

**WEST
LAFAYETTE
FIRE
DEPARTMENT
ANNUAL
REPORT 2020**



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Mission Statement



The West Lafayette Fire Department's mission is to protect our community's people, property, and environment through intervention, prevention, and education, ensuring West Lafayette is always a safe and great place to work, live, and play.

Message from the Chief

Those of us in the fire service have often said, "I've seen everything." Then we see something that we've never seen before. Like 2020. And COVID-19.

I want to start by giving credit to the forty-eight sworn members of this department and the jobs they do every day. I consistently hear from the community about the amazing things WLFDD does. Our staff has been on the front lines of this historic pandemic from the beginning. The West Lafayette Fire Department has been on the job, responding to every call, serving our community professionally with honor and integrity. The sworn firefighters and even the civilian admin and inspectors have treated each call as if COVID-19 were present. We have changed policy, procedures, and the way we do business to give our community the highest level of service possible.

The year had positives, too. We took possession of new apparatus to ensure the utmost protection for our community. Our new Quint 1503 is a quintuple combination pumper (quint) that serves the dual purpose of an engine and a ladder truck. Engine 1501 is a Pierce Saber class pumper, custom-built to fit Fire Station #1, to serve the south end of the city.

West Lafayette Fire received several grants, including a \$4,000 grant from the Department of Homeland Security Foundation to secure new gas detection meters; a \$5,000 grant from SIA Foundation for a thermal training manikin; a \$21,000 grant from Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation to purchase Amkus battery-powered extrication tools; and a \$25,000 grant from the Leary Firefighter Foundation to purchase a Lion Digital Attack Training System.

Our staff also raised money for Special Olympics and autism and breast cancer awareness, and we made sure community children had a very merry Christmas with our Shop with a Firefighter program.

There has been immense change in the fire service since I started in 1986 at Grissom Air Force Base. Much of that change occurred in 2020. Even after all these years, I am still energized to come to work every day because of our amazing department. They are an extremely talented group to work with, and I am honored to be their Chief.

Please, take a moment to thank our members. It is because of *their* dedication and devotion to this city that West Lafayette is the third-safest college community in the United States (per Safety.com).

- Tim Heath, Fire Chief

Personnel Roster

Fire Chief

Tim Heath

Deputy Chief of Inspections

Tony Schutter

Deputy Chief of Operations

Jeff Need

Battalion Chiefs

Scott Barker - A Shift

John Irr – B Shift

Bruce Sigman – C Shift

Fire Inspector

Robert Molter

Administrative Assistant

Beth DeHahn

Captains

Jeff Richards

Drew Fellure

Keith Barker

Brian Harshbarger

Ryan Harber

John Keller

Lieutenants

Ty Morris

Jim Redd

Ben Jones

Eric Doyle

Justin Taylor

Lt. of Training Grant Birge

Firefighters

Shawn Leuck

Thomas Lynch

Shane Chapman

Josh Dowell

Ryan Linder

Eric Lamb

Jon VanNess

Michael Parsons

Kyle Glover

Cadel Crowl

Joe Heater

Adam Stanley

Sean Mayer

Derek Cook

Stevie Jenkinson

Clint Knowles

Hector Zaragoza

Nick Wagner

Chad Dazey

Clayton Zak

Brad Schwartz

Cody Glover

Curtis Shidler

Adam Arnold

Jeff Lyons

Craig Snider

Cody Stacy

Grady Fountain

Drew Snider

Fire Stations



#1



#2



#3

Total Runs for 2020

2,312

Includes the Following:

Fire (62)

Non-Fire Related (653)

EMS (1,597)

By the Numbers

2,312 total calls in 2020

6.33

Calls per day on average in 2020

STATISTICS

Calls Answered

January	201	July	173
February	255	August	193
March	160	September	195
April	160	October	212
May	185	November	200
June	161	December	218

2020 Synopsis

The West Lafayette Fire Department celebrated several amazing events in 2020.

