



# On the Line



**Our Core Values: Pride, Respect, Duty, Unity, Integrity and Compassion.**

## In This Issue...

Chief's Corner.....	2
Trip Report—Captain Mitchell.....	3
The Alphas—Lt. Routson.....	4
All Hail—Lt. Gentosi.....	4
Tango's Tips—Cody Thorne.....	5
Prevention/Training Efforts.....	6
Safety Tips.....	7
Chief's Thanks.....	8
You've Been Caught Letters.....	8
Member Profile: Rob Harris.....	9
Around the Department.....	9
Picture This.....	10

## Upcoming Events

### June 17th

2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Greater Des Moines National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Memorial Golf Tournament—The Legacy Gold Club. Norwalk.

### July 4th

Parade & fireworks

### August 27th

Red & Blue Softball Tournament for Fire and Police Departments that benefits Make-A-Wish

### October 9-15

Fire Prevention Week

**Be sure to check the pub-ed calendars for upcoming events!**

### UFD statistics for May

Calls for service: 216                      YTD: 1,014

Average response Time – All incidents: **6 minutes and 34 seconds**

Average response Time – **Emergency** incidents: **6 minutes and 33 seconds**

**Emergency Medical Service calls: 167**

Average Response Time EMS: 6 minutes and 14 seconds

Emergency:            6 minutes and 10 seconds

Non-Emergency: 6 minutes and 18 seconds

#### Fire related calls: 49

Average Response Time Fire: 7 minutes and 30 seconds

Average turnout per fire incident: 7 people

We **received mutual aid seven times**— two times for fire calls and five times for EMS calls.

We did not provide mutual aid in May.

### Types of Fire Calls

The 49 fire calls we had in May fall into the following categories:

<b><u>Fire / Explosion:</u></b>	<b>8</b>
<b><u>Hazardous Condition:</u></b>	<b>7</b>
<b><u>Overpressure:</u></b>	<b>1</b>
<b><u>Good Intent Calls:</u></b>	<b>12</b>
<b><u>False Calls:</u></b>	<b>19</b>
<b><u>Service Calls:</u></b>	<b>2</b>



**Prevention is superior to suppression!**

### Birthdays:

Eric Ennen	June 02	Cory Young	June 11
Jim Mitchell	June 03	John Ouverson	June 25
Jon Rech	June 08	Craig Pope	June 27
Rob Light	June 10		

# Happy Birthday!



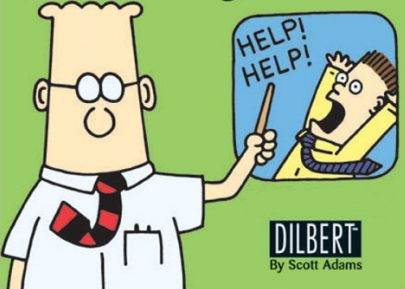
Preparedness...sounds exciting doesn't it? Unfortunately we deal with unpreparedness almost everyday. It is expected and accepted. Most people are not prepared for emergencies. The truth is that we are the group that deals with other's unpreparedness...so we cannot afford not to be prepared ourselves!

So you think you are prepared? Are you? I hope so. I cannot imagine a firefighter who doesn't have a fire extinguisher in the home and a family plan in the event of a fire. Or how about an EMS professional who doesn't have a first aid kit or at least the basic components needed to care for a medical emergency or trauma that occurs at home? My hope is that we are past that – my hope is that we are prepared in that sense. How about in the bigger picture? Do you and your family have a plan for disasters? Would you and your family know what to do if Urbandale was devastated by a disaster like the recent tornados in Tuscaloosa, Alabama or Joplin, Missouri?



The truth is that very few people plan for such a devastating event. If there is any "good" that comes from such traumatic events occurring elsewhere, it is that it gives the rest of us a wakeup call and the opportunity to plan for such events in our own community. Just like following a major fire, there is an opportunity to heighten the awareness of fire safety, following such disasters as those that have recently occurred provides us an opportunity to prepare. Of course we need two plans – one for our families and one for our jobs. Two very different plans...especially when one considers that you might be on duty when a disaster strikes and unable to get home to manage things there.

