



# The Extinguisher

A Publication of the Holden Fire Department



July/August  
2013

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**Newsletter Editor**  
FF/EMT James Hanna

## Training Schedule

**No training July 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
**July 16<sup>th</sup> 19:00-22:00**  
**August 6<sup>th</sup> 19:00-22:00**  
**August 20<sup>th</sup> 19:00-22:00**

## Chief's Corner

*By Chief Jack Chandler*



Now that summer is here please remember safety at home and on the job! Many of us are attacking a long list of projects at home. Be sure not to take any short cuts that could get us injured!

The summer weekend and afternoon shifts are filling up nicely. Thanks to everyone who

is signing up for these! It is a great opportunity to get more hands on time with equipment and apparatus, get to know some of the fulltime firefighters better and to help provide coverage to the town.

Recently we had a 'mandatory' training at the live burn facility in Auburn and it was a great opportunity for some hands on work with live fire. We will be doing one last class as some people did not make it do to the rescheduling of the first session.

A few people have asked why we have certain training that is mandatory. For safety reasons we need to make sure that all firefighters that are performing an assignment are knowledgeable and capable of doing it. As we don't get enough on the job practice we have to do it during training. I have asked the training committee to make key training sessions mandatory so we know that all members can complete the task in practice, and then hopefully in real fire conditions as well.

## Chief's Corner cont.

Everyone is expected to make these sessions. If you can't make a mandatory training let the Chief or Assistant Chief know BEFORE the training. Please have a good reason as it is often difficult, if not impossible, to hold additional sessions.

If you don't feel comfortable doing the training let us know BEFORE the training and we will work with you to try and resolve the issues you have.

If you don't make the training and don't let us know ahead of time we will assume you don't have interest in being a firefighter anymore and will be contacting you!

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## EMS News

By EMS Director David Russo



All call-FF/EMT are encouraged to work the weekend shifts (7am-2pm and 2pm-9pm). Sign-up sheets are at headquarters.

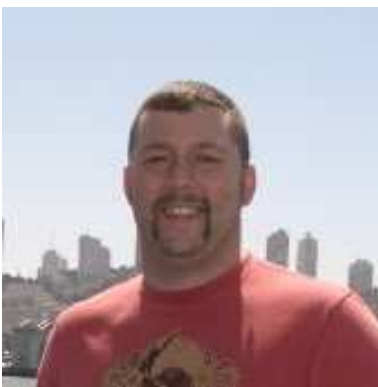
On **June 15<sup>th</sup>** members of the department took part in a *heart screening* at the high school. This screening entailed hands-on CPR and AED training. The screening was a test and the members helped to train over several hundred citizens. Much thanks to EMS Coordinator, Dave Russo for putting this all together, and thank you to those who showed up. Nice work!

Amanda Beahn did hands CPR & AED training for a family in town recently. The family has a son that has cardiac abnormality that requires them to have an AED in their home.

We also purchased our 2nd Lucas press. They will be stored on the primary and secondary ambulances.

***Recently a Holden crew was credited with a cardiac arrest save. The patient was discharged home last week in good health.***

## New Hire: Bob Connor



In June of 2013, Bob Connor joined the Holden Fire Department. Bob joins the full-time ranks of the department, and will be assigned to Group 1. Bob has several years of fire experience coming from Northhampton Fire and most recently, Rutland Fire. Bob has been a paramedic for several years and is a great addition to the department. Bob is married and lives in East Brookfield. Please join me in welcoming Bob to our department.

# Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July!



## Administration Staff News

By Leah Francese-Wood



- When you change your email, please let Leah know immediately. We have a mass department email list serve that must be kept up-to-date at all times.
- When you have received a new license, please make a copy for Leah.
- See Heidi if you need Rubens, sweatshirts, or long sleeve shirts. The administration office has a price list if you have questions.
- **Full-timers:** Please check your balance of clothing allowance before making a purchase.