We welcomed a 2020 Pierce Saber Pumper and a 2019 Metro 100-foot Quint; and continued keeping our community safe by visiting homes, checking detectors and batteries, and replacing as necessary.

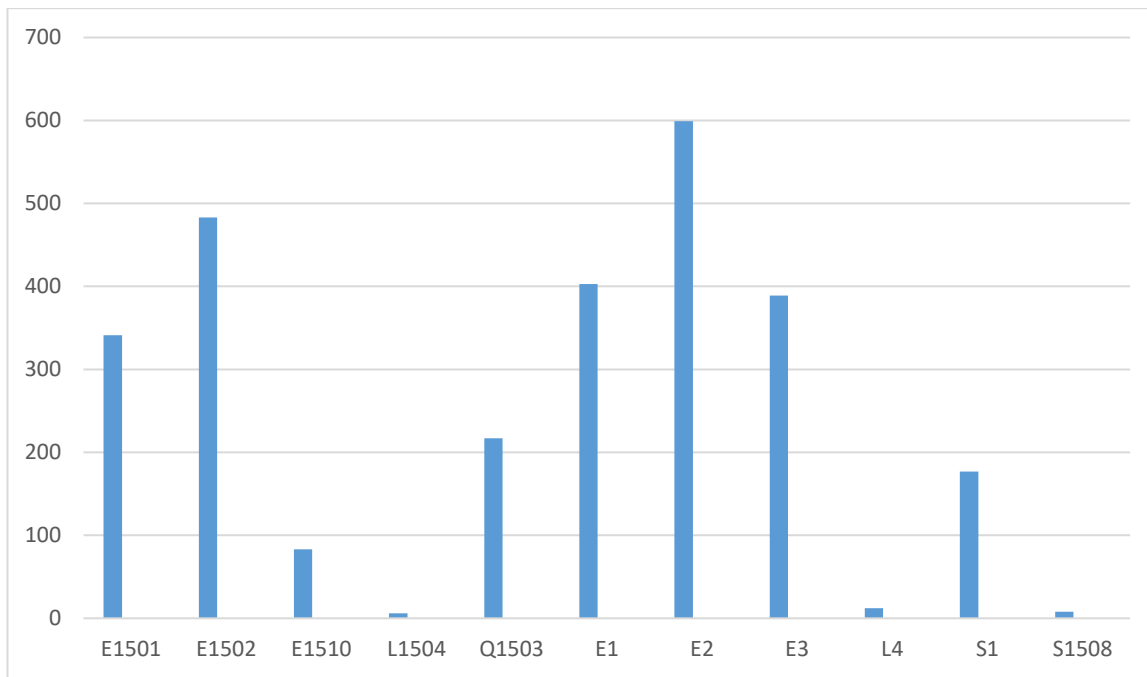
WLFD received three grants: one from IDHS which provided three new MSA Altair gas detectors; one from SIA Foundation which allowed for the purchase of a SmartDummy training manikin; and one from the Leary Firefighter Foundation which provided a Lion Attack Digital Fire System (a training system with fire simulator, smoke machine, electronic nozzle, and remote-control monitoring panel.)

The City witnessed the completion of several construction projects, including our very own Margerum Government and Community Center along with the West Lafayette Wellness and Aquatic Center.