**Our Disaster Recovery Plan Goes Something Like This...**



Hopefully you have prepared and have a plan for the family. Individuals and families can be prepared by taking a few simple steps such as having a family emergency plan; put together an emergency supply kit; and stay informed about severe weather and other emergencies that can occur in our community. A useful tool is this web site: <http://www.ready.gov/america/index.html>. At this site, you can find information on the supplies you should have and a family plan checklist to help you get organized. There is even a tab for "Ready Responder" which provides useful information for responders. That information is specific to items that should be considered for responders who have to worry about their families as well as handling emergencies within the community.

Don't wait too long to develop a plan...just like trying to decide what to do during a fire is a bad idea, waiting until there is a tornado warning to start planning is BAD planning!

**Congratulations!**

- **Rob Zahnd** - our newest Nationally Registered Paramedic passed his exam!



- **Cory Macumber** for his promotion to Lieutenant! Lt. Macumber will begin his tenure as Lt. on June 12th.

Congratulations to both Cory & Rob!

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:**  
**Change in mailbox location!**



**All mailboxes have been moved to Station 42. You should plan on checking your mail at Station 42 when you are duty—and of course you are free to stop by anytime to check your mail!**

## Trip Report—Captain Jim Mitchell

I feel compelled to provide you all with a short “trip report”. Over the past month I have had the privilege to attend the Fire Department Instructors Conference, (FDIC), and the Iowa Professional Chiefs’ Association conference. I attended several classes at FDIC that ranged from Training Program Development to wind driven fires to multiple story firefighting. The Iowa Professional Fire Chiefs’ conference offered a guest speaker, Timothy Sendelbach, whom spoke on the topic “The Sofa Super Store Fire: Rising From the Ashes of Tragedy”.

I found that each of these classes offered a variety of theory’s, procedures, techniques and procedures. But, after a few weeks to digest these classes and perhaps generalize, they all provide a common theme; practice the basics, put the fire out quick and make certain that the strategy for every fire should include attack, ventilation and search and rescue! Now, the order in which you deploy these three strategies greatly depends on fire behavior, building construction, available resources and the information provided us by the occupant, neighbor and/or pre-plans.

The classes that I attended regarding training repeatedly recommended training focused primarily on the basics. The messages included the need to train on special operations and RIT, but they felt that the basics of firefighting need to be mastered, which might reduce the need for RIT. Also, the need to “change-up” training. Changing the order of the training schedule doesn’t change the content of the training topics. Training should be meaningful and gradually lead to perfection! Using detailed steps when performing a skill, such as NFPA 1001 and 1002 skills, as training requirements so that when you get a job and the adrenaline is pumping your skill technique is close to the procedures of each skill and there is a form of order to your moves. Not a different theory, but different ways to accomplish this was provided.

Fire behavior was a common topic. The fact that we must be cautious of “wind driven” fires and controlling the openings to include the point of entry opening! As well as controlling the ventilation opening(s). FDNY experienced two LODD’s within a week of each other that involved apartment facilities that self ventilated through a window and the occupant evacuated leaving the apartment door open. This resulted in the two firefighters perishing when entering the hallway from the stairwell. The hallway was an inferno. One suggestion was making entry through the stairwell wall into the apartment and making the way through the walls of the apartments until reaching the apartment origin.

The general concept to all of these classes was pretty simple. Putting the fire out will eliminate the hazard. Ventilation must occur to make the environment survivable for victims and tolerable for firefighters to make entry and prevent flashover or backdraft. Search and rescue tech-

niques must be mastered in order to conduct a

successful rescue. The order in which fire attack, search & rescue and ventilation is conducted greatly depends on the circumstances. For example receiving a report that no one is inside the structure versus a situation like Keokuk where there are people hanging out of a window will change the order of strategies.



