

Windsor Locks Fire Department

Historical News Stories

Tornado Touches Down in Windsor Locks

Monday, July 01 2013, 01:35 PM EDT

The National Weather Service has confirmed that a tornado touched down in the south east area of Windsor Locks, crossed I-91 and moved into East Windsor just after 1:30pm on Monday. There was extensive damage to trees, power lines and structures. There are tobacco field nets all over the area, hanging from trees and houses. The nets were blown from the tobacco fields in Windsor.



Firefighters Rescue Male from CT River

Friday, June 28 2013, 08:44 PM EDT

Courtesy of the Warehouse Point Fire District

On June 28, 2013 at 20:18 the Warehouse Point Fire District was dispatched to a witnessed male that jumped off the Rout 140 Bridge. The Warehouse Point Fire District launched the rescue boat and began to search the swift moving water of the CT river just south of the Dexter Coffin Bridge. The victim was located approximately 1/4 mile South of the Dexter Coffin Bridge. At 20:44 The Fire Rescue Crew of Warehouse Point Marine 138 pulled the victim from the swift water. The victim was conscious and alert when pulled from the water. The victim was then brought to shore and transported to the Connecticut Children's Medical Center by Windsor Locks Ambulance.



Great Job tonight by the Warehouse Point Fire District and the Mutual Aid companies that responded.

Captain M. Morell, Firefighter J. Messina, Firefighter G. Stewart, Firefighter S.Ellis, Windsor Locks Lieutenant T. Ruggiero (pictured)

2013 WLFD Memorial Scholarship Awarded

Thursday, June 06 2013, 04:32 PM EDT

Windsor Locks High School senior Sarah Jenkins was the 2013 recipient of the WLFD Memorial Scholarship. Pictured with Sarah is Windsor Locks Fire Department Chief, Gary Ruggiero.



Fire Heavily Damages Windsor Locks Home

Thursday, May 16 2013, 08:07 AM EDT

Courtesy FOXCT.com | 05-16-13

Firefighters remain on the scene of a fire that heavily damaged a house at 33 South Main St. early Thursday.

Windsor Locks firefighters were called to the scene shortly after 2 a.m. for a porch fire, but when they arrived found the house on fire, Chief Gary Ruggiero said. Firefighters from surrounding communities were called in to assist.

The 3,300 square foot house is owned by the estate of Dawn Rivers.

The people in the house were able to get out and no injuries were reported.

Fire got into the building's walls and spread upward, the chief said. Damage is extensive, Ruggiero said.



The state fire marshal has been called in to assist Windsor Lock's fire marshal in investigating the fire's cause.

Firefighters Quickly Extinguish Chimney Fire

Tuesday, March 05 2013, 10:53 AM EST

A chimney fire was reported shortly after 9am on Tuesday at 418 Spring St. Firefighters quickly arrived on scene to find a wood stove pipe clogged. The pipe was opened and the debris was extinguished. Spring St was closed for a short period of time between Hathaway St and Smalley Rd.

WLFD Honors Two for 25 Years of Service

Saturday, November 17 2012, 07:00 PM EST

The Windsor Locks Fire Department honored two of its members for 25 years of dedicated service on Saturday, November 17th at the fire department.

Lieutenant Harley Higgins and Safety Officer Linda Donahue were both presented with awards from the Fire Department, the Town of Windsor Locks and the State of Connecticut.



Former Fire Chief Passes

Wednesday, November 14 2012, 09:07 PM EST



The Windsor Locks Fire Department
Regrets to Announce the Passing of
Raymond "Frenchy" H. Ouellette
(Dec 4, 1919 - Nov 14, 2012)
22 Year Active Member (1965-1987)
Fire Chief (1984-1987)
Our Thoughts and Prayers are with his Family

Donations in Frenchy's memory may be made to Windsor Locks Volunteer Fire Department, 2 Volunteer Dr., Windsor Locks, CT 06096 or The Alzheimer Association in memory of his late wife (Anna Ouellette), 2075 Silas Deane Highway, Suite 100, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

Family Displaced After Late Night Fire in Windsor Locks

Tuesday, November 13 2012, 03:44 PM EST

A family of five has been displaced after a fire late Sunday night caused significant damage to their side of a duplex on Fairview Street. In total, nine people were affected by the blaze.