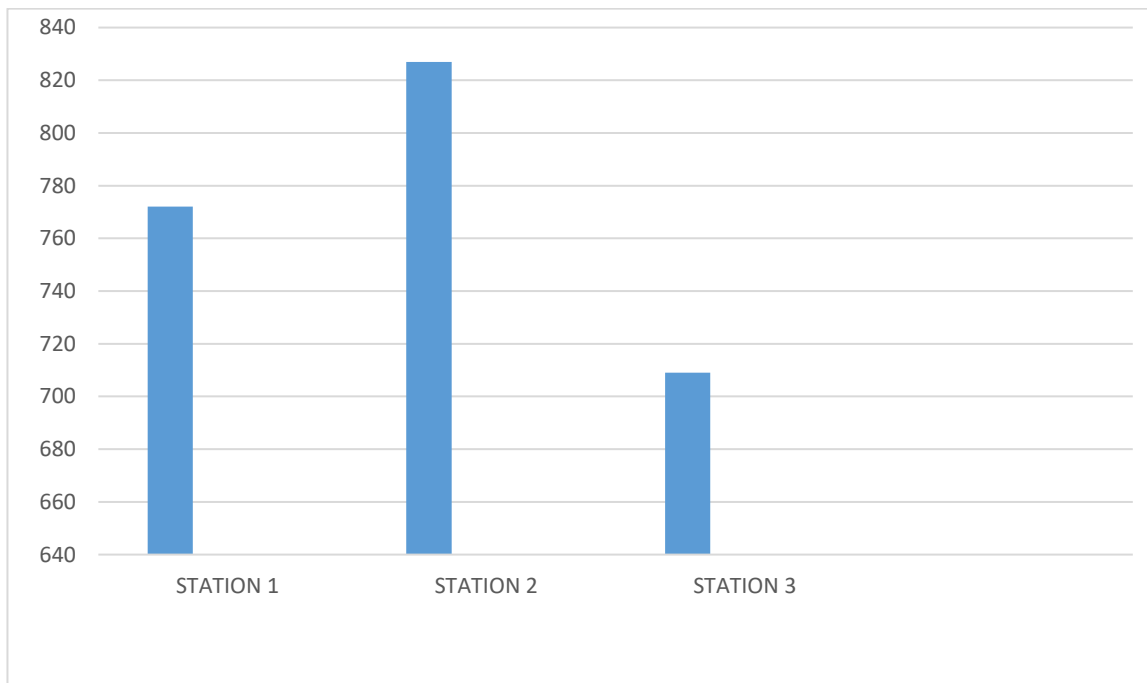
With this growth came an increase in both the amount of and intensity of our department training. In 2020, the WLFD put in 10,207 combined man hours of training, including EVOG, Medical Training, Map Study, Pre-Plans, Search and Rescue, Ventilation, Hose Line Operations, and world-class fire training under live-fire conditions.

The department made 2,312 emergency runs...ensuring West Lafayette is always a safe and great place to work, live, and play.

