

# Franklin County Department of Emergency Services Newsletter

June 6th, 2013



## Meet the Dispatcher

### Arley Scott

Mr. Scott was born in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania in 1961, at the Chambersburg Hospital to Randolph and Joyce Scott. Arley and his family lived in Waynesboro from birth until his marriage in 1997. Arley's father worked at the A&P Grocery Store in Waynesboro until his death in 1993. Arley's mother worked various jobs and was working at Wal-Mart until her death in 2010. In 1997, Arley moved to Westminster, Maryland to be closer to work and then moved to their present location in 1999 in Littlestown, Pennsylvania.

Arley's education started in Waynesboro, graduating in 1979 from the Waynesboro Area Senior High School in Waynesboro, Pennsylvania. During his high school years, Arley participated as the manager for the football and basketball programs. During his elementary school years, Arley became interested in the fire department and would spend time at both fire stations at the age of 9. Arley officially joined the Mechanics Steam Fire Engine & Hose Company in Waynesboro in 1979. It was during this time that Arley became an avid Baltimore Orioles and Notre Dame football. Arley continues to support the Orioles every baseball season.

After graduation, Arley started his un-paid training for the Franklin County Communications Center in February, 1980 and completed his training in May, 1980. After completion of training, Arley moved to part-time/fulltime status until being officially hired as a full-time dispatcher in January, 1983. In May, 1989, Arley was hired as a fulltime emergency communications technician at Baltimore County, Maryland where he has been ever since.

In his spare time, he enjoys baseball, volleyball and volunteering with the Waynesboro Fire Department where he was named life member in 2004. He currently holds the title of Department Secretary. Arley also is a life member at Blue Ridge Mountain Fire & Rescue, Pleasant Hall Volunteer Fire Department, Hyattsville Volunteer Fire Department in Prince George's County, Maryland and the Waynesboro Ambulance Squad, where he was a former President.

Arley is the older of two sons born to Randolph and Joyce Scott. Arley's brother Brent passed away unexpectedly in 2008 in Thurmont, Maryland. Currently, Arley resides in Littlestown, Pennsylvania with his wife Sharon, daughters Olivia and Janna and father-in-law, Bob Herb.

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National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week in Franklin County April 14-20, 2013



Pictured (l-r) County Commissioner Robert Ziobrowski, Assistant Communications Coordinator Ben Rice, County Commissioner David Keller, Telecommunicators Naomi Bumbaugh and Geoffrey Craven, Assistant Director Meghan O'Brien, Operations and Training Officer Michael McAtee, second row: County Commissioner Robert Thomas

## Meet the Trainees

On April 24 two new employees started at DES. Introducing

**Tyler Shank:** 23 Born in Waynesboro in 1990. He still resides in Waynesboro with his wife Courtney and their two dogs. A graduate of Waynesboro High School in 2008, Tyler has been in the Fire/EMS service since 2005 when he started as a junior at age 15.

Prior to working at DES he worked full time for West Shore EMS and continues to work part time for Marion Co 8 and Blue Ridge Summit Co. 4.

Between a wife, two dogs, three jobs and volunteering Tyler doesn't have much spare time. But when he does he enjoys traveling.

**Kyle Witter:** 23 Born in Chambersburg in 1990, Kyle resides in Fayetteville. A graduate of the Chambersburg School District in 2008 and then of Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP), where he received his degree in criminal justice.

Kyle grew up around the Fire/EMS community where his father is a life member of Fayetteville Co. 7

Prior to joining DES Kyle worked briefly for the Borough of Chambersburg, when Kyle is not working he enjoys golfing and taking long naps.

Please welcome them both.

## Training

Franklin County Department of Emergency Services has offered various trainings throughout the year for Fire, EMS, Fire Police and EMAs. To name a few trainings, Franklin County Department of Emergency Services has hosted Basic Fire Police, Advanced Fire Police, Mass Fatalities through PEMA, EMS and the Crime Scene, as well as providing numerous community members with CPR/AED.