What started as a fire in the basement of a duplex Sunday night on Fairview Street quickly spread through one of the units causing extensive damage and displacing a family of five, according to fire officials and residents.



Dump Truck Rollover Closes North St

Thursday, September 20 2012, 11:35 AM EDT

Firefighters were called to 288 North St Thursday morning when a dump truck which was exiting Ayotte Brothers Construction with its dump still raised, caught the overhead utility wires forcing the truck to rollover on its side. No one was injured in the accident and utility crews were called to the scene to repair the damaged wires. A portion of North St was closed for about two hours while the truck was righted and removed.



2012 WLFD Memorial Scholarship Awarded

Tuesday, June 05 2012, 09:02 PM EDT

Windsor Locks High School senior Zachary Dulka was the 2012 recipient of the WLFD Memorial Scholarship. Pictured with Zachary is Windsor Locks Fire Department Chief, Gary Ruggiero.



Engine 3 Sold!

Monday, June 04 2012, 04:31 PM EDT



The retired Engine 3, a 1989 Mack/Ranger, has been sold and is on its way to Santa Cruz, Bolivia. This picture shows Engine 3 loaded on a flat bed as it begins its journey to its new home. The 1000 gallon pumper, which served Windsor Locks proudly for over 20 years, was replaced in the summer of 2011 by Engine 5.

Firefighters Respond to Car Fire on RT 20

Friday, June 01 2012, 08:19 AM EDT

Firefighters were called to RT 20 W near Rt 75 on Friday for a working car fire. The fire shut down traffic for about 30 minutes as firefighters worked to extinguish the flames. The Hamilton Sundstrand Fire Department was first on scene and their crew knocked down the fire.



Annual HazMat Training at CT Fire Academy

Tuesday, April 24 2012, 07:00 PM EDT

Windsor Locks firefighters received their annual re-certification in HazMat Operations during the month of April. Pictured are several members performing decontamination at the Connecticut Fire Academy on April 24th. Photo taken by Capt. Brian Long.



Firefighters Quickly Extinguish Truck Fire

Wednesday, December 21 2011, 03:03 PM EST

Windsor Locks firefighters quickly extinguished a fire that broke out in the refrigeration unit of a truck at C&S Wholesale at 500 North St on Wednesday, Dec. 21st just after 3pm. The truck was loaded and backed up to the loading dock of the building. The crew of Engine 5, quickly knocked down the fire and prevented it from spreading into the building. There were no injuries reported.



Firefighters Respond to Over 320 Storm Related Calls

Wednesday, November 02 2011, 07:52 PM EDT

The Windsor Locks Fire Department responded to over 320 storm related calls for service as a result of Winter Storm Alfred which pounded Connecticut on Saturday, October 29th. Firefighters responded to a wide variety of calls including, wires and trees down, carbon monoxide (CO) alarms, water in basements, structure fires, fire alarms, and much more.

Firefighters Extinguish Stubborn Van Fire

Wednesday, October 05 2011, 03:55 PM EDT

Firefighters were dispatched to a van fire on 91 south bound just after the 42 on-ramp just before 4pm on October 5th.



Tractor Trailer Knocks Down Utility Pole

Thursday, September 01 2011, 04:27 PM EDT

A tractor trailer caught wires on King Spring Rd in Windsor Locks, Thursday which snapped the utility pole bringing the wires down over the truck. The driver managed to escape from the truck without injury. CL&P crews responded to secure the power lines and repair the pole.



Fire At Montgomery Complex Challenging

Thursday, September 01 2011, 04:03 PM EDT

Firefighters responded to the abandoned Montgomery Complex on Tuesday morning, August 30th, for a report of smoke from the rear. A small fire was located in an upper floor of the burned out garage building. Crews had trouble reaching the building due to the flooded out parking lot which is right along the CT River. Tower 1 was used to supply water to handlines on the fire floor. Warehouse Point FD also responded as mutual aid.



Engine 3 Officially Retired

Wednesday, August 03 2011, 07:49 PM EDT

The Windsor Locks Fire Department has officially retired Engine 3 from service. The 1989 Mack/Ranger served the town for 21 years and is pictured at the left on its last night at fire headquarters. The apparatus was taken out of service on August 1st and was replaced by Engine 5, a 2011 Seagrave Marauder II Custom Pumper. Firefighters and Apparatus Drivers will be training on Engine 5 over the next few weeks.