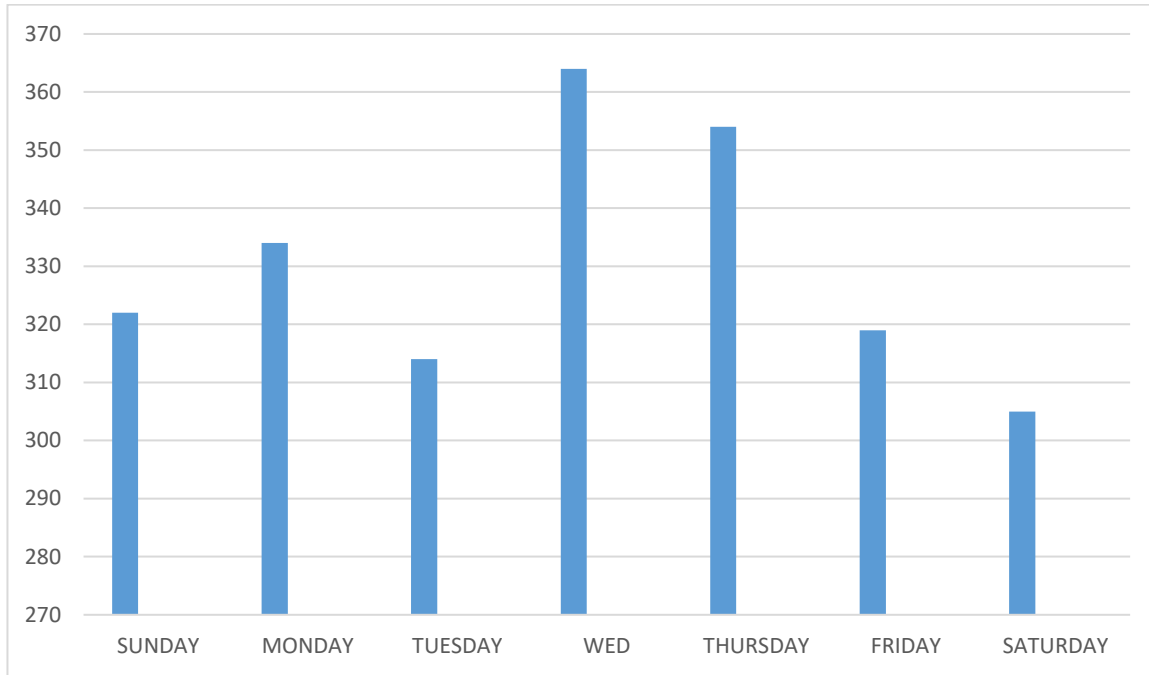
2020 Responses By Unit



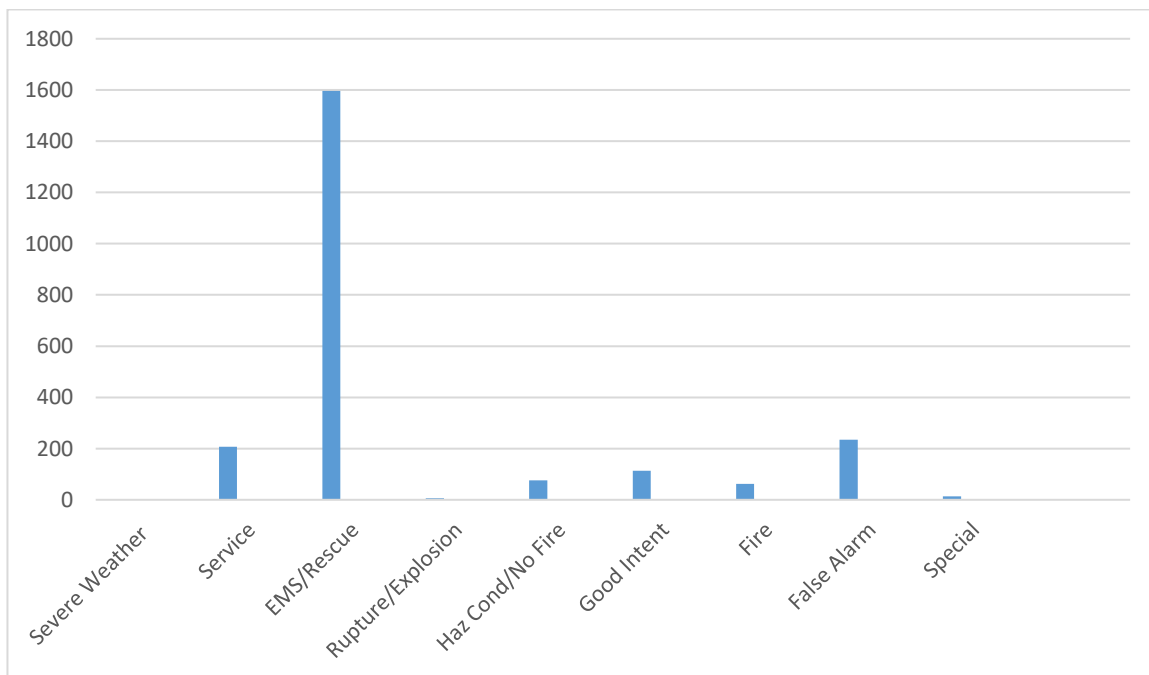
2020 Responses By Station



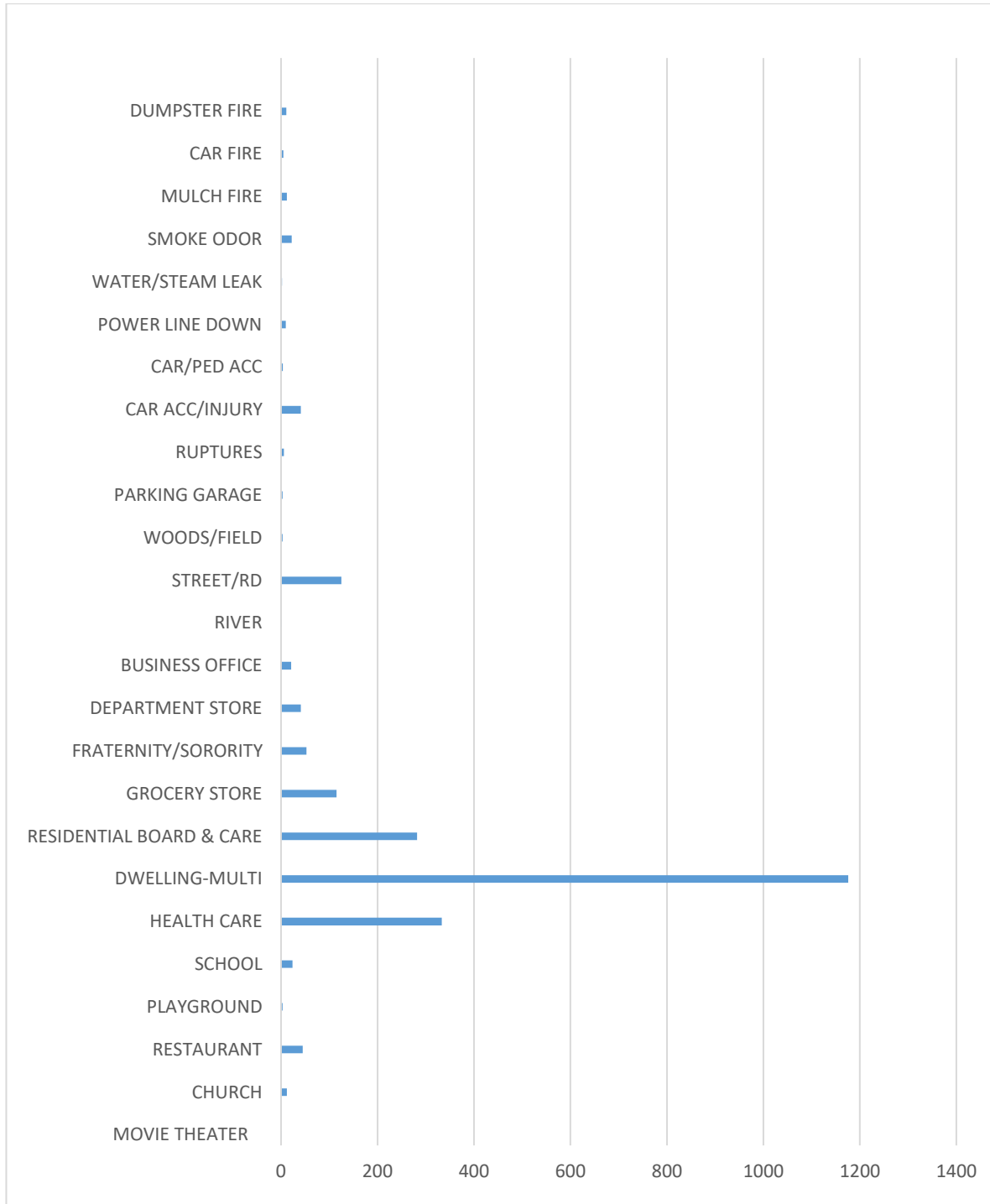
2020 Responses By Day Of Week



2020 Responses By Type



2020 Property Runs



2020 Highlights

January: WLFD responded to 201 calls: 136 Medical, 2 Fire, 7 Hazardous Condition, 18 Service, 6 Good-Intent, 25 False Alarms, 1 Special Incident, and 5 Other. Inspector Molter kicked off the year with 44 inspections, including final inspections of Purdue Federal Credit Union's 2-year renovation.