The class titled “Sofa Super Store Fire: Rising From the Ashes of Tragedy” is a class for all. This was five hours of information that unveils a fire department enriched in tradition that was caught enriched in tradition! Timothy Sendelbach was one of six people called in to review the incident and provide recommendations to prevent a similar event from occurring. Mr. Sendelbach, at the time of review, was the Battalion Chief of Training in

Savannah, GA. Chief Sendelbach provided the details of the incident that was NOT revealed immediately following the incident. Most periodicals made claims based on aftermath photographs, e.g.; the booster lines, shown in the pictures, were NOT the first handlines of deployment. Charleston FD deployed in the same fashion in which they have been successful fighting their routine fires for years! A fire department can NOT deploy in the same fashion on a “big box” fire that we do on a residential structure fire! The strategies may be the same in a different order, but the tactics must be different. A large factor involved in this tragedy identified a theory that Chief Holt has stated numerous times in the past, (that was painful to admit), if you arrive at a fire with five, don’t act like you have fifteen. Another factor included the need to ventilate. Also, when investigating light smoke in commercial structures, look above the false ceiling tile every twenty feet for fire extension in the void space. Always ventilate! Maintaining crew integrity is more than tags on a board. Without going into fire code compliance, Chief Sendelbach demonstrated the need for pre-planning like knowing the length of a hose stretch from the front door to the backdoor. Determining intake water flow versus the discharge water flow amounts. Fire flow formulas must be estimated to determine hose size and the number of hoselines!

There really isn’t enough paper in this newsletter to report all of the findings. So, I will summarize by telling you that the facts related to how the “Charleston 9” perished is way more sophisticated than the simplistic articles and news releases that immediately following the incident! This class is one to place on your “classes to attend” list! Remember to never forget and always honor the Charleston 9!

Future training classes and drills will include what we all took from the above conferences!



### The Alphas – Lt. Lance Routson

There are so many people in the world that hate the jobs they go to. They dread the moment that the alarm clock goes off and they count the minutes until the day is over.

I think we should all take an honest look at our job and realize that we don't have it bad, at all. I know sometimes after a frustrating day, I can get pretty "testy"... just ask the people that know me well. But then I think, "it could always be worse". One thing that I often say to those around me when we're at work is "if that's the worst thing we have to deal with today, it's a pretty good day in Urbandale". I am trying my best to not let the small things ruin my day, but there are times when this isn't an easy task.

So how do you make it through those frustrating times? Well, there are many different ways. But I try to think of the things that I am thankful for. And one thing I always come back to is the high-quality group of people that I have the opportunity to work with every day: THE ALPHAS.

The Alphas are a unique group of individuals that come together every third day and find a way to serve the City of Urbandale to the best of their ability. They do this without complaining (unless the Red Sox lost last night, Ed), and they all bring a smile in to work. They have a great sense of humor and they make me laugh. How many people out there can go to their workplace and honestly say they enjoy going to work and enjoy their co-workers? Well, I can say that I do enjoy spending 24-hours at a time with the Alphas, and I am honored to be able to work with them every day.

From Craig Jensen's Carter stories, to Jeerie's "dirty jobs of the past stories", to Ed's constant reminders about how good he thinks the Patriots are (get serious Ed, clearly Peyton Manning is better than Tom Brady), to Boyle's stories about....well....actually Boyle is pretty quiet, to Mikey Roe's stories about 300, to Robbie's (aka Robis) cooking for the shift, there is always something unique about each member of the Alphas that makes them stand out in their own way. The Alphas will soon be welcoming our newest member, Demir Miljkovic (Chief, you can put that bonus check in my mailbox for agreeing to take on Demir). I'm sure that Demir will fit in right away, and we are excited for him to join the crew!

So, here's to the Alphas, party on dudes.....and remember, we have a great place to work and we should all be thankful for what we have! Later!



### All Hail – Lt. Mike Gentosi

Today is 19 May. The close of this month is nearing an end which means the homecoming is drawing near. I can't wait. Alana is definitely ready for this to be over just as much if not more than me. We are still unsure on when the actual homecoming will be let alone when we exfill the ARK. We hear there are some Oklahomans in BAF. We are hoping the initial folks get here soon. It will be another mile marker in this endeavor. The main party won't be here until next month sometime.



