



THE JOYFUL DISPATCH



MAY 2024 EDITION

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HAPPY
MOTHER'S
DAY



INTERNATIONAL FIREFIGHTER DAY

MAY 4TH

**THE DAY IS OBSERVED TO HONOR
FIREFIGHTERS FOR THEIR SERVICE
INTERNATIONALLY, REMEMBER
FIREFIGHTERS WHO LOST THEIR
LIVES DURING SERVICE AND TO
COMMEMORATE FIREFIGHTERS
KILLED IN THE SEPTEMBER 11
ATTACKS.**

**IT WAS ESTABLISHED AFTER A
PROPOSAL BY
AUSTRALIAN FIREFIGHTER,
JJ EDMONDSON, WAS MADE ON
JANUARY 4, 1999, FOLLOWING THE
DEATHS OF FIVE FIREFIGHTERS
FIGHTING A BUSHFIRE IN AUSTRALIA
ON DECEMBER 2, 1998. IT WAS FIRST
MARKED ON MAY 4, 1999.**



MARK R. WARNER
VIRGINIA



UNITED STATES SENATOR
WASHINGTON, D.C.

May 4, 2024

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.

It is a noble choice to serve as a firefighter, one that requires a rare blend of courage, selflessness, and dedication to the greater good. With nothing to gain personally from doing so, you go out in your community each day ready and willing to protect the lives and property of your neighbors. You serve as an example to all of us about what it means to make sacrifices and act as a hero, even in the most difficult moments.

In addition to recognizing the tremendous efforts of those currently serving, we also take time today to honor past firefighters and those who have given their lives in the line of duty. Let us reflect upon their bravery and extend our solemn appreciation to the families who supported them.

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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark R. Warner".

MARK R. WARNER
United States Senator



2024 PROMOTIONS AND ACHIVEMENTS

The following individuals have been promoted
or had achievements thus far in 2024

JANUARY

Andrea Mullens
Protective Equipment
Repair Supervisor

Jonathan McKinney
Master Firefighter

FEBRUARY

Joel Bradley
Master Firefighter

Wesley Meadow
Master Firefighter

APRIL

Emily Walter
Paramedic

Jack VanOrden
Haz Mat Team

Chandler Hardy
Haz Mat Team

Forrest Black
Firefighter II

Eric Higgs
Haz Mat Specialist

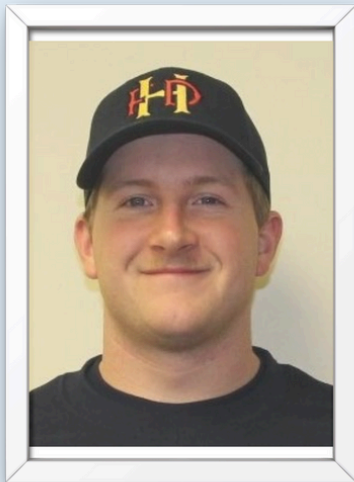
MARCH

Tyler Floyd
Firefighter II

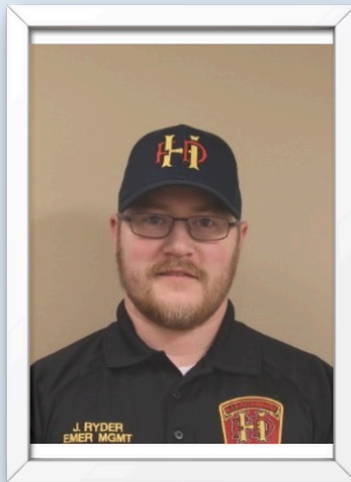


NEW EMPLOYEES

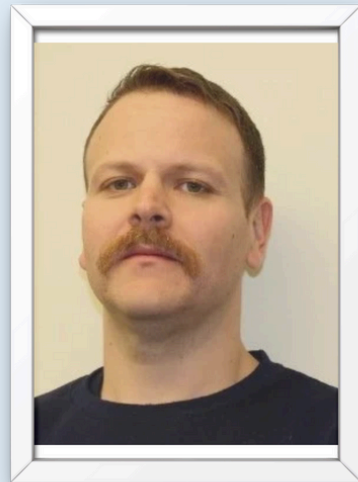
The Following Individuals Have Been Hired
Thus Far In 2024