UPS Foundation Provides Grant to FD

Friday, June 17 2011, 11:25 AM EDT



The Windsor Locks Fire Department Social Services received a \$10,500.00 grant from the UPS Foundation. The grant will be used to improve the security of the fire station. The current key lock system used on all doors at the fire station will be replaced by electronic key-fob locks, which will provide much improved security to the facility.

Live Fire Training

Tuesday, October 19 2010, 02:56 PM EDT

Windsor Locks firefighters are conducting live fire training with the assistance of the Ellington Fire Department's Mobile Live Burn Simulator. The simulator allows firefighters to perform training on extinguishing interior fires, forcible entry and ventilation.



Former WLFD Fire Chief Passes Away

Friday, April 23 2010, 08:20 PM EDT

The Windsor Locks Fire Department regrets to announce the passing of former Fire Chief and honorary member, Dean J. Ribaud. Dean passed away on April 19, 2010 in Naples, FL at the age of 79. An online memorial guestbook is available by clicking on his name at the [Fuller Funeral Home](#) web site.



Fire Rips Through Oates Ln House

Sunday, January 31 2010, 09:03 AM EST

Firefighters were called to 37 Oates Ln shortly after 9am on Sunday for a report of a house fire. When firefighters arrived flames were through the roof as the fire quickly spread through the attic and second floor of the residence. It took firefighters several hours to extinguish the blaze which is under investigation by the Windsor Locks Fire Marshal's Office. No one was injured during the fire. Mutual Aid was called in from Warehouse Point in East Windsor, Poquonock in Windsor and Suffield.



Car Slams into South Center St Home

Saturday, January 09 2010, 08:21 AM EST

A vehicle left the road and slammed into the house at 205 South Center St at around 8:20am on January 9th. The accident caused severe damage to the brick home as well as shearing off the home's gas meter.



Firefighters Respond to Accident on Highway Ramp

Sunday, January 03 2010, 09:35 AM EST

Firefighters responded to the exit ramp from 91 to RT 20 around 9:30am on Sunday for a one car motor vehicle accident. One of the occupants had to be extricated from the vehicle. *Photos courtesy of Spike Daniel, WHPFD*



Firefighters Battle Afternoon Garage Fire

Saturday, December 05 2009, 03:34 PM EST

Fire broke out in the garage at 59 North Main St. shortly before 2pm on Saturday. Firefighters arrived to find a working fire in a one car detached garage. The fire was quickly extinguished and no one was injured. The blaze is under investigation by the Windsor Locks Fire Marshal's Office.



Firefighters Honored for 25 Years of Service

Tuesday, December 01 2009, 01:58 PM EST

Firefighters William Kupernik and Kenneth Palmer were honored on November 14, 2009 for 25 Years of Service to the Windsor Locks Fire Department. Your dedication and service to the Town of Windsor Locks is greatly appreciated by your fellow department members and the citizens of Windsor Locks.



Barns Destroyed by Fire

Monday, October 19 2009, 04:18 PM EDT

The Windsor Locks Fire Department and Windsor Fire Department were dispatched to the intersection of Old County Rd and RT 20 just after 4pm on October 19th for a working barn fire. A total of 3 barns were destroyed by the blaze. There are 3 videos on YouTube of the fire. Thank you to the person who took the time to shoot this and post it on the web.

[Barn Fire - Part 1](#)

[Barn Fire - Part 2](#)

[Barn Fire - Part 3](#)



Simulated Aircraft Disaster Drill at Bradley

Saturday, September 26 2009, 08:30 AM EDT

Bradley International Airport was the scene of a simulated aircraft disaster on Saturday morning, as emergency services from all over north central CT responded to the incident. The full scale disaster drill is



conducted every 3 years as required by the FAA and is complete with live fire and simulated victims.

Fire Breaks Out at the Montgomery Building

Monday, August 24 2009, 05:57 PM EDT

Fire broke out just before 6pm on Monday August 24, 2009 inside the abandoned Montgomery Building on Canal Bank Rd. The fire was quickly extinguished by firefighters and is under investigation by the Windsor Locks Fire Marshal's Office. The Montgomery complex was the site of a large fire that destroyed nearly half of the complex back in July of 2006.



