



Park Township Fire Department

2015 Annual Report

PARK TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

HISTORY OF FIRE DEPARTMENT

In 1946 a committee was appointed to investigate fire protection for the township. At the February, 1947, election, the Township Board was authorized by the voters to purchase and house firefighting equipment. This station, located on Myrtle Avenue, served the south side of Park Township and the part of Holland Township lying south of 16th Street. The Holland Township Fire Department served the north part of Holland Township and the north part of Park Township. Prior to this time the entire area was served by the City of Holland.

In 1949 an addition was built on the south side fire station. In 1951 a new fire station was built on Ottawa Beach Road for the north side. When the area where the south side fire station was located was annexed to the city in 1959, a new fire station was built in Virginia Park. The station in south Park Township is known as Station # 1 and the station in north Park Township is known as Station #2.

In 1996 a new fire station was built in north Park Township at 12 S. 160th Avenue, on the corner of S. 160th Avenue and Perry Street. This station continues to be known as Station #2 and is Central Station.

In 2003 a new fire station was built, jointly between Park Township and the City of Holland, at 644 S. 160th Avenue in south Park Township. This station houses Park Township Station #1 and the City of Holland Station #3 and is known as the Virginia Park Fire Station.

Mission Statement

The Park Township Fire Department is a paid-on-call department of men and women who are dedicated to protect and educate our community to prevent loss of lives and property without unduly risking their own lives and equipment. This mission is to be executed professionally, timely, and with determination to continually improve our quality, while always maintaining a professional and positive customer service attitude.

Core Values

To Our Residents: We owe the residents of Park Township the highest quality of service possible, characterized by responsiveness, integrity and professionalism. We will continually strive for quality improvement.

To Our Fire Department: We owe the Park Township Fire Department our commitment and dedication. We will always look beyond the traditional scope of our individual positions to promote teamwork and organizational effectiveness.

To Each Other: We owe each other a working environment characterized by trust and respect for the individual, fostering open and honest communication at all levels.

To Ourselves: We owe ourselves personal and professional growth. We will seek new knowledge and greater challenges, and strive to remain at the leading edge of our profession.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Park Township is located in Ottawa County in southwest lower Michigan, along the shoreline of Lake Michigan. The thirty-six square miles are protected by two fire stations, one on each side of inland Lake Macatawa, which divides the township in half. It is a twenty-five minute drive around Lake Macatawa to access each half of the township, traveling through two other jurisdictions.

Approximately fifteen square miles of the township are covered by lakes. The remaining twenty-one square miles of land are primarily zoned residential and agricultural. Park Township has eighteen miles of shoreline between Lake Michigan and Lake Macatawa and we protect land and water.

The Park Township Fire Department also protects multiple critical infrastructures:

- two public water treatment plants which service large cities as far as 60 miles to the east of us,
- an AT&T Communication Transmission Center and
- the Wolverine Gas Pipeline.

Park Township Fire Department is first-due response to each of these critical infrastructures. In addition we protect a United States Coast Guard Station located within our jurisdiction and a small, private airport. We have multiple marinas and our area is a summer vacation destination. The majority of our residents work outside of our township. Many of our subdivisions are high-end housing. We have no industry and minimal commercial property, with the exception of marinas.

In addition to fire protection of infrastructures, residences, public buildings, schools, boats, marinas, and wildfires, we respond to medical emergencies, water and ice rescues, CO alarm activations, gas leaks and electrical stand-bys, smoke and odor investigations, weather related emergencies and extrications from motor vehicle accidents. We have mutual aid agreements with all fire departments in Ottawa and Allegan Counties, as well as participate in state-wide mutual aid agreements. Our most common contribution in a local mutual aid situation is the air refill systems, manpower and apparatus stand-bys.

STAFFING

We are a paid-on-call department consisting of six Officers, thirty-three Firefighters, a Chaplain and an Office Manager. Much of our operating budget is payroll for twenty-four hour emergency protection.

2015 Roster

Administrative

Scott Gamby, Fire Chief/FOIII/EMT-B
Andy Slagh, Administrative/Safety Lieutenant/EMT-B
Anne Snider, Office Manager
Bob Carlton, Chaplain

Station #1 - Virginia Park Station

Patrick Gamby, Captain/CO/MFR
Andy Stokes, Lieutenant/CO/
EMT-B
Bill Nelson, FF/MFR
Larry Woodall, FF/EMT-Basic
Jason Lovell, FF/EMT-Basic
Dan Martinez, FF/EMT-Basic
Sean Reilly, FF/MFR
Ryan Givens, FF/EMT-Paramedic
Jon DeMaat, FF/MFR
Aaron Van Huis, FF
Scott Wytosick, FF/EMT-Basic
Mark Klomprens, FF/EMT-Basic
Matt Tanis, FF/EMT-Basic
Ryan Bloomquist, FF/EMT-Basic
Sienna Echols, FF/EMT-Paramedic

