



**WESTFIELD VOLUNTEER  
FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**3386 OLD WESTFIELD RD.**

**WESTFIELD, NC 27053**

**(336)351-2576**

**Jonathan Sutphin  
*Chief***

**Jordan Smith  
*President of the Board***

**Matt Martin  
*First Responder Captain***



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Inc.**



## **Westfield Volunteer Fire Department Newsletter**

**Volume 1 Issue 1**

**1st Quarter, 2021**

### **What's Inside**

- **News from the Chief**
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**We are always  
looking for  
new members!**

**Stop by on Sundays or  
contact a member for  
more information!**





## **“Sights From Past....To New Beginnings”**



**For most of the world, 2020 has not been the best of years, but for Westfield Volunteer Fire Department (WVFD), 2020 was one of the best years this department has ever seen. From the construction of a new addition, to the dedication of the volunteer and paid staff, WVFD has come a long way in a year's time. Maybe the most important aspect of this department is the amount of VOLUNTEER hours by each member, for the community, over the past year. The reason WVFD has thrived over this time is because of the dedication and determination of the firefighters, with these individuals putting others first instead of themselves. There are many departments across the state of North Carolina that call themselves fire departments but do not have the dedicated members like Westfield has. So the progress of the new building and all the accomplishments of the department has not happened because of one or two members but because of the entire department working together. Each member of the department plays a valuable role in helping this community in its time of need.**

**In January 2020, the foundation of the new addition attached to our existing station was being poured. It was at that time I began receiving many phone calls from the community wondering what we were building. After taking countless calls and talking to many people face-to-face, I started noticing a theme to what each person was saying. “Thank you (WVFD) for what you do for the community and we stand behind you in the decision to plan for the future of our community”. The Westfield community has stood by the fire department for many years and we want to thank you for your support. In September, at our dedication service for the new addition, this statement held true again. The firefighters got to see the support of the community as they came out in force to witness the dedication of the new addition dedicated to the founding fathers of the department. The support and gratitude from the community was overwhelming. Now that we are in our new facilities, each member shows great pride in what has happened with the department in the past and we look forward to the future.**



## From the desk of the Fire Chief, Continued

**Over the past year the department has grown stronger and understands how unity can help our community in its time of need. Each firefighter has a place in the department and knows their role. Whether the role is truck driver, interior firefighter, helping with paperwork, corporate leadership, traffic controller, paid staff, first responder, fire officer, or mentor; every member plays a vital role in the department. Through these roles we have been able to help the community by responding to 137 fire calls over the past year. These calls range from structure fires, vehicle fires, grass and brush fires, vehicle accidents, etc. Our first responders have responded to 171 medical calls over the past year. These calls, in addition to other requests for assistance in our surrounding area, bring our annual call total to 308 for 2020. The role of each member in the department helps citizens in the community daily.**

**As Chief, one of my roles is planning and looking to the future. This requires looking at trends. These trends deal with personnel, budgets, call averages, truck maintenance, equipment life expectancy, etc. Through the years, I've learned many things from experience. One of the most important is a failure to plan at the beginning will always put you behind at the end. Because of this need to plan, in July, the Board of Directors appointed a new committee to begin the process of replacing a vehicle that is no longer reliable and is becoming a liability to the community. We currently rely on a 1991 Pike Electric truck that was restored in 2000 and has served our community well as our primary, and now our secondary, brush truck. Because of reliability and safety concerns, the time has come to replace the vehicle. We also have a 1991 secondary engine that is still in great shape. The truck committee is looking into a vehicle that can replace our 1991 secondary brush truck while lessening the load of our secondary engine. The department is also in need of a pump truck that can be solely used at one of our 39 water points across the district on any structure fire. Working with experts from across the state and region, the committee has designed a truck that can meet these needs of the community in one cost-effective apparatus in the form of a mini pumper. Used very effectively in other parts of western NC, this truck will be the first of its kind in Surry or Stokes County.**



## From the desk of the Fire Chief, Continued

**The future is what stands before us and we must prepare. Through the upcoming year, the committee will continue to work with experts from around the region to ensure we purchase a cost-effective vehicle that will match the special needs of our community for years to come. Stay tuned for more information on this apparatus.**

