2500 Extended cab pickup truck from a State of Maine surplus to utilize during inclement weather when taking care of downed trees and lines, and/or for transporting members to mutual aid calls.

The Department members are excited to welcome these new vehicles into the department and know that the trucks will be utilized to their full potential in their life with Trenton Vol. Fire Department.

If you are ever in the Town of Trenton, stop in, say hi and check out the new additions to our fleet. Also, visit us on FaceBook – Trenton Vol. Fire Department.



WINTERPORT

Structure Fire - A family of three was left homeless after a fire destroyed a home they were renting while they were away out of state. The call came in shortly before midnight on September 11 when a passerby noticed flames coming from the roof of a residence located at 1051 North Main Street in Winterport. Upon arrival, firefighters observed fire coming from the roof of the residence. The residence was a two-story wood framed structure. Firefighters had the fire out within a couple hours after the call came in. Crews from Hampden, Frankfort, and Winterport all assisted in extinguishing the blaze.

Fire crews were able to gain entry into the residence and advance the fire which was contained to just the upstairs. There was a door at the foot of the stairs that was believed to be closed at the time, which kept the fire from extending down onto the first floor. The downstairs suffered some water damage, however most of the personal belongings on the first floor were saved. The second floor is a total loss.

Electrical is believed to be the cause of the fire. The renters did have renters' insurance, and the homeowner had insurance on the residence as well.

Man dead in fire at Winterport church

Bangor Daily News - By Eric Russell, BDN Staff - Posted May 05, 2011, at 11:06 a.m.

Firefighters responding to reports of smoke coming from the Calvary Apostolic Church on Thursday morning made a grim discovery — the charred body of an adult male just outside the building.

The unidentified man apparently had tried to escape from the still-burning structure by jumping out a window, officials said.

A car registered to a young man who recently began attending the church was found in the parking lot and he has not been located, according to Department of Public Safety spokesman Stephen McCausland. The body will undergo an autopsy on Friday at the state



Firefighters from numerous departments pull back as the roof collapses on the Calvary Apostolic Church in Winterport on Thursday

medical examiner's office in Augusta to determine whether it is indeed the missing man.

As firefighters continued to douse flames early Thursday afternoon, Winterport Fire Chief Thomas Doe said the fire's cause and origin were unknown.

Investigators with the State Fire Marshal's Office re-

sponded within two hours and spent most of the day sorting through the remnants of the church.

Only two walls of the church remained standing late Thursday and they are scheduled to be demolished on Friday when fire marshal investigators return to the scene, McCausland said.

Doe said there was nothing to indicate that the fire was suspicious, but he also said the damage may end up being too extensive to answer some of the investigators' questions.

The fire started inside the church, on U.S. Route 1A just north of Winterport Village, at about 10 a.m., Doe said. A couple driving by saw smoke coming from the building and called officials.

When the first crews arrived on the scene, Doe said they saw only light smoke. When they approached the front door of the building, though, they saw much darker smoke and orange flames peeking through.

"We elected not to enter," the chief said. Before long, the expansive roof collapsed and firefighters focused on containing the flames rather than saving the structure.

By 11 a.m., numerous witnesses and members of the church had gathered. The heat from the fire could be felt from the street. Many wore looks of concern. Few wanted to talk about what had happened.

In addition to Winterport, firefighters responded from neighboring communities as far away as Bangor and Stockton Springs. Thick black smoke mixed with fog through the late morning and early afternoon hours and slowed traffic along busy Route 1A.

Former pastor's son set fire to Winterport church, himself

Bangor Daily News - By Eric Russell, BDN Staff - Posted May 06, 2011, at 3:40 p.m.

WINTERPORT, Maine — A young man found burned to death outside a church on Thursday doused the inside of the building and then himself with a flammable liquid and lit a fire in what police have ruled a suicide.

Wilbur "Wes" Strout, 20, of Hancock started the blaze inside the Calvary Apostolic Church on U.S. Route 1A in Winterport, according to police, and later jumped out a second floor window as the building burned.

Strout's charred body was discovered by firefighters who responded to reports of smoke around 10 a.m. Thursday, May 5, designated as the National Day of Prayer.

Strout was the son of the church's former pastor, according to Stephen McCausland, spokesman for the Maine Department of Public Safety.

The church, on Route 1A a few miles north of the Winterport town center, was in flames by the time firefighters arrived. Hours later, the entire structure was destroyed.

As investigators sorted through the blackened rubble Friday morning, officials with the State Medical Examiner's Office worked to positively identify Strout's body.

Investigators had suspected that the victim was Strout after they found his car parked in the church's parking lot and discovered a journal and Bible inside. According to McCausland, Strout's journal contained several rambling entries but nothing to indicate why he would have set fire to the church or to himself.