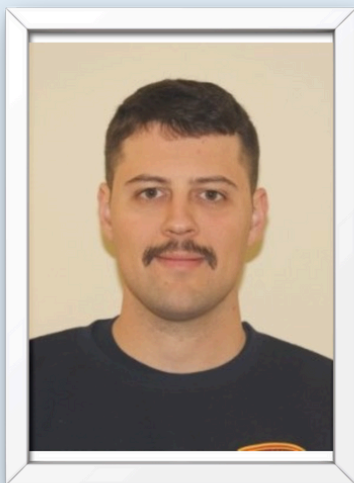
DECKLYN POWELL
FIREFIGHTER



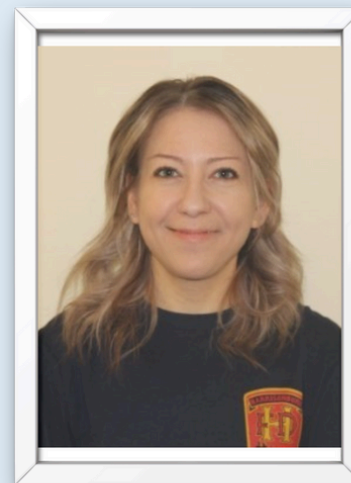
JAMISON RYDER
EM GENERALIST



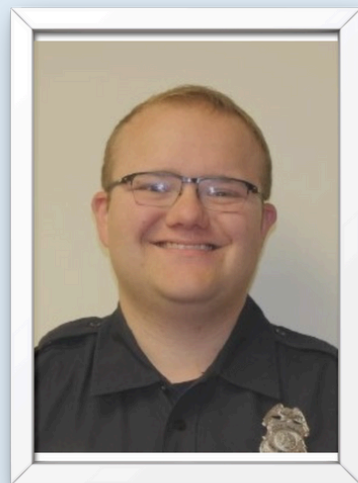
CHRIS LOMELIN
FIREFIGHTER



GREG KIRTLEY
FIREFIGHTER



HATHER STEMPIEN
COMM. PARAMDIC



JASON BOWER
FIREFIGHTER



I T S A B O Y

**CONGRATULATIONS
TO FIREFIGHTER
MICHAEL
THOMPSON
AND HIS WIFE
SAVANNAH
ON THE BIRTH
OF
THEIR SON**



B A B Y



**DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL
WHO
CELEBRATED BIRTHDAYS IN
MAY**

Cody Stephenson, Firefighter

Dustin Rice, Firefighter

Chris Daniels, Master Firefighter

Justin Knighten, Lieutenant

Morgan McComas, Battalion Chief

Jared Quesenberry, Lieutenant

Alan Wampler, Master Firefighter

Quentin Gray, Firefighter

Andrea Mullens, Logistics Technician

Chris Lantz, Captain

Greg Kirtley, Firefighter

Michael Thompson, Firefighter



Congrats
ON YOUR
milestone!

MAY MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES



**MASTER FIREFIGHTER
CHAD SMITH
15 YEARS**



Happy Anniversary

JORDAN LAMBERT, SYSTEM ANALYST

17 YEARS

JOSEPH WALKER, LIEUTENANT

16 YEARS

ERIN STEHLE, CRR ED. SUPERVISOR

13 YEARS

CHRIS DANIELS, MASTER FIREFIGHTER

11 YEARS

KEITH LINK, FIRE INSPECTOR

9 YEARS





**HAPPY
MOTHER'S
DAY**



**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY TO ALL
THE MOTHER'S OF THE MEN
AND WOMEN OF
THE HARRISONBURG FIRE
DEPARTMENT**

