

## Creeds Volunteer Rescue Squad

A nice crowd of supporters, including nine lifetime members, dined at Captain George's on May 21 to celebrate Creeds Volunteer Rescue Squad's 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary and reminisce. Founded in June 1950, the Creeds Rescue and Fire Station is located at 595 Princess Anne Road. Today it houses a Boardman heavy duty rescue truck, wheeled coach advanced life support ambulance, swab advanced life support ambulance, Ford zone car and a 17-foot Boston Whaler boat.

## Plaza Volunteer Rescue Squad

Congratulations to Beth Hundley, who was named Civil Servant of the Year by the American Legion Post 110 for her work in the Virginia Beach Mayor's Office and as an EMT with the Plaza Volunteer Rescue Squad. Hundley is the former recruitment officer for the Department of EMS.



On May 14, Plaza Volunteer Rescue Squad participated in Senior Safety Day, which took place at the Police Benevolent Association building in Virginia Beach. Squad members showed off their truck, set up a table and gave away free safety information. Thanks to the Plaza Middle School students who planned and coordinated this very successful event.

## Kempsville Rescue Squad

The "ladies" will be in rare form again at Kempsville Rescue Squad's 3rd Annual Womanless Beauty Pageant! This year's event will be held August 20, 2005, at the Fraternal Order of Police on Birdneck Road. Flyers with more information will be posted at all the rescue stations and Sentara Hospitals. Anyone can attend by purchasing a ticket in August, but only rescue squad members can enter the pageant, folks! Looking forward to a great time with lots of laughs and good food.



Winners from last year's Womanless Beauty Pageant were (left to right): Raman Walia, Kempsville Rescue 9, Winner; Raj Islam, Plaza Rescue, 3rd Runner Up; Arliss Orem, Kempsville, 5th Runner Up; Ed Brit, Ocean Park, 2nd Runner Up; Stuart McGregor, Davis Corner, 4th Runner Up; and David Baker, Kempsville, 1st Runner Up.

## VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUADS OF VIRGINIA BEACH

1917 ARCTIC AVENUE  
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23451

## Safety What to do if Your Grill Catches on Fire

- If the fire in the grill portion seems "out of control" simply turn off the burners.
- If the fire involves one of the hoses and you can safely reach the propane tank valve, shut off the tank valve.
- If the fire involves the tank, leave it alone, evacuate the area and call the fire department (911).
- If there is any type of fire that threatens either personal safety or endangers property, call the fire department (911).



## Helping People Drives Rescue Council President Bill Laws

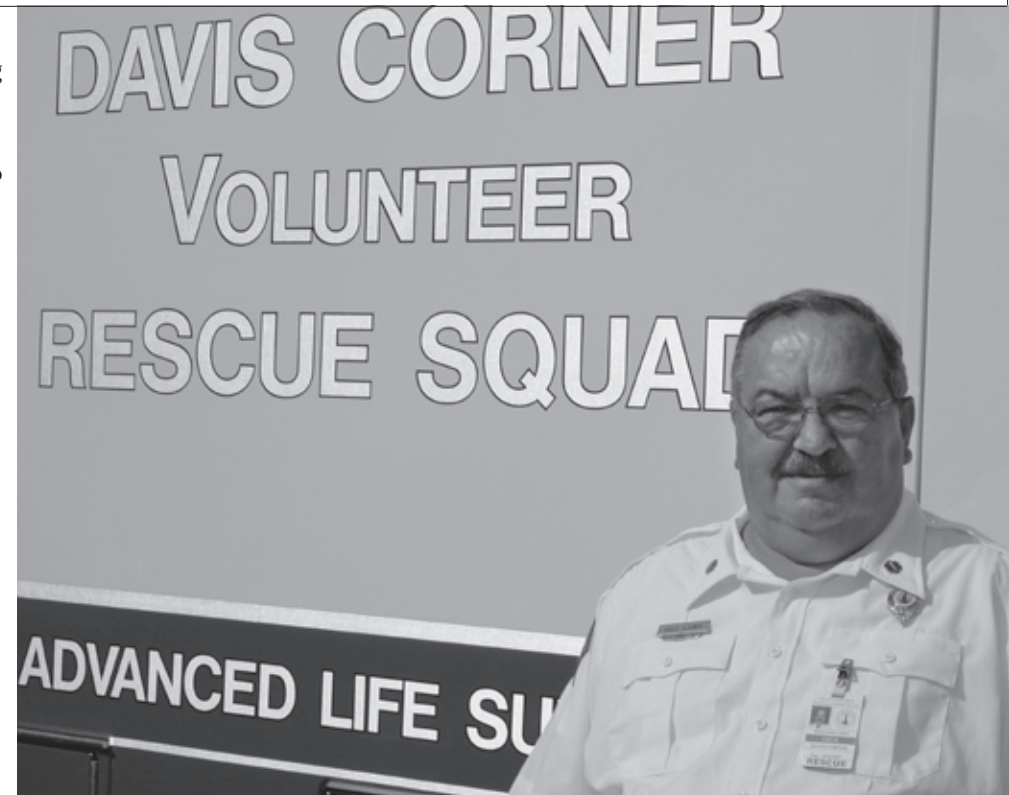
At the Davis Corner Volunteer Rescue Squad, Bill Laws is the "man for the job." Almost any job. Over the past 23 years, the Indiana native has held a host of positions including training officer, captain, and now assistant squad commander. He's also president of the Rescue Council, the umbrella body for the 10 volunteer squads in Virginia Beach. What drives the Indiana native is simple: he loves helping people.