McCausland said investigators determined that Strout broke into the church through a rear window sometime Thursday morning and spread a flammable liquid throughout the worship area and in front of the altar. He then doused himself and lit the fire, which spread quickly throughout the expansive church.

At some point, Strout tried to leave the building through an upstairs window. His body was badly burned when firefighters arrived.

On Friday, with help from one of the State Fire Marshal Office's arson dogs, investigators discovered a number of areas in the rubble where evidence of a flammable liquid, or accelerant, was found.

McCausland indicated that Strout had lived with his father in North Carolina until recently when the young man moved back to Maine. He was a member of the Calvary Apostolic Church, a United Pentecostal church that serves as many as 200 congregants in Winterport and surrounding towns.

Previously published stories in the Bangor Daily News dating back to the 1990s referenced the Rev. Wilbur

Strout as the pastor of Calvary Apostolic Church. Additionally, information from the website for the Heavenview Church in Winston-Salem, N.C., identified the Rev. Wilbur Strout as having a son, Wes, who was born in 1991.

The investigation into the fire is considered complete. The church's current pastor, the Rev. Tom Channel, who declined Thursday to talk about what happened, could not be reached for comment Friday.

It was not clear whether the church will be rebuilt or where its congregants will meet in the immediate future.



Officials with the Maine State Fire Marshals office and the ATF investigate a fire at the Calvary Apostolic Church in Winterport on Friday.

HANCOCK COUNTY FIRE ACADEMY ROCKS FOR THE 8TH YEAR

How exciting it is once again to have this time of year roll around, as the Hancock County Fire Academy comes together for the 8th year and pushing up towards 200 students graduating and standing tall with a Firefighter II state certification.

At the Academy's orientation on December 2, 2011, all 26 2012 students were present to listen to the expectations from the HCFA Training & Education Committee, Lead Instructor Kevin Bland as well as some encouragement from former academy students. The students will meet for every other week from January thru May following the Jones and Bartlett Curriculum for Firefighter II. The students also will be eligible to sit for the FFII State end practical and written tests in June.

Through the last eight years, no two years are the same, and it's not just the students that change. The instructors and the Training and Education Committee are always striving to make the academy better for the students and the departments they service and now include certifications for First Aid, CPR, HAZMAT

Operations, and Wildland. We have Acadia National Park Fire Staff involved in teaching the Wildland Gap course, which is a course that gaps structural firefighting to wildland firefighting. The HAZMAT Ops class has been taught by a wonderful teacher, Al Nygren, for the last few years.

In 2011, the Academy held its first ever formal graduation that showed exactly how professional this academy is and how professional the fire service is – volunteer or career. This academy is here to stay as it shows this year with 26 students from four Counties – Hancock, Knox, Penobscot and Washington.

We also can't forget to say thank you to the Hancock County Commissioners, Hancock County Firefighter's Association, and the Hancock County Fire Chiefs for their continued support.

Thank you to the Maine Fire Service institute for their support in bringing the tests to Hancock County.

Best of luck to the 2012 Hancock County Fire Academy Students!!

Mexico Fire Department hosts SCBA Class

The River Valley of Western Maine has over 20 new firefighters certified in SCBA and well started on their way for a lifetime career as volunteer and call firefighters. Several are also associated with full time fire departments and may someday be employed as full time firefighters. More than two dozen firefighters participated in the sixteen-hour class hosted by Mexico Fire Department. The class was taught by Maine Fire Services Instructor Vicki Schmidt. Three of the assistant instructors Seth Marshal, and Jamee and Mat Theriault, all started with this same class and same instructor over 10 years ago. Vicki noted "It's great to see these kids come full circle, and also hard to believe its been a decade. I have photos of these kids 10 years ago when they took their SCBA class, and now they are some of the best assistant instructors one could hope to have".



Along with SCBA certification the firefighters also participated in drills for firefighter survival, firefighters rehab and response and size up activities. The Frandford Mutual Aid Fire Training Association along with Mexico Deputy Chief Richard Jones and Chief Scott Dennett of Dixfield also assisted with the class.

SAVE THE DATES! May 19th & 20th, 2012

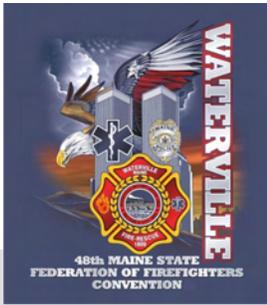
Western Maine Fire Attack School

*The Frandford Mutual Aid Fire Training Association is proud to sponsor the 6th Annual Western Maine Fire Attack School. Hosted by **Bethel Fire Department**, with support from **The Bethel Inn** and **The Big Adventure Center!***

Please reserve these dates and join us for another super weekend of learning and sharing with great friends, lots of fire service vendors, and great food!