The Franklin County CERT has hosted and participated in numerous trainings as well thus far this year. One of the big training goals for the Franklin County CERT is to bring everyone in to NIMS compliance to better support agencies within the County. Franklin County CERT is always looking to expand the team with new members.

If you have any questions or comments in reference to training or the Franklin County CERT please do not hesitate to contact me. Michael McAtee [mamcatee@franklincountypa.gov](mailto:mamcatee@franklincountypa.gov) or phone 717-264-2813



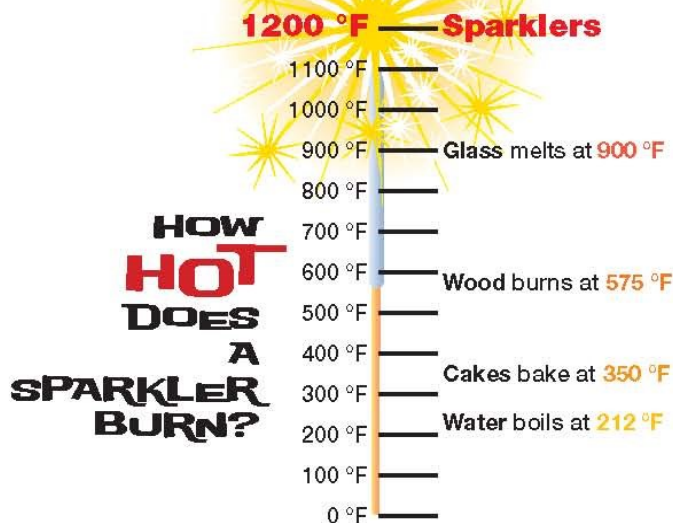
Fireworks during the Fourth of July are as American as apple-pie, but did you know that two out of five fires reported on that day are started by fireworks, more than for any other cause? The good news is you can enjoy your holiday and the fireworks, with just a few simple safety tips:

**PROCEED WITH CAUTION!**

- » Leave fireworks to the professionals. Do not use consumer fireworks.
- » The safest way to enjoy fireworks is to attend a public display conducted by trained professionals.
- » After the firework display, children should never pick up fireworks that may be left over, they may still be active.

**CONSUMER FIREWORKS**

include sparklers and firecrackers. The tip of a sparkler burns at a temperature of more than **1,200 degrees Fahrenheit**, which is hot enough to cause third-degree burns.



**FACTS**

- ! Each July Fourth, thousands of people, often children and teens, are injured while using consumer fireworks.
- ! The risk of fireworks injury is highest for children ages 5-19 and adults 25-44.
- ! Nearly 90% of emergency room fireworks injuries involve fireworks consumers are permitted to use.



## Lightning Safety 101 – Knowing Before is Half the Battle

Flash! Boom! Another lightning bolt, followed by the rolling clap of thunder, streaks through the air as a thunderstorm fast approaches. Common throughout spring and summer, thunderstorms should send everyone scurrying for cover. On average, **62 people are killed each year** by lightning in the United States.

The following tips will help you stay safe before, during and after a thunderstorm.

**Before the Storm** - It is important to know how to recognize when you are at risk for a lightning storm. Knowing that a storm is coming will allow you to make plans to be indoors before the storm strikes!

- Check the forecast before heading out.
- Check the radar and lightning detection sections to see if storms are heading towards your area.
- Storms can form overhead, so always check the sky for large cumulus clouds as these are the first sign of thunderstorms.
- If you feel like a storm is on its way it is imperative to stop your outdoor activities and move to a safe indoor area.
- Lightning can strike before the rain, so be someplace safe before the threat is upon you. To check the distances of the storm from you, use the 30-second rule. Count how many seconds from the flash till you hear thunder. If it is greater than 30 seconds, this means you are at least 6 miles away from the storm. If less than 30 seconds, this means you are in the threat area and you should take cover immediately.

**Outside the Storm** – You should never be outside during a thunderstorm. *If you are outside when a storm strikes find shelter as soon as possible.* If you are not near shelter during a thunderstorm, here are a few things you can do to greatly reduce your chances of being struck.