Station #2 - Central Station

Scott Heerema, Captain/CO/MFR
Bill Smalldon, Lieutenant/CO/MFR
Dave Bekken, FF
Bob Cooke, FF/MFR
Todd Garvelink, FF/MFR
Cole Middlecamp, FF/MFR
Ron Greendyke, FF/EMT-Basic
Tom Baumann, FF/MFR
Dave Apkarian, FF/MFR
Brendan Burke, FF/MFR
Scott Verspoor, FF/MFR
Curtis Redder, FF/MFR
Andrew Van Til, FF/EMT-Basic
Tim Vogelzang, FF/EMT-Basic
Paul Sam, FF
Jon Clausing, FF/MFR
Ken Lothschutz, FF/MFR
Drew Schrottenboer,
FF/EMT-Paramedic
Dave Garcia, FF/MFR
Ryan VanPutten, FF/EMT-Basic
Mike DeWaard, FF
Ian Wallaker, FF/EMT-Paramedic

Description of Certifications:

CO: Company Officer
FF: Firefighter
MFR: Medical First Responder
EMT-Basic: Emergency Medical Technician-Basic
EMT-Paramedic: Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic

2015 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Personnel Accomplishments and Special Certifications

In addition to two required evening training meetings per month many of our firefighters attended educational seminars. The Ottawa County Fire Academy is an intensive State certified training for new personnel. Probationary firefighters attend four hour classes two nights per week plus one Saturday a month for nine months. The Ottawa County Fire Academy and the medical license classes are required to be a member of the fire department; the rest of the seminars were elective as our personnel desired to be better prepared to react to emergencies.

New Hires :

Station #2 - Ryan VanPutten
Station #2 - Mike DeWaard
Station #2 - Ian Wallaker
Chaplain - Bob Carlton

2015 Medical Licenses:

Jon Clausing, MFR - Station #2
Sienna Echols, Critical Care Paramedic Certification - Station #1
Dave Garcia, MFR - Station #2
Ken Lothschutz, MFR - Station #2
Dan Martinez, EMT-B (Basic) - Station #1
Andrew VanTil, EMT-B (Basic) - Station #2

Pipeline Emergency Response & Awareness Class - February 2015, attended by Chief Scott Gamby, Captain Scott Heerema, and Lieutenant Andy Slagh

State Park Emergency Response Scenario - May 2015. Participated in training scenario with Holland State Park and DNR where we evaluated their response to various emergency situations that could occur at the State Park. Other agencies that participated in this event were the U.S. Coast Guard, Ottawa County Sheriff and AMR.

Fire Service Response to Active Violence Incidents Symposium - May 2015

The objective of this symposium was to learn our role and responsibilities when responding to mass casualty incidents involving active violence and to understand how to work with other law enforcement agencies in these situations. Over half of our department spent a spring Saturday attending this conference. Later in the summer the department collaborated with the Ottawa County Sheriff Department at a local school to actively practice what they learned at this seminar.

Community Involvement and Fire Prevention

Park Township firefighters and equipment were very involved in our community during 2015. In addition to fire calls and training we attended thirty-seven community events staffed by 117 personnel, introducing our department to over 12,000 people.

Some of the events included:

- hundreds of preschool and elementary school children visited our fire stations to learn about fire safety, tour the station and have hands-on time with our equipment
- visiting elementary school classrooms to teach children fire safety
- hosting clubs like Boy Scouts and Cadets at the stations
- providing medical coverage for the Special Olympics Polar Plunge fundraiser
- providing medical coverage during the springtime Blessing of the Bikes event at the Ottawa County Fairgrounds
- providing medical coverage for the Tulip Time Parade
- attending the US Coast Guard Spring Open House, Holland State Park Fall Festival, and Marina Day at the Yacht Basin Marina
- spraying water on children following area soccer camps
- providing a safety presentation at YMCA summer day camp
- sending apparatus to the World's Shortest Parade on Ottawa Beach Road in June and the Fire Prevention Parade in Holland in October
- providing medical coverage for the MS Society Bike Tour
- providing fire standby for VanAndel's fireworks over Lake Michigan on the 4th of July
- providing medical coverage for various company picnics held at Ottawa County Fairgrounds
- attending the Summer Harvest Celebration at Bowerman's Blueberries
- providing fire and medical coverage each day at the Ottawa County Fair and participating in Kids Day at the Fair
- providing fire standby coverage at the Park Township 100th Anniversary Fireworks
- participating in the Park Township 100th Anniversary Celebration
- attending area organization's events like the Firelight Festival at Benjamin's Hope, Bethany Christian Services Back to School Event, Harderwyk Church Kick Off to Fall, and the DNR Fall Festival
- providing medical coverage for the Park2Park race in September
- welcoming local children to our Halloween Open Houses

This year we participated in the Shields of Hope Home Visit event on Monday July 13. Shields of Hope is a non-profit group comprised of local police, firefighters and EMS whose goal is to spread hope, love and encouragement to those fighting cancer and their families.