We have still been doing a great job here. The summer fighting season has definitely kicked off. There are five regional commands (RCs) in Afghanistan: North, East, South, West, and Central. We are a part of RC East. We are told our company leads RC East in SIGACTS (significant action). As a matter of fact, our brigade commander (1st ID Colonel) isn't too happy either because a Guard unit is tearing it up!!!

Since the IED we hit, our company has hit one other one (1st platoon that time) and found at least fifteen more. I was keeping track, but it started getting a little old. We have only been on our main route once since we hit ours to not find an IED. We are on that route at least five times a week. This isn't including taking AK-47 fire, machine gun fire, mortars and Spigs (SPG-9, 87mm recoilless rifle rocket).

I was promoted to corporal to take over for my team leader who goes to surgery as I write this. There are obviously many a folk who have more time in grade and time in service than I do, and this is what I am trying to get at for my article. I was moved to a team leader's position because of what WE do in the fire service.

Aside from the invasion and special operations, I truly believe the fire service is involved in more critical decision making situations than a typical line unit in the military. We handle a lot of high stress situations in the fire service. These are situations that may not seem high stress to us because we handle them so often, but they are high stress nonetheless.

As a service that responds to many a tragedy from small to large, we should be proud of what we do. The fire service is ever gaining more and more stature as well. Especially in the aftermath of 11 September, the fire service has gained the prestige of operating in some crazy situations. I believe even compared to our brothers and sisters in law enforcement, we hail with more command and critical decision making.

I hope I am making some sense here. I just want to reiterate that even as I serve in a military role, it is being recognized that fire service personnel are well equipped in many a situation to handle stress and make clear decisions. I owe what I have to what we do and those of you I have served with.

Thank you, Mike—I'm out!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**Tango's Tips - Cody Thorne**

Urbandale Fire Department, I have decided to provide you with a new segment in the newsletter, obviously titled "Tango's Tips". Each month I will give you some tips on health and fitness related topics for the fire service and abroad! This month....

**RULE#18  
LIMBER UP**



arms up behind you while keeping your back straight and your shoulders down. Keep the shoulders relaxed away from the ears.

Standing Triceps

Stand tall or sit upright. Place your left elbow in your right hand. Reach your left arm overhead, placing palm on the center of your back and supporting the elbow in your right hand. Reach your fingertips down your spine. Keep the shoulders relaxed away from the ears. Repeat with opposite arm.

Back Stretch

Come to hands and knees with your hands shoulder-width apart, knees hip-width apart, abs engaged, and back flat (spine neutral). Engage your abdominals as if pulling your naval toward your spine and round your back toward the ceiling. Allow the head and neck to fall naturally between the arms.

Hips and Gluteal

Lie on your back with your legs extended and your back straight. Keep your hips level and your lower back down on the floor. Bend your left knee, placing left foot flat on the floor. Cross your right ankle at your left knee. Grab the back of your left thigh and hug your legs toward your chest. Place your right elbow on the inner portion of your right knee and push it slightly to the side. Repeat on opposite side.

**"Rule #18: Limber Up"**

Stretching is a pivotal part to activities we do every day. Sometimes we stretch and don't even have to think about it. I noticed this the other day while watching my cousin's baby stretch, obviously this infant less than 2 months old has no idea he is stretching but he still does it, and surprisingly, he does it often. Why? Well there are several reasons, namely to increase blood flow and improve mechanical efficiency. Growing babies need that and so do adults! For firefighters the reasons include those above but we also do it to prevent injury through increased range of motion in a joint. The list stretches on and on....

So just remember to stretch it out before and after a workout as part of a warm up and a cool down. Yes stretching after a workout is important because it will reduce lactic acid build up in your muscles. Even if you're not planning on doing a workout of any kind, it's never a bad idea to have a little stretch. So for your reading pleasure, here are a few stretches to perform wherever and whenever:

Hold stretches for 15-30 seconds and repeat 2 or 3 times.

Neck Stretch

Sit or stand with shoulders relaxed, back straight. Bring your left ear down toward your left shoulder and hold. Roll your head down toward the ground and bring your chin to your chest. Hold and finally, roll your head to the right and bring that ear to your right shoulder. Inhale and exhale in a slow and controlled manner.

