



# THE JOYFUL DISPATCH



**JANUARY**

**2026**

**EDITION**

# C O N T E N T S

*PG 2 - THANK YOU NOTE FROM MS. EILEEN WATERHOUSE*

*PG 3 - DONATION THANK YOU LETTER TO MS. EILEEN  
WATERHOUSE*

*PG 4 - DONATION THANK YOU LETTER TO MS. MARY SKINNER*

*PG 5 - NEW HIRES*

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*PG 9 - JANUARY MILESTONE ANNIVERSIARIES*

12-29-25

Dear Fire Department,  
Thanks For All You do.  
I'm Thankful For Your service.

Sincerely,  
Eileen Waterhouse



CITY OF HARRISONBURG  
**FIRE  
DEPARTMENT**

101 NORTH MAIN STREET  
HARRISONBURG, VA 22802  
OFFICE (540) 432-7703

January 5, 2026

Eileen Waterhouse

Dear Ms. Waterhouse,

The Harrisonburg Fire Department would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generous donation of \_\_\_\_\_ to our department. Support from community members like yourselves makes our job easier and more fulfilling. Your support will allow us to continue providing services to the people in our community. We are incredibly grateful for your generosity.

Very Respectfully,

Matthew Tobia  
Fire Chief

CC: Ande Banks, City Manager  
Michael Parks, Director of Communication



CITY OF HARRISONBURG  
**FIRE**  
DEPARTMENT

101 NORTH MAIN STREET  
HARRISONBURG, VA 22802  
OFFICE (540) 432-7703

January 8, 2026

Ms. Mary Skinner  
506 S. Dogwood Drive  
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Dear Ms. Skinner,

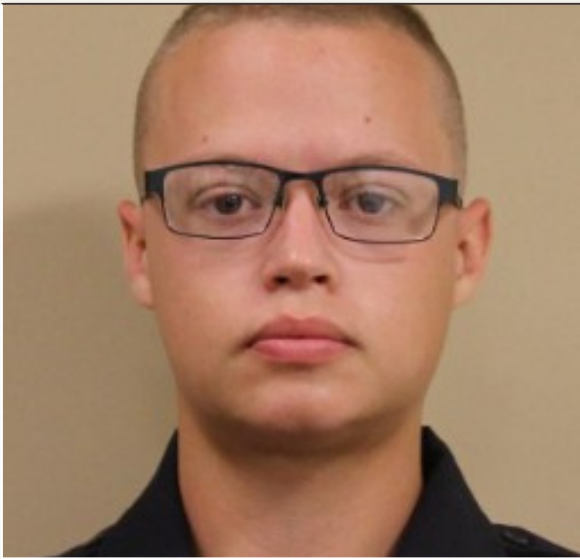
The Harrisonburg Fire Department would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generous donation of \$500.00 to our department. Support from community members like yourself makes our job easier and more fulfilling. Your support will allow us to continue providing services to the people in our community. We are incredibly grateful for your generosity.

Very Respectfully,

Matthew Tobia  
Fire Chief

CC: Ande Banks, City Manager  
Michael Parks, Director of Communication

# NEW HIRES



**CONNOR HENSLEY  
FIREFIGHTER**



**MICHAEL FERRELL  
FIREFIGHTER**

**BOTH CONNOR AND MICHAEL COME TO US AS  
EXPERIENCED FIREFIGHTERS. WE ARE EXCITED TO  
HAVE THEM AND KNOW THAT WILL MAKE EXCELLENT  
ADDTIONS TO OUR DEPARTMENT!**

# **JANUARY PROMOTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

**MASTER FIREFIGHTER  
CHASE COFFEY  
WAS PROMOTED TO  
LIEUTENANT OF THE  
COMMUNITY RISK  
REDUCTION  
SECTION**

**PART TIME  
FIREFIGHTER  
GABE CHAMPMAN  
WAS MOVED TO  
FULL TIME**

# **JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

**TREVOR NELSON - ACTING CAPTAIN**

**LINA AL MUTAWA - DEPARTMENT SYSTEMS ANALYST**

**SAM MORELL - MASTER FIREFIGHTER**

**TREY PRICE - FIREFIGHTER**

**CHASE CROSBY - FIREFIGHTER**

**MATTHEW MCCRAY - ACTING LIEUTENANT**

**LESLIE PULLEN - FIREFIGHTER**

**KELLIE SACKSTEDER - FIREFIGHTER**

# JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

***FIRE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER PAUL HELMUTH, 16 YEARS***

***ACTING BATTALION CHIEF LARRY BENNINGTON, 14 YEARS***

***ACTING LIEUTENANT MATTHEW MCCRAY, 8 YEARS***

***FIREFIGHTER JARED CHEIFETZ, 4 YEARS***

***LOGISTICS ANDREA MULLENS, 3 YEARS***

***FIREFIGHTER CHRISTOPHER LOMELIN, 2 YEARS***

***EM GENERALIST JAMISON RYDER, 2 YEARS***



# January Milestone Anniversaries



**AUSTIN COLLINS**  
**FIREFIGHTER**  
**5 YEARS**