



# THE JOYFUL DISPATCH



**May 2023 Edition**

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**c/o LPL Financial**

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**Sharon Purycki**

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# THE JOYFUL DISPATCH



MARK R. WARNER  
VIRGINIA



UNITED STATES SENATOR  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

May 4, 2023

Chief Matthew Tobia  
Harrisonburg Fire Department  
101 North Main Street, Floor 3  
Harrisonburg, VA 22802-3838

Dear Chief Tobia,

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to you and the members of the Harrisonburg Fire Department as International Firefighters' Day is celebrated around the world.

Being a firefighter requires great courage in the face of danger and compassion for your fellow citizens so sincere that you are willing to make personal sacrifices to protect their lives and property. The long hours you work also take you away from your own families during weekends and holidays. Few individuals are able to embrace this level of commitment, but you devote countless hours to this pursuit and make an extraordinary difference in your community.

On this occasion, we must also pause to honor and recognize the courage and sacrifice of the many heroes who have given their lives in the line of duty and extend a solemn appreciation to the families who supported them.

As you continue your dedicated service, please know that you have the gratitude of your fellow Virginians. If I can ever be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me or a member of my staff. Thank you for choosing to become a firefighter.

Sincerely,

MARK R. WARNER  
United States Senator



# THE JOYFUL DISPATCH



May 8, 2023

LPL Financial  
544 South Main Street  
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

LPL Financial Professional,

The Harrisonburg Fire Department would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the gift of to our department from Robert D. Moreland. His support will allow us to continue providing services to the people in our community. Individuals like Mr. Moreland truly make a difference in the world, and we are incredibly grateful!

Very Respectfully,

Matthew Tobia  
Fire Chief

CC: Ande Banks, City Manager  
Michael Parks, Director of Communication



# THE JOYFUL DISPATCH



**From:** Sharon Purzycki ·  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 11, 2023 8:00 PM  
**To:** Matthew Tobia  
**Subject:** Thank you!

**WARNING:** This email was sent from outside of your organization.

Dear Chief Matthew Tobia,

A couple of Saturday mornings ago I woke to the beeping of my smoke detectors. I got the ladder set up and attempted to replace the batteries. However, I was unable to get the batteries put in so I called the non-emergency phone number and asked if someone from the fire company would come by to help and they did. I am an elder woman who lives alone with family as far away as Richmond, Tennessee, and NJ so this is very much appreciated.

The firefighters were Dyer, Eagle, and Phillips from Engine 4-Rock Street and all three of these individuals were amazing. They were professional, polite and so very willing to help 🙌 Thank you Dyer, Eagle, and Phillips for making me feel good about asking for your help and supporting me with my battery issue. These firefighters deserve an acknowledgment for awesome service.

Thank you thank you thank you for your service all of you and may the Lord keep you always safe!

Sincerely,  
Sharon T. Purzycki





# THE JOYFUL DISPATCH



From: Larry Oliver ·  
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 10:44 AM  
To: Larry Oliver ·  
Subject: Appreciation For Coverage During Deputy Chief Chester T. Lauck's Line-Of-Duty Death Visitation and Funeral  
Importance: High

**WARNING:** This email was sent from outside of your organization.

Fire and Rescue Chiefs / Coverage Personnel,

Now that our Fire and Rescue Department / System has gotten through the Line-Of-Duty Death Of Deputy Chief Chester T. Lauck's Visitation and Funeral plus the Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival events, we have had some time to reflect and get back to some level of normalcy in the past week. On behalf of the Officers and Members of the Frederick County Fire and Rescue Department / System we want to thank each of your respective Fire and Rescue Departments for their support and condolences during this very difficult time. The support that we have received from the Northern Shenandoah Valley and Northern Virginia Fire and Rescue Departments was overwhelming and did not go unnoticed. During the ten (10) days following the death of Deputy Chief Lauck, the true brotherhood / sisterhood of the American Fire and Rescue Service truly showed, and we couldn't be prouder of being part of this great profession.

Fire and Rescue Chief Steven A. Majchrzak is working on sending out personalized thank you cards and letters to everyone that has supported our Fire and Rescue Department / System during this time. As I stated in my original e-mail request for coverage, this is the second Line-Of-Duty Death that the Frederick County Fire and Rescue Department / System has suffered with the first one being Firefighter Zachary T. Whitacre on February 13, 2012, and the support at that time was incredible as well. Please understand that we stand ready to assist all your respective Fire and Rescue Departments should the need arise in the future. Again, we are deeply appreciative and grateful for the support that we have received since April 22, 2023. Please feel free to distribute this e-mail to all the personnel that participated in coverage for us as we did not capture all the individual's contact information.

Deputy Chief Larry A. Oliver, NRP  
Operations Division  
Frederick County Fire and Rescue Department  
1080 Coverstone Drive  
Winchester, Virginia 22602-4369

**Lt. Andrew Bauserman, Master Firefighter Donnie Babb and Firefighter Grant Clark were on stand by during the funeral to support Frederick County as needed.**



# THE JOYFUL DISPATCH



FIRE DEPARTMENT  
900 Second Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Phone (703) 746-5200  
Fax (703) 838-5093

Corey Smedley  
Fire Chief

March 27, 2023

Chief Tobia,

Thank you for offering your time and resources to assist the Hricik and Alexandria Fire Department families. Your willingness to provide assistance to Madison, Chief Hricik's daughter and JMU student, as he battled his illness is greatly appreciated and has not gone unnoticed. On behalf of his family, friends, and the Alexandria Fire Department, I would like to formally thank you and your department for your gracious acts of service during our time of grief.

Honoring Chief Hricik in the manner he deserved and supporting his family during his illness and untimely death has required assistance from many agencies and individuals, both near and far. I am honored to count you among those whose generosity and thoughtfulness brought light into a very difficult time. Thank you for all you have done.

With Gratitude,

Corey Smedley  
Fire/EMS Chief



# THE JOYFUL DISPATCH



## Department Employees Who Celebrated Birthdays In May

*Cody Stephenson, Firefighter*

*Dustin Rice, Firefighter*

*Chris Daniels, Master Firefighter*

*Justin Knighten, Lieutenant*

*Morgan McComas, Captain*

*Jared Quesenberry, Master Firefighter*

*Alan Wampler, Master Firefighter*

*Quentin Gray, Firefighter*

*Andrea Mullens, Logistics*

*Chris Lantz, Captain*

*Andrew Brunk, Master Firefighter*

*Michael Thompson, Firefighter*

*Damian Clark, Firefighter*



# THE JOYFUL DISPATCH



*Flappy  
Anniversary!*

*Department Employees Who Celebrated May Milestone  
Work Anniversary's*



*Lieutenant  
Joseph Walker  
15 Years*



*Master Firefighter  
Chris Daniels  
10 Years*





# THE JOYFUL DISPATCH



*Happy Anniversary*

**Department Employees Who Celebrated May Work  
Anniversary's**

*Dept System Analyst Jordan Lambert*

*16 Years*

*Master Firefighter Chad Smith*

*14 Years*

*CRR Education Supervisor Erin Stehle*

*12 Years*

*Fire Inspector Keith Link*

*8 Years*