February: WLFD responded to 255 calls: 163 Medical, 2 Fire, 7 Hazardous Condition, 2 Overpressure/Overheat, 28 Service Calls, 21 Good-Intent Calls, 30 False Alarms, 1 Special Incident, and 1 Other. Inspector Molter performed 39 inspections, including the new Target on State Street. Demolition of the old MCL building got underway. Inspector Molter, DC Schutter, Lt. Morris, and firefighters Heater and Mayer completed a two-month IDHLS State Fire Inspection Certification course. And several personnel took the plunge at the 11th annual Polar Plunge to benefit Special Olympics.

March: WLFD responded to 160 calls: 109 Medical, 5 Fire, 10 Hazardous Condition, 6 Service Calls, 13 Good-Intent Calls, 15 False Alarms, and 2 Other. Inspector Molter performed 34 inspections, including Chipotle, The Century Apartments, Yatagarasu, and The Tap at The Rise.

April: WLFD responded to 160 calls: 95 Medical, 10 Fire, 6 Hazardous Condition, 14 Service Calls, 8 Good-Intent Calls, 18 False Alarms, 2 Special Incident, and 7 Other. Inspector Molter performed 42 inspections. New construction continued, including McAllister's, Continuum, SAAB, Fowler Apartments, and Marstellar Apartments.

May: WLFD responded to 185 calls: 121 Medical, 6 Fire, 4 Hazardous Condition, 16 Service Calls, 5 Good-Intent Calls, 18 False Alarms, 2 Special Incident, and 13 Other. Inspector Molter performed 55 inspections. Two businesses opened their doors: Healthy's and Belle Tire. And work continued on various projects, including Fowler Apartments, SAAB, and Continuum.

June: WLFD responded to 161 calls: 110 Medical, 7 Fire, 4 Hazardous Condition, 16 Service Calls, 1 Good-Intent, 19 False Alarms, and 4 Other. Inspector Molter

performed 67 inspections, including several ongoing projects. And Copper Moon opened.

July: WLFD responded to 173 calls: 105 Medical, 3 Fire, 5 Hazardous Condition, 18 Service Calls, 6 Good-Intent Calls, 18 False Alarms, 1 Overpressure/Overheat, and 17 Other. Inspector Molter performed 75 inspections, including Target, the Margerum Government and Community Center, West Lafayette Wellness and Aquatic Center, SAAB, Providence, and the Century Apartments. And Yatagarasu opened.

August: WLFD responded to 193 calls: 126 Medical, 8 Fire, 8 Hazardous Condition, 23 Service Calls, 3 Good-Intent Calls, 20 False Alarms, 1 Overpressure/Overheat, 1 Special Incident, and 3 Other. Inspector Molter performed 67 inspections, including the Margerum Center, West Lafayette Wellness Center, Continuum, and the Century Apartments. Neon Cactus closed its doors after 28 years. And both Target and the 5-story Fowler Flats opened.

September: WLFD responded to 195 calls: 133 Medical, 3 Fire, 9 Hazardous Condition, 18 Service Calls, 6 Good-Intent Calls, 19 False Alarms, and 7 Other. Inspector Molter performed 105 inspections, including the start of Greek housing inspections. Work continued on the Margerum Government Center, West Lafayette Wellness Center, SAAB, Providence, Evergreen Apartments, and the Friendship House extension.

October: WLFD responded to 212 calls: 155 Medical, 4 Fire, 7 Hazardous Condition, 8 Service Calls, 7 Good-Intent Calls, 19 False Alarms, 2 Special Incident, and 10 Other. Several inspections were performed, including re-inspections of Greek houses. Work continued on several projects. Two restaurants opened: Big Woods West Lafayette and State 19 in The Hub. And a TCO was given for an old house to be converted into apartments: 445 Vine Street Apartments.