Adult and Three Children Escape House Fire

Tuesday, June 16 2009, 07:14 PM EDT

The Windsor Locks Fire Department was dispatched to a reported structure fire at 45 Suffield St on Monday evening around 7:15pm. Firefighters arrived to find heavy smoke and fire blowing out a second floor window in the rear of the house. An adult and three children managed to escape the fire. No one was injured and the fire is under investigation by the Windsor Locks Fire Marshal's office.



Windsor Locks Military Appreciation Day

Thursday, May 21 2009, 02:24 PM EDT

The Windsor Locks Fire Department was on standby at the 2009 Military Appreciation Day ceremonies held at the Windsor Locks High School on Thursday, May 21st. The ceremony featured local and state officials, several active military personnel and veterans. Students from the High School and South Street School also attended and were able to see a Black Hawk helicopter land on the field.



[WLHS and WLMS Bands Perform
National Anthem
Blackhawk Taking Off](#)

Fire Rips Through Outdoor Shed

Sunday, April 19 2009, 10:12 AM EDT

Fire ripped through an outdoor shed and damaged a neighbors shed and fence on Sunday April 19th. The 47 Laurel Rd shed was heavily damaged along with several items inside. The fire also destroyed portions of a wood fence and extended to the outside wall and roof of a neighboring shed. No one was injured and the cause of the fire is under investigation by the Windsor Locks Fire Marshal's office.



New Members Sworn in as Firefighters

Thursday, April 16 2009, 12:54 AM EDT

The Windsor Locks Fire Department recently welcomed three new members who were sworn in as firefighters at a recent meeting of the Windsor Locks Fire Commission. Pictured left to right are **Mark Shanks**, **Brandon Clark** and **Sonia Lombardi**. Congratulations to the town's newest volunteers.



Fire Destroys Vehicle, Damages Building

Monday, April 13 2009, 05:30 PM EDT

Firefighters were dispatched to a reported vehicle fire around 5:30pm on Monday, April 13th at 130 Ella Grasso Turnpike (RT 75). Upon arrival firefighters found a fully involved SUV next to a building. The fire was quickly extinguished by the first due engine company, but not before the fire had extended to the outside of the building causing moderate damage to the outside wall of the building. There was no damage to the inside of the structure and no one was injured.



Fire at Greif Brothers Quickly Extinguished

Wednesday, February 18 2009, 07:45 AM EST

Firefighters responded around 7:45am on Wednesday February 18th to Greif Brothers Corporation at 491 North Street for a report of an outside metal fire. Firefighters arrived to find a metal spray booth fully involved in fire. The first due engine crew quickly extinguished the fire which reportedly ignited while work was being done on it.



3 Car Accident Closes a Portion of RT 159

Saturday, February 14 2009, 04:27 PM EST

An afternoon three(3) car accident on Saturday February 14th closed a portion of North Main Street (RT159) for about an hour and sent multiple people to the hospital. The accident occurred on North Main Street between North Street and Maple Ave. Firefighters responded to assist EMS and cover fluids spilled on the roadway.



Firefighters Extricate Driver on RT 75

Monday, December 08 2008, 05:15 PM EST

Around 5:15pm on Monday evening, Dec. 8th, Firefighters responded along with Police and EMS to an accident at the intersection of RT 75 and North Street. A passenger vehicle and tractor trailer collided in the intersection pinning the driver in the vehicle. Firefighters used Hurst tools to remove the roof and drivers door allowing EMS to remove the driver safely. The driver was transported to the hospital and traffic was tied up on RT 75 for about an hour while the scene was cleaned up.



Accident Injures One and Ties Up Traffic

Wednesday, December 03 2008, 09:38 AM EST

The Windsor Locks Fire Department responded on Wed Dec. 3rd at 9:38am to Interstate 91 south on the Dexter Coffin Bridge for a one car motor vehicle accident that sent one person to the hospital and tied up south bound traffic for about an hour.