Hamstring Stretch

Stand tall with back straight, abs engaged, shoulders down, and feet hip-width apart. Bring your left leg forward, heel down, toes up and leg straight. Keeping back straight and abs engaged, bend the right knee as if sitting back, while supporting yourself with both hands on your thighs. Repeat on opposite side.

Quad Stretch

Stand tall, holding on to a chair or wall for balance if necessary. Keep your feet hip-width apart, your back straight and your feet parallel. Reach back and grab your left foot in your left hand, keeping your thighs lined up next to each other and left leg in line with the hip (not pulled back behind you). Repeat on opposite side.

Chest and Biceps

Stand tall or sit upright. Interlace your fingers behind your back and straighten you arms. With arms straight, lift

Do these simple stretches and I guarantee you will feel better pre, post, and in between workouts! It is truly one of the easiest ways to cure minor aches and pains and also prevent injuries.

Remember, I am around the station every third day and I would be more than happy to assist you with developing exercise programs and training with you! Until next month...

Stay fit, stay healthy



## ON THE LINE

### Other programs/training/projects completed by UFD in May:

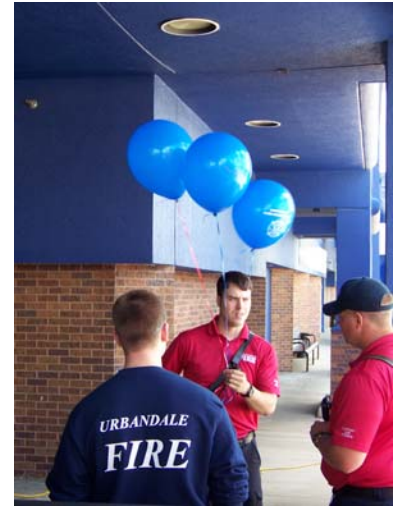
**Training Report: 1,113 hours** of training were completed in May.

Fire Training: 509 hours

EMS Training: 604 hours

#### Prevention & Inspection Activities:

- Completed 14 Inspections
- Completed 10 re-inspections
- Completed 2 Preliminary Walk-thru/meetings
- Completed 3 preplans
- Conducted 12 plan reviews
- Conducted 5 Car Seat checks
- Conducted public education for 311 people - 106 children, 205 adults.



Crews prepare for the EMS Week activities at Incredible Pizza



			# of Children	# of Adults	
5/7/2011	St.42	Station tour	0	4	
5/10/2011	7305 Aurora	BP checks	0	13	
5/16/2011	8308 Colby Pkwy	EMS Week Presentation	0	20	
5/16/2011	2727 82nd Pl.	EMS Week Presentation	0	30	
5/17/2011	St.41	Station tour	1	1	
5/18/2011	13731 Hickman	EMS Week Presentation	0	20	
5/18/2011	3799 86th	EMS Week Display	30	20	
5/19/2011	7305 Aurora	EMS Week Presentation	0	13	
5/20/2011	3310 86th	Extinguisher Training	0	18	
5/20/2011	St.42	Station tour	12	3	
5/21/2011	3799 86th	EMS Week Display	45	30	
5/24/2011	3615 151st	Detector Batteries	0	1	
5/24/2011	3606 151st	Detector Batteries	0	2	
5/24/2011	7110 Prairie	Safety talk	18	2	
5/25/2011	3871 92nd Dr.	Detector Batteries	0	1	
5/27/2011	12415 Douglas	Detector Batteries	0	1	
5/27/2011	12435 Douglas	Detector Batteries	0	1	
5/27/2011	4700 84th	Safety talk	0	25	
			106	205	Total
					311

• **“Mission Driven, Customer Focused”** These words speak a lot about our Fire Department. Our ultimate goal is to provide quality customer service by adhering to our core values and mission statement. We want our members to ask themselves two simple questions whenever they are faced with a challenge: Are your actions consistent with our core values and mission statement? Are they in the best interest of our customer?