November: WLFD responded to 200 calls: 145 Medical, 7 Fire, 5 Hazardous Condition, 16 Service Calls, 8 Good-Intent Calls, 15 False Alarms, 1 Special Incident, and 3 Other. Inspector Molter performed 60 inspections, including final re-inspections of Greek housing. And city offices prepared for their move into the newly remodeled Margerum Government Center.

December: WLFD responded to 218 calls: 155 Medical, 2 Fire, 1 Hazardous Condition, 23 Service Calls, 11 Good Intent, 12 False Alarms, 2 Special Incident, 12 Other. Inspector Molter performed 46 inspections.

The total number of runs in 2020 was 2,313: 62 Fire; 653 Non-Fire; 1,597 EMS.

2020 Training

In 2020, the West Lafayette Fire Department put in 10,207 combined man hours of training, including EVOG, High-Rise Training, Pump Operations, Medical Training, Map Study, Pre-Plans, and Physical Fitness. Members took part in certification classes provided by the Indiana District Fire Training system, a Fire Instructors course at the District 4 Training Center, joint training with LFD at the District 4 Training Center, world-class fire training under live-fire conditions at the Fire Department Training Network; new and old building tours; EMT refresher training; extensive Search and Rescue, Ventilation, and Hose Line Operations training; and Leadership Development/Officer Development training.

In January, Chief Heath and DCs Schutter and Need led a review of the WLFD Standard Operating Guidelines, including an addition of a new High-Rise Response Guideline. Several members took training or leadership classes, including a Fire Officer class, the Executive Leadership Block 100 class, the CPM course through Ball State University, DC Need's fourth year of Executive Fire Officer through the National Fire Academy, and the Indiana State Fire Inspector class at the District 4 Training Center. The monthly drill covered air packs, RIT bags, and a Mayday drill. And TargetSolutions covered two EMS topics: blood-borne pathogens and SIDS, bringing the total man hours of training in January to 673.

In February, WLFD welcomed new firefighter Adam Arnold which allowed crews to refresh their skills while teaching Arnold the "ropes." Ten members took part in the second month of the Fire Officer I course; five personnel took the IDHS Leadership Academy 200 Block course; three captains graduated from Ball State's certified Public Manager program; and one captain graduated from Ball State's Certified Public Supervisor program. Monthly drills consisted of finishing personal protection equipment and covering fire service ropes and knots. All of this plus

equipment and truck checks and daily company drills brought the total man hours of training to 676.

In March, the West Lafayette Fire Department hosted the 300-block of the IDHS Executive Leadership Academy attended by personnel from all over the state. The department continued part two of a Health and Safety video series that focused on overall health and safety of firefighters. DC Schutter, AC Irr, and Inspector Molter attended the Campus Fire Safety Conference in Ohio. And, due to COVID-19, crews created new ways to train in-house, bringing the total man hours of training to 726.

April kicked off with emergency medical training via phone with Medical Director Dr. Sansone, covering COVID-19. The monthly drill on ground ladders included a video on how to set up, carry, inspect, maintain, and clean ladders followed by an activity covering all that was learned. The month closed with High-Rise training at the Lafayette Fire Department Training tower. This plus truck and equipment checks, station drills, and map study brought the total man hours of training to 533.

May began with a review of pumping operations. Crews watched a video then completed hands-on training setting up the fire engines to pump water and flow water through hand lines and master streams. Medical training consisted of a video from LFD Instructor Foust that covered drug situations, including how to deal with opiate drugs and decontaminate if exposed. All members took part in the EVOG (Emergency Vehicle Operations Certification). This plus individual and group training brought the total man hours of training to 757.