Firefighters Help Students with Egg Drop Experiment

Friday, November 14 2008, 12:00 PM EST

Windsor Locks firefighters hoisted dozens of science experiments over 90 feet above South Elementary School and then dropped them one at a time out of the bucket of Tower 1 as the 5th grade class looked on to



see if their egg survived the fall. The annual event is both educational and fun for the 5th graders. Thank you to Deputy Chief John Donahue, Captain Herbert Staiger III and Firefighters Jay Reardon, Bill Kupernik, Al Roberts and Fred Kaplan for assisting.

WLFD Visits Nursery School for Fire Prevention

Thursday, November 06 2008, 04:21 AM EST

As part of the annual Fire Prevention week in October, firefighters Cliff Colson and Bill Sheridan visited the Congregational Church Nursery School.

Fire department members along with the Fire Marshal's office also visited North Street Elementary School and the department held an Open House on Saturday October 18th.



Firefighters Extinguish Shuttle Bus Fire

Thursday, November 06 2008, 03:41 AM EST

On September 09, 2008 Windsor Locks firefighters extinguished an airport shuttle bus that caught fire at the intersection of RT 75 and Elm Street. Click the image to view a [short video](#).



WLFD Holds Open House as Part of Fire Prevention Week

Monday, October 27 2008, 07:32 PM EDT



As part of Fire Prevention Week, the Windsor Locks Fire Department held its annual Open House on Saturday October 18, 2008.

WLFD Officers Honored by CT State Firefighters Association

Sunday, September 21 2008, 03:10 AM EDT



Captain Herbert Staiger, III



Lieutenant Joseph LaPierre, III

Captain Herbert Staiger, III and Lieutenant Joseph LaPierre, III were selected to receive Merit Awards by the CT State Firefighters Association on Saturday September 20, 2008 at the Connecticut State Firefighters Convention. The members of the WLFD would like to congratulate these two deserving officers.

Firefighters Extricate Driver from Spring Street Accident

Tuesday, June 03 2008, 01:02 PM EDT

The Windsor Locks Fire Department responded just after 9am on June 3, 2008, to a motor vehicle accident in front of 163 Spring Street. The vehicle struck a parked trailer and rolled onto its side. Firefighters used a Hurst cutting tool to remove the roof and extricate the driver who sustained only minor injuries.



North Main Street Home Heavily Damaged by Early Morning Fire

Friday, May 30 2008, 06:15 AM EDT

Firefighters responded to a working house fire at 2:15am on May 30, 2008 at 78 North Main Street. The first due engine company found heavy fire on the first floor of the 2 1/2 story single family home. The house was heavily damaged by the fire and no one was injured. The fire is being investigated by the Windsor Locks Fire Marshal's office.



WLFD Participates in Shattered Dreams at Windsor Locks High School

Thursday, May 08 2008, 01:00 PM EDT

Windsor Locks High School students look on as EMT's and Firefighters remove a fatally injured victim of a simulated motor vehicle accident. The simulation staged at the high school on Thursday May 8th is part of the Shattered Dreams program which raises the awareness of the students to the reality of how serious drunk driving is and its fatal consequences. The



simulated head-on accident is as real as it can get, from the fire department extricating a seriously injured driver, to a dead body being loaded into a hearse. [More Information About Shattered Dreams](#)

Area Firefighters Take Part in Live Fire Training

Sunday, April 27 2008, 12:00 PM EDT

Firefighters from Windsor Locks, Warehouse Point and Broad Brook participated in live fire training on Sunday April 27th at the Fire Training Center in Springfield, MA.



WLFD Responds to Multi-Vehicle Accident

Monday, April 21 2008, 02:44 AM EDT

The Windsor Locks Fire Department responded to a report of a multi-vehicle accident at the intersection of Main St (RT 159) and the RT 140 Bridge just before 11pm on April 20th. There were several vehicles involved in the accident and firefighters spread absorbent material on the fluids that was spilled.



Firefighters Battle Afternoon House Fire

Friday, April 11 2008, 01:33 PM EDT

Windsor Locks firefighters battled a structure fire on Friday afternoon at 245 South Elm Street. The fire caused extensive damage to the residence. A mutual aid engine company responded to the scene from Warehouse Point in East Windsor and a ladder company from Poquonock in Windsor. No one was injured in the blaze and the fire is under investigation by local and state fire marshals.