- The color **red** symbolizes the life and continuing growth of our Fire Department.
- The **gold** trim symbolizes that firefighters, like gold, will withstand trial by fire and still remain.
- The **black** background represents the foundation built by our past members as we will never forget all they have given in the line of duty.



**Safety Message...***Prevention is superior to response.* While we are not likely to have this situation at work, it is a message worth sharing and this safety message should be one we share with everyone. One would think that this isn't a mistake that wouldn't happen, but history points to plenty of examples where it has. Like most fires, this is highly predictable and very preventable. No child should ever be lost in this manner!

# NEVER leave a child alone in a car — even for a minute!



## Almost 50 children died this way last year.

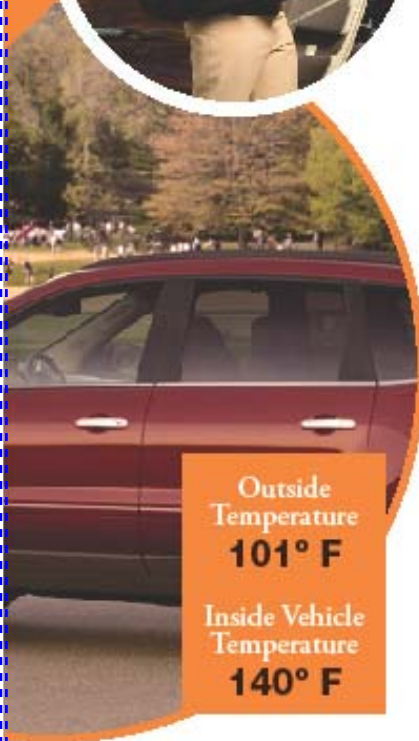
- Dial 911 immediately if you see an unattended child in a car. EMS professionals are trained to determine if a child is in trouble.
- Never leave a child unattended in a vehicle, even with the window slightly open.

## Believe it or not, routines and distractions have caused people to mistakenly leave children behind in cars.

- Place a cell phone, PDA, purse, briefcase, gym bag or whatever is to be carried from the car on the floor in front of a child in a backseat. This triggers adults to see children when they open the rear door and reach for their belongings.
- Set your cell phone or Blackberry reminder to be sure you dropped your child off at day care.
- Set your computer calendar program, such as Outlook, to ask, "Did you drop off at daycare today?"
- Have a plan that if your child is late for daycare that you will be called within a few minutes. Be especially careful if you change your routine for dropping off little kids at day care.

## Prevent trunk entrapment.

- Teach children not to play in any vehicle.
- Lock all vehicle doors and trunk after everyone has exited the vehicle – especially at home. Keep keys out of children's reach. Cars are not playgrounds or babysitters.
- Check vehicles and trunks FIRST if a child goes missing.



Outside  
Temperature  
**101° F**

Inside Vehicle  
Temperature  
**140° F**



[www.safekids.org/nlyca](http://www.safekids.org/nlyca)

## ON THE LINE

### “YOU’VE BEEN CAUGHT DOING AN OUTSTANDING JOB” LETTERS...

We continue to recognize your efforts. Whenever we receive a thank you letter, card or a phone call, we pass that along to the people involved in the form of a “You’ve Been Caught Doing An Outstanding Job” letter. As of May 26<sup>th</sup>, we have sent 35 letters to our personnel. The following people received “You’ve Been Caught” letters since our last newsletter:

**Eric Ennen, Cory Young, Lt. Birkett, Brad Crookshank, John Ouverson, Paula Merfeld, Tom Montgomery and Lt. Wilson.**

We received a thank you letter from Bill and Kathleen Brunia in which they wanted to express their “deep appreciation” for the services we provided on two occasions. They stated that we handled the issues in an “outstanding way” and that “we cannot thank you enough; everyone involved in both of our emergencies makes Urbandale [an] outstanding town to be proud to call your home town!”