June started with a refresher course on Ladder 4 in preparation of the new Quint. Both trucks are similar but operate differently. The department welcomed two new firefighters: Craig Snider and Grady Fountain. EMS covered numerous topics. Dr. Sansone reviewed COVID-19 information to keep WLFD up-to-date with the latest care, and he performed a six-hour Audit and Review session ensuring all personnel operate properly and document appropriately. And EMS instructor Chris Perry covered numerous spinal immobilization skills with a hands-on skills

day. One shift took part in an auto extrication tool demo with new electric tools, plus various other training brought the total man hours of training to 1,030.

July training heated up with learning all about the new Quint 1503 aerial. Personnel learned how to effectively communicate with West Lafayette's diverse population thanks to Clerk Sana Booker's *Cultural Communications Training* course. EMS instructor Chris Perry covered different medical and trauma scenarios, and members took classes through TargetSolutions in preparation for their EMT certification. One shift's crews drove the RTV through various trails, discussing different ways to handle possible scenarios. Plus, additional individual training brought the total man hours of training to 679.

August kicked off with each shift training with the manufacturer of the new 100' aerial Quint 1503, going over its unique features along with the Quint's new battery-powered auto-extrication tools. EMS instructor Chris Perry covered medicines carried on department apparatus such as aspirin, Narcan, and epinephrine and how to use them as well as possible reactions. Five firefighters attended the Fire Department Training Network: three took the Truck Company I course focusing on search and rescue, ventilation, and forcible entry; two took the Engine Company I course covering how engine companies operate at a fire. Nine firefighters with their Hazmat Technical certification attended a class put on by Federal Resources at the Lafayette Fire Training Center, covering pipeline emergencies. All of this plus members obtaining Fire Officer II and CPM certifications and individual training brought the total man hours of training to 1,182.

September started with learning about the new Elkhart Brass flow meter which tells water usage, in gallons-per-minute, moving through a fire hose. Crews continued working with Quint 1503, learning all its unique features and how to operate it safely and effectively. Members completed tasks in TargetSolutions: everything from basic training for probationary firefighters to advanced training, including building rescues. DC Need and Captain Harber continued their officer development classes: Harber in his second year of the CPM course through Ball

State and Need finishing his Fire Officer II through the state. All of this plus individual training brought the total man hours of training to 600.

October was Fire Prevention Month, and WLF D celebrated by training on four structures slated for demolition, simulating a live-fire scene with their new smoke machine. New Engine 1501's debut created an abundance of training as crews took part in safety and pumping training put on by the manufacturer. DC Need completed his Fire Officer II course and started his Fire Officer III. Three members completed the Driver Operator Aerial course through Indiana Department of Homeland Security District 4. Crews spent several days with Lafayette Fire at the Lafayette Fire Training Center in a live-burn environment. And TargetSolutions provided required medical training for individual certifications. All of this plus individual training brought the total man hours of training to 540.

November training focused on individual and company training to minimize contact between firefighters. DC Need completed his Fire Officer III class. Lt Doyle and three firefighters attended a HazMat training conference. And WLF D received three grants: IDHS provided three new MSA Altair gas detectors; SIA Foundation allowed for the purchase of a SmartDummy training manikin; and the Leary Firefighter Foundation provided a Lion Attack Digital Fire System (training system with fire simulator, smoke machine, electronic nozzle, and remote-control monitoring panel.) Total man hours of training: 592.

December training consisted of individual medical certifications, fire officer requirements, and driver operator training, some of which maintains and improves the City of West Lafayette's ISO rating. The department received a new thermal imaging camera for Engine 1501 and MSA gas meter used to detect hydrogen cyanide gas which is 35 times more toxic than carbon monoxide. Total man hours of training: 586.

The West Lafayette Fire Department completed 10,207 man hours of training in 2020 which perfectly coincided with our mission: to protect our community's people, property, and environment through intervention, prevention, and education, ensuring West Lafayette is always a safe and great place to work, live, and play.