### **July Birthdays:**

Michael Braley  
 Ira Hoffman  
 Ryan LaPrade  
 Ryan Mouradian  
 Robert Nickerson  
 Chris Shanahan

### **July Anniversaries:**

Peter Lacy – 10 years  
 Heidi LaFleur McAlice – 6 years  
 Jeremy LaFlamme – 4 years  
 Ryan LaPrade – 3 years  
 Dave Russo – 2 years

### **August Birthdays:      August Anniversaries:**

Charles Borowy	Brian Braley
Russ Hall	Dan Deptula
Jeremy LaFlamme	
Jason Matthews	
Mike Rosen	

**The HFD recognition/remembrance breakfast in June was a success. Thanks to Ira and the members who helped out and attended.**

## Deputies Desk

By Deputy Chief Bergstrom



Congratulations to **Colin Haynes** and **Bang Nguyen** on successful completion of the Mass Fire Academy Recruit training program. Both have been moved to the rank of Firefighter.

When responding to calls please continue or begin to use the I Am Responding system. This is a tool we need to use more. It is simple to use. The phone in number is 800-291-6142. It can be set up on speed dial, then pick the proper code when prompted, 1 for HQ, 2 for Chaffins. This is also available as a free App for iPhone and Android. Go to the Apps Store and search for I Am Responding. This is simpler than the phone call and involves only selecting a couple of touch screen buttons. If you need to know your log-in information and password, let me know and I will look it up or reset it. Please try to use this so the on-duty crew will know who is responding. This is also important in the summer months when member availability is limited.

It's that time again for me to chase you down for **Mass Call dues**. Dues are **\$15 for the year**. MCVFA is open to all department members. You can also join the National Volunteer Fire Counsel, NVFC, for \$10. Please bring your dues to the upcoming drills.

Thanks to FF Dennis Carlson for taking over the stocking of the soda machine at HQ. The pricing was kept low to make the cost reasonable but still provide a little extra cash. We do use the extra money for making donations and recognitions to department members and immediate families for things such as births and the unfortunate occurrence of close family passing on. Please send me notice when events such as this occur.

Reminder, the annual **Holden Association golf tournament** will be held on **Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at Holden Hills**. Pass the word around.

## Images over last few months...

**164 JACKSON ST. 6-2-13**



*Chief Chandler observes the damage.*



On June 2, 2013 the fire department was dispatched to 164 Jackson St for outside fire with extension to a structure. C1 and Engine 1 arrived and confirmed a working fire. Some fire extension was found in the rear of the house. Holden crews had a quick knock down and no injuries were reported.

**34 SHEFFIELD WAY, 6-9-13**



*Firefighters check for extension*

On June 9, 2013 the fire department was dispatched to 34 Sheffield Way for grill fire with extension to a structure. C2 arrived on scene finding homeowner attempting extinguishment with garden hose. Fire crews checked for extension into attic.