Training Drill at St. Roberts

Tuesday, March 18 2008, 07:00 PM EDT

Windsor Locks Firefighters have been training at a building slated to be torn down on Southwest Ave. Firefighters trained on maneuvering through obstacles and confined spaces, many of which can be encountered during an actual fire.



FIREFIGHTER SAFETY ALERT! Exploding Drive Shaft

Tuesday, February 12 2008, 08:38 AM EST

On Monday, February 4th the Somers Fire Department responded to a fully involved car fire. On arrival they found a 2004 Dodge Durango heavily involved in fire. While pulling lines to attack the fire a loud explosion occurred that was not normal for this type of fire. Shortly after extinguishing the fire it was determined that the drive shaft exploded and ripped a 1 foot diameter hole in the floor between the front and rear seats. The gas tank was plastic and melted during the incident. They believe the burning gasoline caused the



drive shaft to rupture. All firefighters should be aware of this potential hazard while fighting vehicle fires.



Vehicle Fire Damages Auto Body Shop

Saturday, December 01 2007, 07:54 AM EST

Windsor Locks firefighters responded, just before 8am on Saturday, to a report of smoke coming from the Standard Auto Body shop located at 45 King Spring Rd.



When firefighters entered the building they discovered that the sprinkler system was activated and that the main body of fire was actually from a vehicle inside the shop.

Firefighters Help 5th Grade Students with Egg Drop Experiment

Tuesday, November 20 2007, 10:55 AM EST

The Windsor Locks Fire Department helped out the 5th grade students at South Street School on Tuesday. Each year the students construct a container to protect an egg from a 90 ft fall from the bucket of Tower 1. The students did a great job creating containers out of all types of items. This year was unique because it was held during the first snowfall of the season. The picture to the left shows firefighters loading the containers into the bucket of Tower 1. Pictured (L-R) are FF Dennis Murphy, FF Dave Carlson, LT Joe LaPierre,

FF Fred Kaplan and Capt. Brian Long. Capt. Chip Staiger and FF Al Roberts also helped.



WLFD Celebrates Firefighters 25 Years of Service

Saturday, November 10 2007, 08:22 PM EST

On Saturday, November 10, 2007, the Windsor Locks Fire Department celebrated and honored two of its own members for their 25 years of dedicated service. Captain Herbert "Chip" Staiger, III and Firefighter Nelson Magleora were honored by their fellow firefighters at a dinner held at fire headquarters. Awards were given to both men by State Representative Peggy Sayers, Windsor Locks Selectman Joe Calsetta, Fire Chief Gary Ruggiero and President Drew Hill. Shown in the picture are (L -R)

Fire Chief Gary Ruggiero, Firefighter Nelson Magleora, Captain Herbert Staiger, III and President Drew Hill.



Firefighters Extricate Driver After Car Hits Tree

Tuesday, September 25 2007, 11:34 PM EDT

Windsor Locks Firefighters were called to a one car accident on September 25th just after 11:30pm. The vehicle struck a tree at the intersection of Southwest Ave and Halfway House Rd. The roof of the vehicle had to be removed in order to safely extricate the driver from the vehicle.



WLFD Hosting 2007 HCFEP Memorial Service

Tuesday, September 25 2007, 12:44 AM EDT



The Hartford County Fire Emergency Plan invites you to their Fifty-Seventh Annual Memorial Service on Sunday, October 14, 2007. This year's Service will be hosted by the Windsor Locks Fire Department and will be in combination with their Department's Annual Memorial Service. Firefighters, families, and friends are asked to join the Windsor Locks Fire Department in their Services at 1800 hours at the Memorial Bell in front of Fire Headquarters on Volunteer Drive.

Line up for the County Memorial Service will be at 1830 hours at Fire Headquarters followed by a short march to St. Robert Bellarmine Church on South Elm Street for Services. Services at St. Roberts will start at 1900 hours. A shuttle bus will be available to those who cannot march. All Firefighters are requested to be in Class A uniform. Refreshments will be served at Fire Headquarters immediately following the Services.

All Departments who have lost members due to death since last year's service are asked to make sure those names are forwarded to Chet or Pat Haber by October 5 to be included in this year's program. We are asking each Department whose members will be remembered in this year's Service to invite the families of their deceased members.