Laws' interest in emergency medicine began as an observer, watching an ambulance racing to a hospital, flashing its emergency lights. He knew immediately that being an EMT would satisfy both his need to stay busy and to contribute to his community. "This is one of the only volunteer jobs around that provides instant gratification," says Laws. "When you are on the scene of an injury, you are the most important person in the victim's life."

Laws served in the Navy while training to be an EMT. Now retired from the service, he works for the Navy as a civilian and somehow manages to balance his work life with his volunteer activities. "If you adjust your priorities, it all fits in."

From simple medical emergencies to deadly accidents, Laws has experienced the full array of EMS responses. "Every call is equally important to the patients we serve," he says. "Most of the time, the issue is a breathing problem or a fall. It's the trauma emergencies though that allow EMTs to put their full training to work."

The 62-year-old Davis Corner Rescue Squad, located in the Bayside section of the City, responds to more than 3,000 calls per year. It



Bill Laws, EMT, Davis Corner Rescue Squad, and president of the Council of the Virginia Beach Volunteer Rescue Squads

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and the other volunteer rescue squads in Virginia Beach collectively save taxpayers nearly \$9 million annually that would have to be spent on emergency services.

Laws believes strongly

in the volunteer system. A past winner of the Tidewater Outstanding EMS Administrator Award, he knows the value of a pro-bono workforce. "We receive the same amount of training as the paid EMTs, and we even use the same instructors," says Laws. "Within each squad, the biggest obstacle is probably recruitment, but if more people knew how satisfying and rewarding this responsibility is, they would sign up for training and join one of the squads." Just as Bill Laws did, nearly a quarter century ago.

## Our Mission

The mission of the Virginia Beach Department of Emergency Medical Services is to respond to the community to preserve life, improve health and promote safety through emergency response, public education and safety initiatives which are valued by our customer and which achieve the City Council goals and vision for the future.

### The Virginia Beach Department of EMS Call Stats

	CALLS FOR SERVICE
2nd Quarter 2004	8,784
3rd Quarter 2004	9,404
4rd Quarter 2004	8,478
1st Quarter 2005	8,702
<b>Total</b>	<b>35,368</b>

### THE COUNCIL OF VIRGINIA BEACH VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUADS, INC. INCLUDES:

Ocean Park Volunteer Rescue Squad  
 Davis Corner Volunteer Rescue Squad  
 Chesapeake Beach Volunteer Rescue Squad  
 Court House Volunteer Rescue Squad  
 Creeds Volunteer Rescue Squad  
 Kempsville Volunteer Rescue Squad  
 Blackwater Volunteer Rescue Squad  
 Virginia Beach Volunteer Rescue Squad  
 Plaza Volunteer Rescue Squad  
 Sandbridge Volunteer Rescue Squad  
 Virginia Beach Volunteer Water Rescue Team

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 RESCUE SQUADS OF  
 VIRGINIA BEACH**

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## Virginia Beach Rescue Squads Join Together to Celebrate National EMS Wee

Emergency Medical Services Week unites local communities and medical personnel to publicize safety and honor the dedication of those who provide the day-to-day lifesaving services of the medical "front line." In celebration of National EMS Week 2005, members of several Virginia Beach Rescue squads came together at Lynnhaven Mall on April 23 for a safety demonstration. Many thanks to Plaza, Davis Corner and Princess Anne Courthouse Rescue Squads as well as the Dive Team and Search and Rescue Team for their participation.