**WACHUSETT MUSTER LEAGUE, BOLTON. 6-16-13**

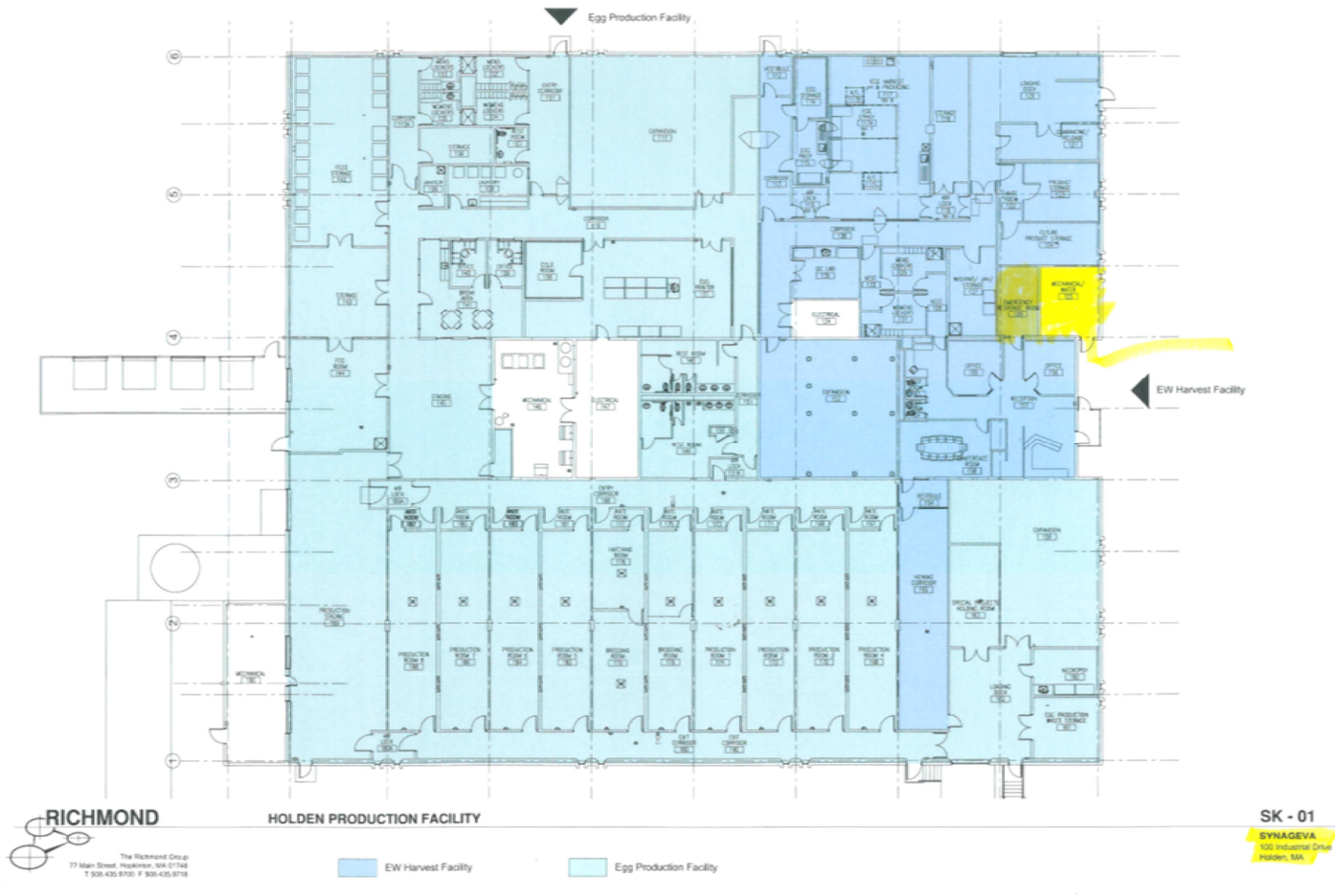


On June 16, 2013 members of the fire department took part in the 83<sup>rd</sup> running of the Wachusett Muster, held this year in Bolton. The team ran each event flawless, however were not as quick as Boylston. Boylston took 1<sup>st</sup> place; Holden (the defending champs) came home with the Silver.



# Fire Prevention:

By Assistant Chief Hall



Above is the blueprint for **Synageva**, a facility specializing in extracting a protein in chickens. The facility is located at 100 Industrial Drive. The facility is also extremely sensitive; workers need to go through a decontamination process to enter the “clean” environment. There will be a “first-aid” room near the entrance to the building which is where anyone who is sick or injured should be brought prior to EMS arrival. This blueprint is also hanging on the wall near the Chief’s office. The fire alarm panel is located in its own room to the right of the main entrance on the “A” Side of the building. All of the outer doors are marked with numbers in a clockwise fashion from the main entrance. There are 2 Knox Box locations one at the fire alarm door and the other on the light post next to the entrance gate. Each box contains a grand master key and fire alarm keys. We are awaiting the arrival of electronic gate key cards for the front gate.