If you have any questions regarding the Service or directions, please contact Chief Gary Ruggiero at 860-982-5329 (cell) or gruggier@rcn.com (e-mail). Chet or Pat Haber can be contacted at 860-828-3242 regarding the names of the deceased members.

Firefighters Quickly Extinguish Mattress Fire

Sunday, May 20 2007, 01:03 PM EDT

The Windsor Locks Fire Department was dispatched to a reported bedroom fire at 78 Center Street just after 1 pm on Sunday. Due to the quick response of the first due engine and truck company, firefighters were able to quickly enter the 2 1/2 story structure and extinguish a mattress fire in a second floor bedroom. A mutual aid engine company from Warehouse Point was on standby in the Windsor Locks station.

The cause of the fire is under investigation by the Windsor Locks Fire Marshal's office. Check out our 27 picture.



Town of Windsor Locks Torch Light Parade

Saturday, December 02 2006, 06:00 PM EST

The Windsor Locks Fire Department along with several other local fire departments participated in the town wide torch light parade on Saturday, December 2, 2006. We would like to thank Christine Muller, a resident of Windsor Locks, who was kind enough to contribute the photos she took of the parade.



WLFD Responds to a Structure Fire on RT 5 in East Windsor

Friday, November 10 2006, 02:00 PM EST

The Windsor Locks Fire Department responded as mutual aid along with several other towns to the Warehouse Point section of East Windsor for a working structure fire at 202 South Main St (RT 5) on Friday Nov. 10th. Fire broke out around 2pm in the newly renovated building on RT 5 near Stoughton Rd. The WLFD sent Engine 2 and Tower 1 to the scene of the second alarm fire, while Engine 3 was on standby at Warehouse Point Station 138 on Bridge St. Thank you to Troy Gifford of East Windsor for providing the WLFD with the photos.



Aircraft Fire Simulator Training

Wednesday, November 08 2006, 11:38 AM EST

The Windsor Locks Fire Department along with other area departments were invited to participate in live fire training on an aircraft simulator at Bradley International Airport during the first weekend of November. The Aircraft Mobile Training Simulator was leased from Kellogg Community College in Battle Creek Michigan. It provides a variety of aircraft fire scenarios such as 3 dimensional fuel fire, landing gear fire, engine fire and fuselage fire. The interior has 6 smoke machines that fill the fuselage with smoke to make it difficult to find the 5 mannequins inside. 2500 gallons of propane fuel were burned over the weekend. About 100 firefighters received training during the 6 four hour sessions. Training included hoseline operations and rescue scenarios as well as Bradley firefighters practicing turret operations from their crash trucks.



WLFD Open House October 15th

Wednesday, October 04 2006, 08:05 PM EDT

The Windsor Locks Fire Department will be holding an Open House on Sunday October 15th from 1pm to 4pm at fire headquarters on Volunteer Drive. This event is open to the public and is part of the Fire Prevention Week. There will be fire safety information, vehicle extrication demonstrations, activities for kids and much more. Bring the whole family down.



WL Firefighters Fighting Wild Fires

Monday, July 31 2006, 07:40 AM EDT



Windsor Locks firefighters David Montemerlo and David Montemerlo Jr. have been deployed to Oregon with a group from the CT Department of Environmental Protection. These firefighters are specially trained by the DEP to fight wild land fires. The father son team will be deployed along with the other DEP FF's for a minimum of 16 days to help fight one of the many

wild fires burning in the western United States. David and David Jr. are in our thoughts and prayers for a safe return.

UPDATE: 8-16-06: Both Davids have returned home safely along with the other firefighters.

Fire Destroys Buildings at Former Montgomery Co.

Sunday, July 16 2006, 07:52 PM EDT



Resources from 50 fire departments were needed to extinguish a fire that destroyed several old mill buildings at the Montgomery Co. complex on Canal Bank Rd at the intersection of RT 159 and RT 140. Firefighters also had to battle the high humidity and temperatures in the 90's. Fire broke out around 5pm on Sunday and quickly engulfed several buildings in the rear of the complex that is on an island between the CT River and the Windsor Locks Canal. Seven mutual aid Task

Forces from all over northern CT were called in to help battle the blaze. Fire companies were extinguishing the fire well into the early morning hours on Monday and the final engine company left the scene Monday afternoon. The state fire marshal's office will be investigating the cause of the fire.