**Over the next year, the community will have its ups and downs. Westfield Volunteer Fire Department will be by each resident's side when called upon. We will help our citizens during their worst hours and pray they will overcome the situation. As the community stands behind the fire department, the fire department stands with the citizens of the district. If you would like more information about how you could join the department and be a part of a great team, call the station at 336-351-2576 and ask to speak to Lee Edwards, the head of the Membership Committee.**

### COMMUNITY TOY DRIVE

**After a brief weather delay WVFD, in conjunction with Westfield Baptist Church, was able to distribute toys, food bags, and other items to thankful households in our community. We are proud to report that due to the overwhelming support from the community we had the most successful toy drive to date. We would like to thank Westfield Family Dollar for its continued support of our annual toy drive.**



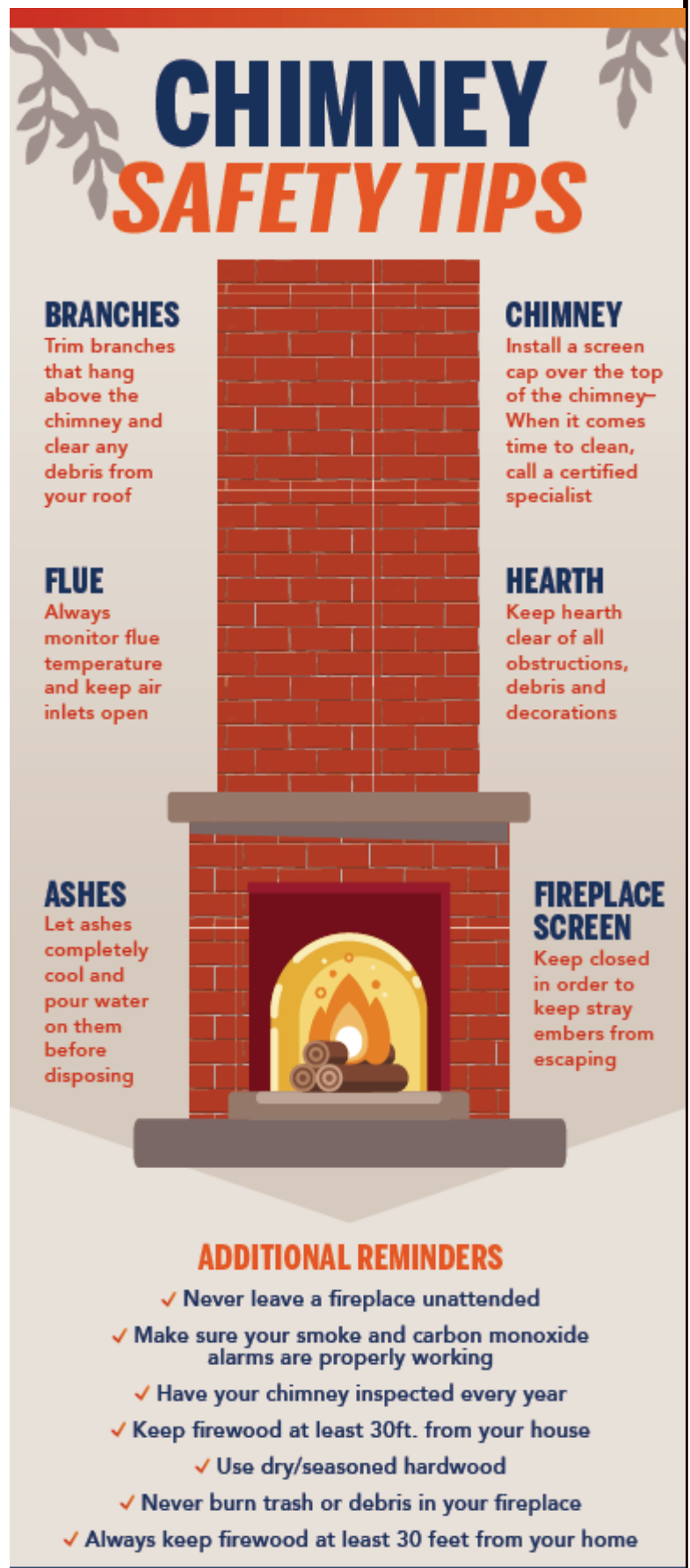




## Safety First

**January means one thing: Cold Weather! Chimney fires are one of the major causes of residential fires in our area. Additionally a poorly ventilated chimney can allow deadly Carbon Monoxide gas into your home. Help protect your home and your family by following these safety tips!**