Rescue Squad Volunteers perform a lifesaving demonstration at Lynnhaven Mall in April

## Rescue 14 Completes Early Pay Off of Major Loans from City

The Virginia Beach Volunteer Rescue Squad presented the City of Virginia Beach with a check for \$330,000, the final installments of loans to construct the squad's headquarters on 17th Street and to purchase a Heavy Squad Truck. The presentation of the check was made at the May 3 City Council meeting in Virginia Beach City Hall.

The \$250,000 payoff on the building, the first facility on what has since become a full Public Safety Campus near the Oceanfront, was made three months early. The \$80,000 balance on the vehicle was repaid three years before it was due. "The reason we were able to retire these loans early is because of the wonderful generosity of businesses and individuals in the City who recognize the value of the volunteer rescue squad system," says Peter Agelasto, President of the Virginia Beach Rescue Squad Foundation. "Both the building and truck are pivotal assets for Squad 14, and we thank the citizens for advancing us the money to acquire them. It is our honor to use them for their benefit."

The original loan on the building, made in 1994, was \$1,250,000. Repayment began in June 1996. Today, the structure houses six ambulances, a zone car, dive truck, utility vehicle and the 22-ton Heavy Squad truck. That vehicle is equipped with



(pictured left to right) Jenni McFarland, public relations officer; Randy Pugh, past captain; Scott Cooper, member; and Jay Leach, past captain.

the "jaws of life" along with a complete compliment of sophisticated tools and equipment for vehicular extrication, as well as for heavy machinery and aircraft accidents. In service since May 2000, it has responded to an estimated 500 emergency calls. While the truck cost \$425,000, the Squad only financed \$200,000 through the City, using other funds for a \$225,000-downpayment.

Although the Foundation was recently the recipient of a large gift from the estate of the late E.V. Williams, that money was not part of the loan payoff. "Those dollars are in an endowment," says Agelasto, "to subsidize ongoing volunteer rescue squad operations. We will continue to need the support of the citizens to make free, top caliber rescue service and equipment available to all."

## Above and Beyond the Call of Duty...

### EMS Recognizes Volunteers at Awards Ceremony

The following members of the Virginia Beach Volunteer Rescue Squads and other EMS professionals were honored at the annual Department of EMS awards ceremony on May 18 at Corporate Landing Middle School. Congratulations to all the winners for an outstanding job in public safety. Your volunteerism and professionalism are greatly appreciated!!!

#### 5 Years of Service

Kenneth Allen- P, 17  
 Elizabeth Baker- EMT, 14  
 Francis Been- P, 16  
 Ed Britt- EMT-I, EMS  
 Dan Byrd- EMT-E, 2  
 Steve Coco- P, 9  
 Christine Cole- F, 13  
 Richard Davis- EMT, 4  
 Peter Donlon- AD, 4  
 Eric Gagne- EMT-E, 14  
 Tara Guida- P, 14  
 Anthony Guida- AD, 14  
 Shareon Guido- AD, 17  
 Michael Henry- F, 17  
 Liza Keesecker- EMT, 14  
 Peter Kensy- P, 2  
 Jeremy Lane- P, 5  
 Serenity Latham- EMT, 5  
 Douglas Lighthart- EMT, 17  
 Nichol Machasick- P, 17  
 Deborah Medero- EMT-E, 9  
 James O'Donnell- AD, 16  
 Robert Paulsen- AD, 9  
 Linda Robinson- AD, 16  
 Hans Semple- ST, 2  
 Ramanjit Walia- EMT-E, 9  
 Lisa Walsh- EMT, 9

Katherine Woodhouse- P, 14  
 Margaret Zontini- EMT, 14

#### 15 Years of Service

George Benson- P, 17  
 John Chappell- DT  
 Eric de Forest- P, EMS  
 Richard Hudson- EMT, 6  
 Gary Jani- AD, 1  
 Barbara Moore- EMT, 14  
 Christine Shukis- EMT, 1