The mill has been vacant since 2004 and there are currently plans to convert the 5-story main building into condominiums. That building was not involved in the fire. One of the buildings lost in the fire had been on the site since the Civil War and was used to manufacture guns for the Union Army.



Firefighters Battle Structure Fire

Sunday, June 11 2006, 05:14 PM EDT

Windsor Locks firefighters ended the weekend battling a working structure fire at 6 Reed Circle. A resident called 911 shortly after 5:00PM, reporting that their neighbor needs the fire department, but wasn't sure why. When police officers arrived, they reported a working house fire.



The first due engine company, Engine 2, encountered a heavy volume of fire in the carport area of the single story rancher. Engine 2 put one, two and one half inch and three, one and three quarter inch hand lines into operation. The second due engine, Engine 6, boosted the pressure at the hydrant feeding Engine 2. The fire quickly spread across the entire attic space of the residence. As the structural integrity began to come into question, all crews were pulled out and a defensive operation was put into place. Two engine companies responded to the scene from Warehouse Point in East Windsor and one engine company from Hayden Station in Windsor. It took firefighters over three hours to bring the blaze under control and fire personnel were on scene for over five hours. A task force consisting of two ladders, three engines and one rescue from the Town of Enfield was on standby in the Windsor Locks Fire Headquarters during the incident. There were no reported injuries and the fire is under investigation by the Windsor Locks Fire Marshal's office.

Windsor Locks Memorial Day Parade

Monday, May 29 2006, 10:30 AM EDT

The Windsor Locks Fire Department participated in the 2006 Windsor Locks Memorial Day Parade. The parade concludes at Memorial Hall on Main St. with a ceremony honoring all who have served this country.



RV Fire Shuts Down I-91 South

Saturday, May 20 2006, 09:18 AM EDT

Firefighters responded to I-91 South near Exit 40 for a recreational vehicle that caught fire. The south bound side of 91 was closed briefly while firefighters extinguished the blaze. No one was injured.



Vehicle Rollover on RT 20 at 91 S

Sunday, April 09 2006, 12:14 AM EDT

Firefighters responded to RT 20 West just in from 91 South for a vehicle that rolled over with several injuries. A total of five ambulances were called to the scene of the early morning accident that knocked down a light pole and scattered debris all over the highway. The FD remained on scene for a couple of hours while the highway was cleaned up and State Police investigated.



Woman Saved by 3 WLFD Firefighters. Receive 1999 Firehouse Magazine Rescue Award.

Sunday, January 01 2006, 03:30 AM EST



Nelson Magleora



Kenneth Palmer



Herbert Staiger, III

Story from www.hallofflame.org

On Wednesday, January 13, 1999 at 8 PM a telephone call was received via 911 reporting smoke in the hallway of a residence. Arriving police officers were unable to enter the building due to the heavy smoke. At 2025 hours Windsor Locks Engine 6, the first due engine, arrived at the three story store/residence. Arriving just before Engine 6, the Department Chief established command and found heavy smoke on the second floor common hallway. A resident reported that she saw smoke coming from under the door of apartment 2C. The Chief assigned the crew of Engine 6 to advance a 1 3/4" attack line and conduct a primary search. This crew, consisting of Captain Herbert O. Staiger III, Firefighter Nelson Magleora Jr. and Firefighter Kenneth Palmer forced entry into the apartment, where they immediately encountered heavy smoke. They located the fire in the kitchen area.

The crew quickly knocked down the fire and began a primary search of the apartment. Searching in the bedroom, Firefighter Palmer found a semi-conscious woman behind the door of a walk-in closet, experiencing respiratory distress.

Captain Staiger notified the Chief that they had located a victim. She was wrapped with a blanket to shield her from any additional hazardous conditions and carried outside. Police and fire personnel administered oxygen and provided basic life support until the arrival of the Windsor Locks Ambulance and the Bradley International Airport Paramedic unit. The Engine 6 crew then returned to the apartment to assist in the primary search, which proved negative. The woman survived her injuries and was discharged from the hospital the next day with minor burns.