**Cody Thorne, Rob Zahnd and Will Stinson.**

We received a thank you note from a customer who had alcohol poisoning. He credits the crew with saving his life and offers his “thank you so much”

*Thanks to all of you for providing outstanding service!!*

### CHIEF’S THANKS

My sincere thanks to everyone that helped make EMS Week such a success. This year’s efforts was our best effort to getting EMS out in front of our customers. It represents the approach moving forward where we will capitalize on the designated dates to help us get our safety and prevention message out to our customers. We couldn’t do it without a lot of help and dedication. **Assistant Chief Rob Light** and **Fire Marshal Jon Rech** lead this year’s committee along with help from **Rob Zahnd**, and **Demir Miljkovic**. In addition to the committee’s work, all shifts were instrumental in conducting public education during the week and we also had assistance from Officer Peterson from UPD. Officer Mike Heldt also spent the day with us on Saturday! *Thanks to everyone who helped make this effort successful!*



I look forward to this year’s Fire Prevention Week activities and hope that we can count on you to continue to support our prevention and safety efforts. (If you are interested in being involved in the Fire Prevention Week planning committee, please see FM Rech ASAP.)



### Last Safety Incident: As of June 1st



**32** days without a safety incident  
**246** days without a lost time injury

#### Last incident:

- Apparatus Operator was hit in the head by a nozzle as a line was being pulled for a car fire on 4/29/11.



## Member Profile...

**Member Profile:** Rob Harris

**Length of time with UFD:** 3 months    **Level:** FT FF/PS

**What got me interested in the Urbandale Fire Dept?** I had great experience during paramedic ride time.

**Previous EMS experience:** I worked for Fraser ambulance for three years and Pleasant Hill Fire Dept. for almost two years.

**Previous Fire experience:** I volunteered with Pleasant Hill Fire for almost two years.

**Family life:** I'm not married – significant other is Cindy. I also have one daughter; Lydia who is just over a year old and we have one cat.

**Activities or hobbies I enjoy:** I enjoy any activity outdoors but mostly play games with my daughter.

**Most memorable moment with UFD:** THE phone call from Chief Holt extending an offer.

**Most memorable moment outside of UFD:** Watching Lydia's birth

**Favorite TV programs:** Family Guy, Archer and Tosh

**Favorite movies:** Most of Will Ferrell's movies.

**Last book that I read:** Twice a Spy.

**Personal goals:** Continue my education.

**Words of advice for someone new getting into EMS or Fire:** In this field you have to yearn to learn.

**What I enjoy about the Urbandale Fire Dept:** The camaraderie and overall atmosphere created by the people of the UFD.



## WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE DEPARTMENT...

- The furniture is finally in and all of the changes to Station 41 are complete. The lone remaining project associated with the renovation of Station 41 is the addition of the computer simulation lab. The computers and associated furniture are in. The computers and system are currently being “programmed” and should be ready for testing the first week of June. We are in the process of ordering the final piece of the computer project and the headsets should be in within three or four weeks.
- The SCBA committee has held their first meeting and is up and running. They are tasked with identifying the features we like and don't like in our existing SCBAs as well as identifying those manufacturers that can provide us the SCBA the meet our needs. This project involves a great deal of research and the hope is that we will be ready to purchase our replacement SCBAs in October.
- On a related SCBA note, we were recently notified that our Fire Act grant for assistance in purchasing our new SCBA was denied.
- The Fallen Firefighter Foundation Gold Tournament is on track to be another great gold tournament. Lt. Routson and Lt. Birkett have put in an extraordinary amount of effort in making this year's tournament a success.
- While we are wrapping up our efforts for EMS Week, it is time to look toward this fall's Fire Prevention Week. If you are interested in serving on the committee as we look to bring the prevention message to the forefront of this year's efforts! If you are interested in helping with Fire Prevention Week planning, please contact Fire Marshal Jon Rech ASAP.
- We are wrapping up a very difficult budget year. The fiscal year begins on July 1st and we have been in the “conserve” mode for a couple of months following a year with many unplanned expenses. As we start this new budget, please remain vigilant in your efforts to conserve fuel and make the most of our budget dollars!
- Be sure to check the “G” drive for updated/revised SOGs—four SOGs have been updated. They will have “May 2011” in the title. See your supervisor if you have questions.
- Lt. Gentosi should be leaving Afghanistan in June or early July! Keep him in your thoughts and prayers as his time there comes to an end!