Critter Barn volunteers build a farm hut! Park Township Fire Department Community Project

Firemen who worked on the hut are Scott Gamby, Pat Gamby, Jon DeMaat, Scott Verspoor. They spent a day building this hut to give the animals a place to get out of bad weather. Donations came from WB Pallets, who donated the wood, and Jon DeMaat Builders (nails, some lumber, tools used). Roofing supplies were donated by Eikenhouts, and firefighter Dan Martinez made the arrangements.





Park Township recognized its 100 Year Anniversary in 2015 and celebrated this centennial milestone with a day of fun in Winstrom Park for our community on August 22, 2015. The Park Township Fire Department participated in this event with an open house and station tours.



Departmental Projects Accomplished During 2015





Virginia Park Station Sidewalk Replacement

This station was built in 2003. Recently the sidewalk started to crumble and fall apart. After it was determined that this was not a defect of manufacturing or workmanship the decision was made to replace the sidewalk to eliminate a chance of the damaged area resulting in any personal injuries.



Co Monitors

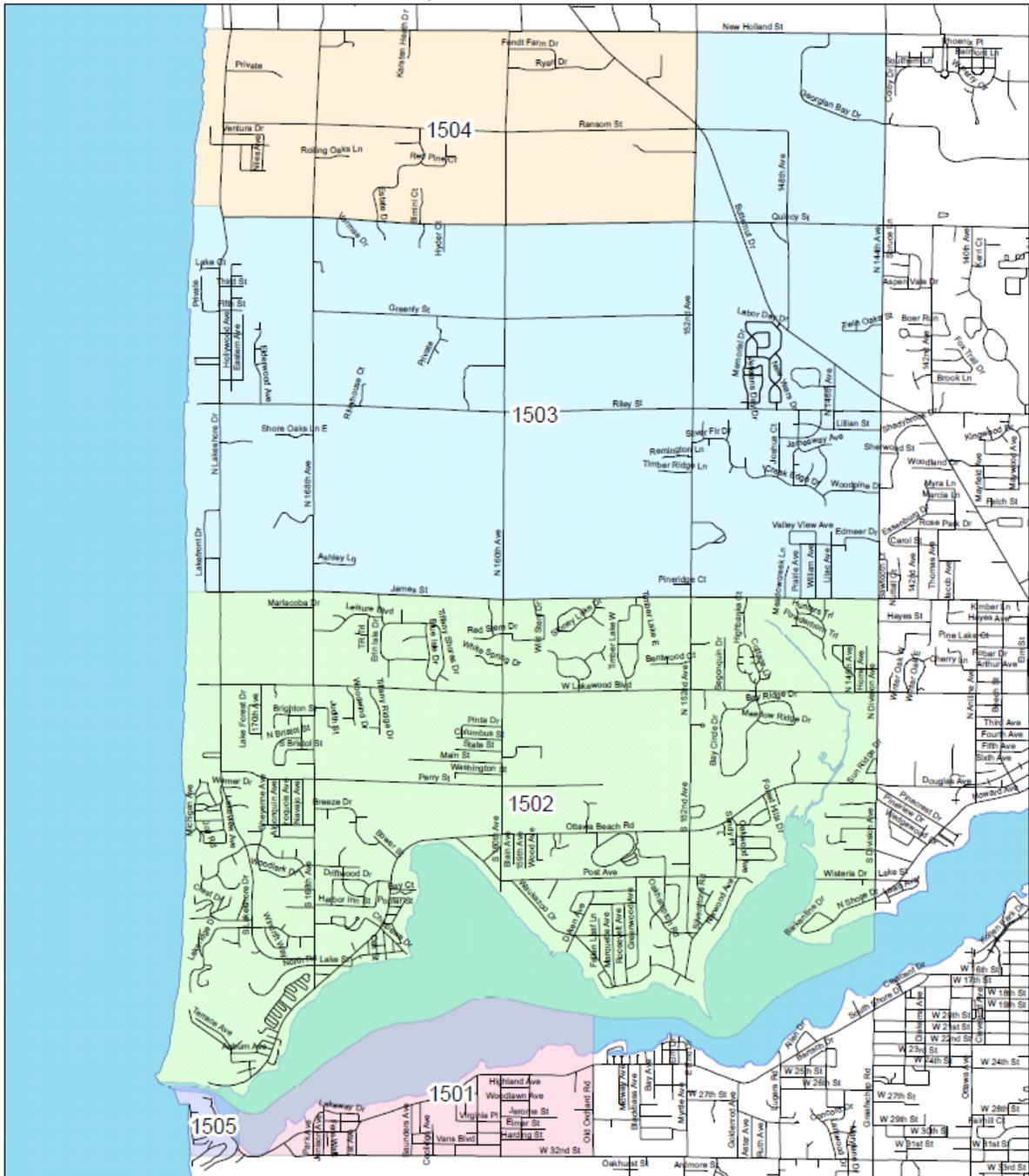
Firefighters are highly susceptible to CO poisoning when fighting a structure fire. We purchased two Pulse CO Oximeter Monitors to allow us to determine if carbon monoxide levels are present in firefighters with possible exposure. If levels are present we can then quickly determine the course of treatment needed and avoid serious and permanent health problems.



