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TOP NEWS

Bristol councilman suggests filling open fire positions with volunteers

Bristol Herald Courier

Kevin Wingard of the Bristol Virginia City Council suggested filling any future open fire with volunteers as the council prepares to vote on the city's budget this month. During Council meeting, Wingard said he did not support cutting department positions or stating said, the city could gradually increase the number of volunteers to replace paid firefighters they leave the department. Only three of five city councilmen, Wingard, Kevin Mumpo and Bill Hartley, attended the meeting, which Wingard requested. Councilmen Doug Fleenor and Mayor Archie Hubbard were not present. [READ MORE](#)



Virginia Beach appoints new fire chief

Firefighter Nation

Virginia Beach City Manager Dave Hansen announced the appointment of veteran Virginia Beach Fire Department employee David Hutcheson as the new fire chief. Hutcheson has been acting fire chief since 2016 following Steve Cover's promotion to deputy city manager for public safety. "We had a national search, and Deputy Chief Hutcheson emerged as the top candidate for a number of reasons," Hansen said. "His years of experience includes service at every rank and all areas of the department including fire operations and hazardous materials to human resources and public information, all of which will effectively lead the department going forward." [READ MORE](#)



How to prep your department for WUI fires

Fire Chief



In the United States, we've become accustomed to seeing massive wildfires destroy thousands of acres of forested land each year in our western states. Beyond forested lands, those same fires also destroy millions of dollars in property as human development continues to encroach upon land in the wildland urban interface. California is in its sixth year of drought, which sparked a range of water restrictions in the state and was barely averted by rains brought by El Niño in 2015 and 2016. [READ MORE](#)

2 firefighters and a civilian injured in Virginia townhouse fire

The Washington Post

Two firefighters and a civilian were injured recently in a Manassas townhouse fire, officials said. The fire started just before 1 a.m. in the 10900 block of Pope Street. When firefighters arrived, there was heavy fire coming from the row of homes. All three of the people who were injured were taken to an area hospital, and all of them have injuries that are not life-threatening, according to authorities with the Prince William County Fire department. [READ MORE](#)



Northern Virginia deputies hope to clear confusion on move over law

WRC-TV

Do you know what the so-called move over law is? Some drivers were confused when News4 asked them the same question. "I wouldn't have a clue," Amiri Bowman said. "When I hear move over and a law, what would I think it is? I'm just going to say talking about roads, maybe moving over when there's police or fire coming behind me," Jeff Musa said. While many mistakenly think it's to move over when police or first responders are behind you — it's actually about moving over when an officer is pulled over on the side of the road. [READ MORE](#)



Firefighter injured after falling through floor of Reston home

WRC-TV

A firefighter was injured after falling through the floor of a burning townhome in Reston, Virginia. Firefighters were called to the home on the 1600 block of Greenbriar Court just after 5 a.m. When they arrived, they found flames coming from the rear of the home. Fire officials say one firefighter was injured when the floor of the home collapsed. The firefighter fell through the floor and was taken to the hospital with a non-life-threatening injury. [READ MORE](#)



LEADERSHIP TIPS

4 keys to better firefighting drills

Fire Chief

Training and drilling are not synonyms. At least they're not in the context of preparing firefighters to safely and effectively do their jobs. For firefighters to be good at their job, they must have the knowledge, skills and abilities that are applicable to each of their job responsibilities. Training, or educating, is the development activity whereby firefighters acquire the requisite knowledge and skills for a particular firefighting task. This could be a classroom or online learning session about ladders, followed by the opportunity to practice the newly learned skills to a proficient level. [READ MORE](#)



How to manage a needy employee

Harvard Business Review

As a manager, you probably wish you could give all the people on your team more attention. But sometimes certain employees seem to need more than their fair share of your time. Maybe they repeatedly ask you to



review their work, look for constant feedback or regularly show up at your desk to chat. [READ MORE](#)

Leaders could use some charisma, but not too much

Psych Central

Emerging research suggests that while a leader should display charisma, too much may hinder a leader's effectiveness. Specifically, the new study, published in the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, finds that although a moderate level of charisma is important, too much magnetism is problematic. [READ MORE](#)



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