**Contact the National Chimney Sweeps Guild at [ncgs.org](http://ncgs.org) to find a chimney maintenance technician near you**



### CHIMNEY SAFETY TIPS

**BRANCHES**  
Trim branches that hang above the chimney and clear any debris from your roof

**CHIMNEY**  
Install a screen cap over the top of the chimney—When it comes time to clean, call a certified specialist

**FLUE**  
Always monitor flue temperature and keep air inlets open

**HEARTH**  
Keep hearth clear of all obstructions, debris and decorations

**ASHES**  
Let ashes completely cool and pour water on them before disposing

**FIREPLACE SCREEN**  
Keep closed in order to keep stray embers from escaping

**ADDITIONAL REMINDERS**

- ✓ Never leave a fireplace unattended
- ✓ Make sure your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are properly working
- ✓ Have your chimney inspected every year
- ✓ Keep firewood at least 30ft. from your house
  - ✓ Use dry/seasoned hardwood
- ✓ Never burn trash or debris in your fireplace
- ✓ Always keep firewood at least 30 feet from your home



## Firefighter Spotlight

### 2020 Annual Service Award Winners



**Kevin Nunn, Firefighter of the year:**  
**A Westfield native, Kevin has been a farmer for over 20 years.**

**Kamron Nunn, Junior Firefighter of the year:** Kamron, a senior at East Surry High School, is the son of firefighter of the year Kevin Nunn. Kamron enjoys spending time on his family farm and is considering becoming a full time firefighter after graduation.



**Tyler Harrison, Co-First Responder of the year:** Tyler will complete rookie school with Salisbury Fire Department in February of this year and will become a full time firefighter with that department.

**Matt Martin, Co-First Responder of the year:** Matt entered the fire service at 16 years old, and has served multiple officer and board positions over the years. Currently Matt is a Senior Consultant Specialist with AIG



## **Remembering Don Riddle**



**In November, the Westfield community honored the life of retired firefighter Don Riddle. Don served the community as a firefighter, church leader, and proud veteran for many years.**

**Don served in the Army and Air Force and was stationed in Europe, Africa, and Asia. After retiring from the military Don began teaching at both East Surry High School as well as Surry Community College. Don also became active in the fire department and served as a board member and as captain. If that weren't enough Don found the time in his active schedule to become a charter member and Commander of VFW Post 9436 in Pilot Mountain.**

**Westfield Volunteer Fire Department was honored to escort Don's funeral procession to Westfield Baptist Church for his funeral on November 24. Westfield Volunteer Fire Department would like to extend its deepest thanks to the Riddle family for encouraging Don to be such a bright and shining example in our community for so many years.**





# Equipment Spotlight

## Engine 1

**Westfield Volunteer Fire Department Engine 1 is a custom built 2006 Ferrar Fire Engine. Built to WVFD specifications in Livingston Parish, Louisiana, Engine 1 is WVFD's primary firefighting apparatus. It can hold 1000 gallons of water and can pump a monstrous 1250 gallons of water per minute via a two stage Waterous pump. Engine 1 is equipped with eight air packs, 12 additional air bottles, nearly 2000 feet of hose, and a host of other handheld firefighting equipment. If you have ever come across an automobile wreck or other emergency situation in our district Engine 1 was the main vehicle you've probably seen. At 30 feet long, over 10 feet tall, and weighing in at over 15 tons, Engine 1 is difficult to overlook!**



**Remember! Make way for emergency vehicles!**

**Move to the Right for  
Sirens and Lights!**





# January 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 • Group 3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 Group 4 Monthly Business Mtg	11	12 Surry Co. Chief's Meeting	13	14	15	16
17 • Group 1	18	19	20	21 • Monthly Training	22	23
24 • Group 2	25	26 Stokes Co. Fire Meeting	27	28	29	30
31 • Group 3						



# February 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 • Group 4	8	9 Surry Co. Chiefs Meeting	10	11	12	13
14 Group 1 Monthly Business Meeting	15	16	17	18 • Monthly Training	19	20 Budget Due from Finance Comittee
21 • Group 2	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Group 3 State grant App Due						



# March 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 • Group 4	8	9 Surry Co. Chiefs Meeting	10	11	12	13
14 Group 1 Monthly Business Meeting	15	16	17	18 • Monthly Training	19	20
21 • Group 2	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 • Group 3	29	30 Stokes Co. Fire Meeting	31			