For the latest in WMFAS information visit <http://www.frandford.org>

wmfas@ymail.com info@frandford.org



48th Maine State Federation of Fire Fighters Convention

SPONSORED BY: THE CONSOLIDATED FIRE FIGHTERS OF WATERVILLE

December 1st, 2011

For three years, the members of the Consolidated Fire Fighters of Waterville had worked on the 48th Maine Stated Federation of Fire Fighters Convention and their Respectable 9/11 Memorial Service, for all public safety personal. As a group, they found the experience to be fun, but a very tough journey. Giving these Maine hero's a weekend to kick back and enjoy was a huge task, but they were willing to take it on with honor.

The Convention brought in 600 fire fighters from around the State. It also brought in 124 units (Floats, Marching Units, Color Guards, and fire apparatus) for the huge parade held on Saturday morning. The special Memorial Service added a huge touch to the Convention with Senator Susan Collins, Congressman Michael Michaud, Deputy Chief Eddie Buchanan from Hanover, VA and Lt Colonial Adam Jenkins from the Maine Air National Guard, bring the 10th anniversary of 9/11 into great perspective.

Comedian/Actor Adam Ferrara put on memorable show for nearly 600 people. Adam took time off from filming his final FX TV show, "Rescue Me" and his new Show, "Top Gear", to bring the house down with his awesome comedy show. Adam showed he is a top notched performer with leaving everyone in attendance wanting more.

To all the 1000+ people who had joined us on the Convention weekend, we like to extent a huge **Thank You** for your support of our Convention and 9/11 Memorial and hoped you went away with a great feeling of respect in your hearts.

Thanks goes out to all the 2011 Fire Fighters Convention committee members for putting on a convention that to this day, still receives emails thanking them for an awesome convention weekend and everyone can not wait to see how the Committee can someday, out do itself at the next Convention in Waterville.

Let's all give Freeport our support in 2012! See you all in Freeport!

Lt Scott A Holst

2011 MSFFF CONVENTION - WATERVILLE

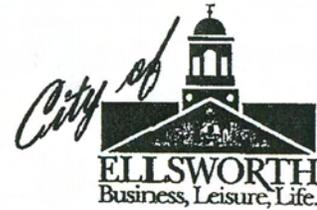


2011 MSFF CONVENTION - WATERVILLE





**ELLSWORTH
FIRE DEPT.
&
SENATOR HALE HOSE CO.**



2013 FIREFIGHTERS CONVENTION

**Richard Tupper
Chair**

669-6611
rtupper@cityofellsworthme.org

**Roger Sally
Treasurer**

**Daryl Clark
Secretary**

**Gary Saunders
Co-Chair**
667-3074

gsaunders@cityofellsworthme.org

December 9, 2011

Maine State Federation of Firefighters
60 Community Drive
Augusta, ME 04330

Dear Vice Presidents of the Maine State Federation of Firefighters:

In September 2013 the City of Ellsworth is pleased and honored to be hosting the 50th Maine State Firefighters Federation Convention. To celebrate this special occasion a commemorative book is being created. This book will showcase the commitment and dedication of men and women in the fire service who have contributed to their local communities over the years.

I am contacting you on behalf of the Commemorative Book Committee to request your assistance with this project. This endeavor will require a wide array of information from departments all around the state to make sure that each community is represented.

We are asking each county representative to please provide us with contact information for various departments in your county who could best provide the following types of information:

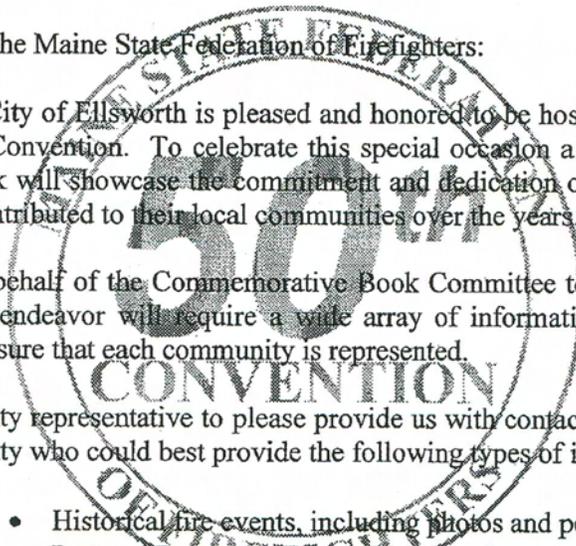
- Historical fire events, including photos and personal stories
- Past and Present department information
- Noteworthy fire service stories such as family generations involved in a department
- Past MSFFF Convention information

We are trying very hard to make this book a keepsake for years to come. However, it cannot happen without the assistance from fire departments statewide. We thank you in advance for your support and we look forward to hearing from you regarding any help you may be able to provide.