If you are not near shelter during a thunderstorm, here are a few things you can do to greatly reduce your chances of being struck.

- Go to a low-lying, open place away from trees, poles, or metal objects.
- If you are in the woods, take shelter under the shortest trees.
- If you are boating or swimming, get to land and find shelter immediately.

- Make sure the place you pick is not subject to flooding.
- Be a very small target, squat low to the ground. Place your hands on your knees with your head between them. Laying flat on the ground will actually make you a larger target.
- Wait 30 minutes after the last flash of lightning was seen before it is safe to return to your activities

**Inside During a Storm** - Indoors is the safest place during a storm. There are still hazards to watch out for.

- Do not use corded phones. Lightning can travel through the phone lines and electrocute you.
- Lightning can also travel through pipes. Do not take showers, bathe or do dishes while a thunderstorm is occurring.
- Have flashlight and/or candles ready. Power failures often occur during thunderstorms.
- Unplug or turn off electronics. Lightning can cause damaging power surges.

**Struck by Lightning** - If you see someone get struck by lightning it is important that you help them as soon as possible.

- Don't worry, people struck by lightning carry no electrical charge and can be handled safely.
- Call for help. Get someone to dial 9-1-1 or your local Emergency Medical Services (EMS) number.
- The injured person has received an electrical shock and may be burned where they were struck and where the electricity left their body.
- Give first aid. If breathing has stopped, begin rescue breathing. If the heart has stopped beating, a trained person should give CPR.

*It is important to help victims as soon as possible because left untreated, people struck by lightning suffer from a variety of long-term, debilitating symptoms, including memory loss, attention deficits, sleep disorders, numbness, dizziness, stiffness in joints, irritability, fatigue, weakness, muscle spasms, depression, and an inability to sit for long periods of time.*





## Pool Safety for Kids

### Facts and Figures

Following are just a few facts uncovered by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) in a comprehensive study of drowning and submersion incidents involving children under 5 years old in Arizona, California, and Florida.

- ◆ Seventy-five percent of the submersion victims studied by CPSC were between 1 and 3 years old; 65 percent of this group were boys. Toddlers, in particular, often do something unexpected because their capabilities change daily.
- ◆ At the time of the incidents, most victims were being supervised by one or both parents. Forty-six percent of the victims were last seen in the house; 23 percent were last seen in the yard or on the porch or patio; and 31 percent were in or around the pool before the accident. In all, 69 percent of the children were not expected to be at or in the pool, yet they were found in the water.
- ◆ Submersion incidents involving children usually happen in familiar surroundings. Sixty-five percent of the incidents happened in a pool owned by the child's family and 33 percent of the incidents happened in a pool owned by friends or relatives.
- ◆ Pool submersions involving children happen quickly. A child can drown in the time it takes to answer a phone. Seventy-seven percent of the victims had been missing from sight for 5 minutes or less.
- ◆ Survival depends on rescuing the child quickly and restarting the breathing process, even while the child is still in the water. Seconds count in preventing death or brain damage.
- ◆ Child drowning is a silent death. There's no splashing to alert anyone that the child is in trouble.

### Rules for Pools

- ◆ Instruct babysitters about potential pool hazards to young children and about the use of protective devices, such as door alarms and latches. Emphasize the need for constant supervision.

- ◆ Never leave a child unsupervised near a pool. During social gatherings at or near a pool, appoint a "designated watcher" to protect young children from pool accidents. Adults may take turns being the "watcher." When adults become preoccupied, children are at risk.
- ◆ If a child is missing, check the pool first. Seconds count in preventing death or disability. Go to the edge of the pool and scan the entire pool, bottom and surface, as well as the pool area.
- ◆ Do not allow a young child in the pool without an adult.
- ◆ Do not consider young children to be drown proof because they have had swimming lessons. Children must be watched closely while swimming.
- ◆ Do not use flotation devices as a substitute for supervision.
- ◆ Learn CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation). Babysitters and other caretakers, such as grandparents and older siblings, should also know CPR.
- ◆ Keep rescue equipment by the pool. Be sure a telephone is poolside with emergency numbers posted nearby.
- ◆ Remove toys from in and around the pool when it is not in use. Toys can attract young children to the pool.
- ◆ Never prop open the gate to a pool barrier.