#### 20 Years of Service

David Baust- P, EMS  
 Jeffrey Brennaman- P, EMS  
 Gina Brownell- P, EMS  
 William Coulling- EMT-I, 5  
 David Jarashow- EMT, 1  
 Sturgis Kidder- EMT, 14  
 Robert Rodriguez- AD, 14  
 Norman Sterling- ST, 5

#### 25 Years of Service

Charles Gurley- EMT, 14  
 Doris Foster- P, 14  
 James Kellam- EMT, 14  
 Randy Pugh- EMT, 14  
 Janice Williams- AD, 2

#### Medal of Merit

Fred Greene- F, 17  
 William Laws- EMT, 2  
 Jay Leach- EMT, 14  
 Don Koonce- EMT, 17  
 William Walker- ST, 16

#### Act of Service

Julie Haetinger- EMT-I, 16  
 Santa on the Air  
 Beverly Sims- EMT, 17

#### Call of the Year

Paul Brockman- FD  
 Gary Brittingham- FD  
 Aaron Carolipio- EMT, 2  
 David Compton- FD

Adam Danforth- FD  
 Heather Davis- 911  
 James Dickey- P, EMS  
 Crystal Fox- 911  
 Rob Glover- P, EMS  
 David Gurley- FD  
 Eric Hoyt- EMT, 2  
 Joseph Hundley- P, 16  
 Rajeeb "Raj" Islam- P, 16  
 Ed Leonard- EMT-E, 4  
 Susan McClelland- P, EMS  
 Timothy Russell- FD  
 Norman Williams- FD  
 Paula Wirth- FD

#### Administrative Member of the Year

Chris Guido- AD, 17  
 Michael Hazen- AD, 16

#### EMS Educator of the Year

Diane Ivey- EMT, 17

#### EMS Pre-Hospital Care Provider of the Year

Gary Hoffman- EMT-E, 14

#### Certificate of Commendation

Jim Hordeski- EMT-E, 5  
 Trevor Kirk- ST, 5  
 Jay Leach- EMT, 14  
 William Laws- EMT, 2

#### Unit Commendation

Jack Dye- EMT, 14  
 Bobby Hill- EMT, 14  
 Judy Jackson- EMT-E, 14  
 Ann Morse- P, 14  
 Chad Little- P, EMS  
 Alan Perry- P, EMS  
 Summer Pruette- EMT-E, 14  
 Fred Steele- P, EMS  
 Rob Tweed- P, EMS

#### Stations

Station 1- Ocean Park  
 Station 2- Davis Corner

Station 4- Chesapeake Beach  
 Station 5- Princess Anne Courthouse  
 Station 6- Creeds  
 Station 8- Oceana and Great Neck  
 Station 9- Kempsville  
 Station 13- Blackwater  
 Station 14- Virginia Beach  
 Station 16- Plaza  
 Station 17- Sandbridge  
 Station 18- Green Run  
 Station 19- Stumpy Lake and Salem  
 Station 21- General Booth  
 DT- Dive Team  
 FD- Fire Department

#### Certifications

EMT- Emergency Medical Technician  
 EMT-E- Emergency Medical Technician-Enhanced

EMT-I -  
 Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediate  
 P- Paramedic  
 F- First Responder  
 AD- Administrative Member  
 ST- Shock Trauma Technician

## New to the Crew

The Volunteer Rescue Squads of Virginia Beach welcome the following new volunteer professionals, who recently began running with Virginia Beach EMS:

#### Kempsville Rescue Squad

Holly Ditty, EMT

#### Virginia Beach Rescue Squad

Joseph Zaller, EMT

#### Plaza Rescue Squad

John Yocom, Admin  
 Luis Neves, EMT

#### Princess Anne Courthouse Rescue Squad

Shaun Allen, EMT

#### Dive Team

Troy Maxey

#### Search & Rescue

Christopher Piotter  
 Christopher Smith

## MRI & CT Diagnostics

is proud to support the Volunteer Rescue Squads of Virginia Beach and the publication of RESCUE LINES.

## Volunteers Needed

The Virginia Beach Department of EMS is looking for volunteers.

To learn more about joining the team, call 426-5000, email [ems@vbgov.com](mailto:ems@vbgov.com) or visit [www.vabeachems.com](http://www.vabeachems.com).