If you have any questions about the Commemorative Book or the 2013 Convention please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Richard Tupper
Committee Chairman





**GO FOR
THE
GOLD!**

International Fire & Police Winter Games ~ January 15-20, 2012

*Don't Miss the 2012 Games
hosted at Sunday River Ski Resort*

Sign up and compete in
the following events:

- Giant Slalom & Slalom
- Biathlon
- Snowboard Slalom
- Firefighter Team Hose Race
- Snowshoeing
- Cross-Country
- Hockey Tournament
- Curling Tournament



Reservations are now being accepted!

Call or go online to register

**Book Now and receive your early-bird
discount !**

International Fire & Police Winter Games

21 Baldwin Terrace

Rumford, ME 04276

(207) 357-5687

www.ifpwg.com

Enjoy fresh mountain air and great fun at the 2012 International Fire and Police Winter Games. Sign up to race for your Department while meeting Fire and Police athletes from around the world.

Included in the games will be the 2012 IFPWG trophy person-of-the year award for both Fire and Police agencies.

Check it out!

Come join the games at Sunday River, New England's leading mountain chain offering the sheer excitement of 2,340 vertical drop, 8 mountains, and over 46 miles and 654 acres of unsurpassed skiing and riding, including novice terrain, classic intermediate cruisers, legendary bumps, double diamond steps and glades of skiing to meet the needs of all skiers.

Families are encouraged to attend and be included in the festivities. Buffet dinner, awards ceremonies, dancing, and slide show presentations, along with the Fire and Police IFPWG trophy awards. Check out details on the official website and sign-up today to hold your space at the 2012 games.

Proceeds for this event will help benefit the Shriners Hospital, Children's Burn Center and Special Olympics. Register Now, plus book your hotel space and save money at www.ifpwg.com

Everyone Goes Home® Presents Courage to Be Safe®



Saturday December 3, 2011
Time 9 AM to 4 PM
Union Fire District
131 Asa Pond Rd., Wakefield RI

General Delivery 9 AM to 12:30 PM (*Open to all*)
Train-the-Trainer Add-on—1 PM to 4 PM

All are invited to attend the morning session. Those wanting to become recognized trainers can stay for the trainer add-on after a brief lunch.

Courage to Be Safe® Training

Firefighters must have the courage to face a multitude of risks in order to save lives and protect their communities. Their courage allows them to willingly risk their own lives so that others can be saved. A different type of courage is required to stay safe in potentially dangerous situations, avoiding needless risks and tragic consequences. This provocative and moving presentation is designed to change the culture of accepting the loss of firefighters as a normal occurrence.

Building on the untold story of LODD survivors, it reveals how family members must live with the consequences of a firefighter death and provides a focus on the need for firefighters and officers to change fundamental attitudes and behaviors in order to prevent line of duty deaths. The central theme promotes the courage to do the right thing in order to protect yourself and other firefighters and ensure that "Everyone Goes Home" at the end of the day. Learn more about the 16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives and how embracing them can help reduce preventable firefighter line-of-duty deaths.



Presented by: Robert J Colameta.

He is a retired firefighter from the City of Everett, MA. He currently serves as the National Program Manager for the Courage to Be Safe® and Leadership, Accountability, Culture, Knowledge. Both are programs from the National Fallen Firefighters. He owns and operates the Public Safety Education Network. He is on the Board of Directors for the Fire Department Safety Officers Association and was presented the George D. Post Instructor of the Year award 2010.

This program is sponsored by Everyone Goes® Home Region 1

***For additional information please contact, Deputy Chief Kevin D. Quinn 401-255-5927
Email address is ... chief5@unionfiredistrict.com***



**International Fire & Police Winter Games
Androscoggin Bank Colisee, Lewiston, ME
2012 Fire & Police Hockey Tournament**

Tournament dates: January 16 –18, 2012

Opening Ceremony, January 15, 2012, 6:00 pm at the Kora Shrine Temple,
11 Sabattus Street, Lewiston. All Athletes, Family & Friends welcome.

Discounted hotel IFPWG rates at the Hilton Garden Inn, Auburn, ME .

www.ifpwg.com 207-357-5687



Corporate Sponsors



This is a charitable tournament to benefit Shriners Hospitals for Children — Boston and Special Olympics.

Tickets: \$10.00 per day or \$15.00 tournament pass at the Androscoggin Bank Colisee, Box Office, Children 12 years and under are free.



Snookies Beef Jerky