### **Fences and Gates**

- ◆ Install a fence or other barrier, such as a wall, completely around the pool. If the house is part of the barrier, the doors leading from the house to the pool should be protected with an alarm or the pool should have a power safety cover. Alarm and cover details are below.
- ◆ The fence or other barrier should be at least 4 feet high. It should have no foot- or handholds that could help a young child to climb it.
- ◆ Vertical fence slats should be less than 4 inches apart to prevent a child from squeezing through.

Use this as a guide when the release mechanism is located less than 54 inches from the bottom of the gate.

- ◆ If horizontal members are equal to or more than 45 inches apart, vertical spacing shall not exceed 4 inches.
- ◆ If the fence is chain link, then no part of the diamond-shaped opening should be larger than 1-3/4 inches.



- ◆ Fence gates should be self-closing and self-latching. The gate should be well maintained to close and latch easily. The latch should be out of a child's reach.
- ◆ When the release mechanism of the self-latching device is less than 54 inches from the bottom of the gate, the release mechanism for the gate should be at least 3 inches below the top of the gate on the side facing the pool. Placing the release mechanism at this height prevents a young child from reaching over the top of a gate and releasing the latch. Also, the gate and barrier should have no opening greater than 1/2 inch within 18 inches of the latch release mechanism. This prevents a young child from reaching through the gate and releasing the latch.

There are a wide variety of fencing construction materials available to compliment your house and pool surroundings. Your local fence company or pool enclosure company can provide you with information and assist you in making a selection.

The weak link in the strongest and highest fence is a gate that fails to close and latch completely. For a gate to close completely every time, it must be in proper working order.

### **Above-Ground Pools**

- ◆ Steps and ladders leading from the ground to the pool should be secured and locked, or removed when the pool is not in use.



## Free On-Line Training Courses

The Federal Emergency Management Agency's, Emergency Management Institute has a number of independent study courses that can be completed at home or work, using a personal computer. These free courses offer certification and continuing education credit for some professions and provide training in important emergency management topics for individuals, businesses, and emergency responders. In addition, many of the courses can be transferred for college credit and some emergency management degree programs utilize these courses as the foundation of their programs. This article will profile three of the courses offered and future newsletters will highlight other courses.

*IS-7, A Citizens Guide to Disaster Assistance Course*, provides a basic understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the local community, State, and the federal government in providing disaster assistance. It is appropriate for both the general public and those involved in emergency management who need a general introduction to disaster assistance. The course provides one continuing education unit and can be accessed at <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/courseOverview.aspx?code=IS-7>.

*IS-201, Forms Used for the Development of the Incident Action Plan*, is a web-based training course on the National Incident Management System (NIMS) Incident Command System (ICS). The Target Audience for this course are the emergency management and response personnel who may be called upon to function in a Command, General Staff, or Unit Leader position during a significant incident or event, and who may be called upon to help prepare some portion of the Incident Action Plan. This would include municipal officials, school administrators, hospital personnel, and others involved in emergency response. The course provides .3 continuing education units and can be accessed at <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/courseOverview.aspx?code=IS-201>.

*IS-907, Active Shooter: What Can You Do*, is written for non-law enforcement employees. The material may provide law enforcement officers information on recommended actions for non-law enforcement employees to take should they be confronted with an active shooter situation. All employees can help prevent and prepare for potential active shooter situations. This course provides guidance to individuals, including managers and employees, so that they can prepare to respond to an active shooter situation.

An active shooter is an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and other populated area. In most cases, active shooters use firearms and there is no pattern or method to their selection of victims. Active shooter situations are unpredictable and evolve quickly. The course provides .1 continuing education unit and can be accessed at <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/courseOverview.aspx?code=IS-907>.

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