Extrication Tools

Amkus Extrication Tools and Air Bags were purchased for Station One. These tools will be used for vehicle extrications and to rescue victims trapped under heavy objects.

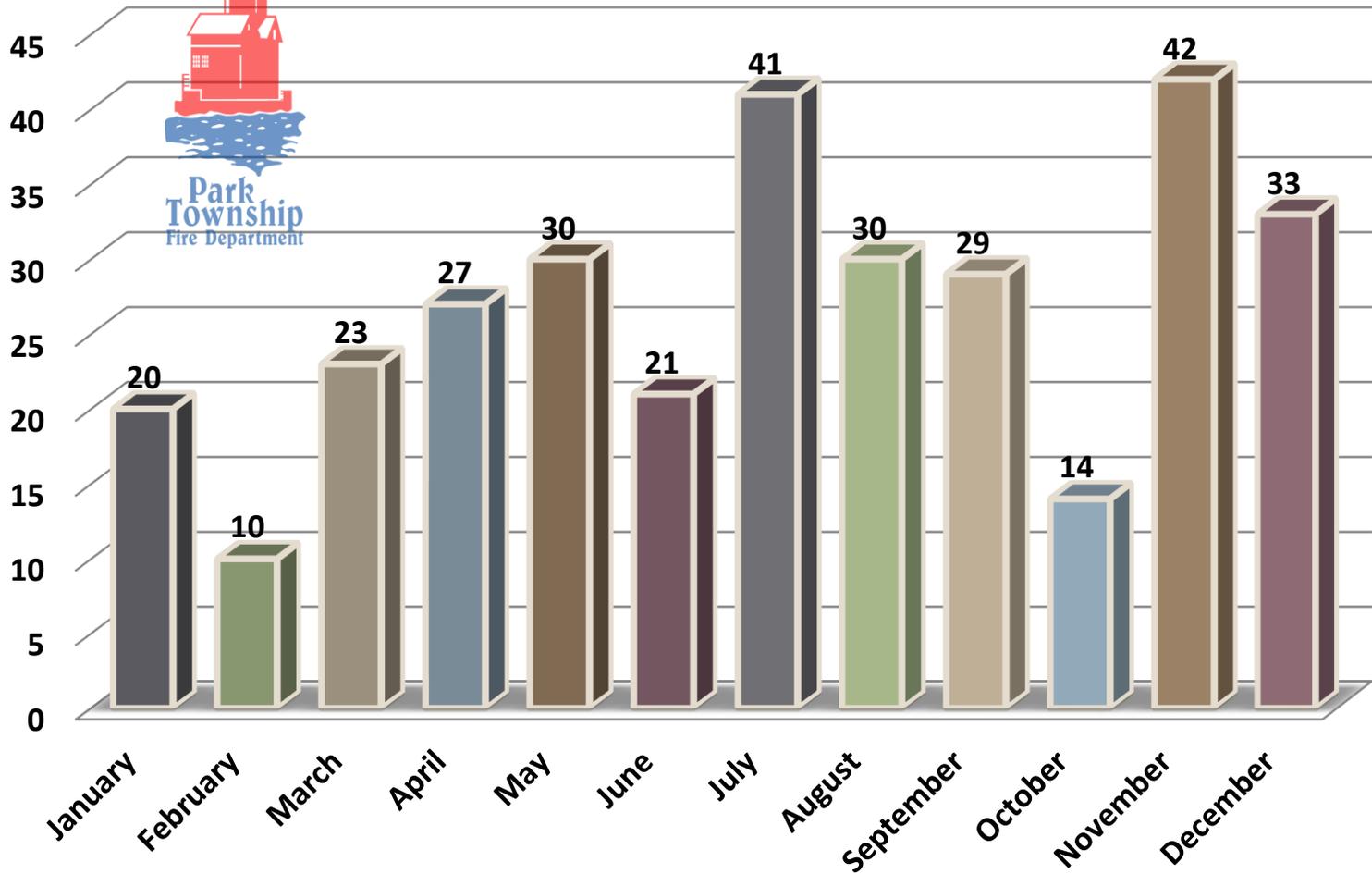
Calls by Quadrant (2015)



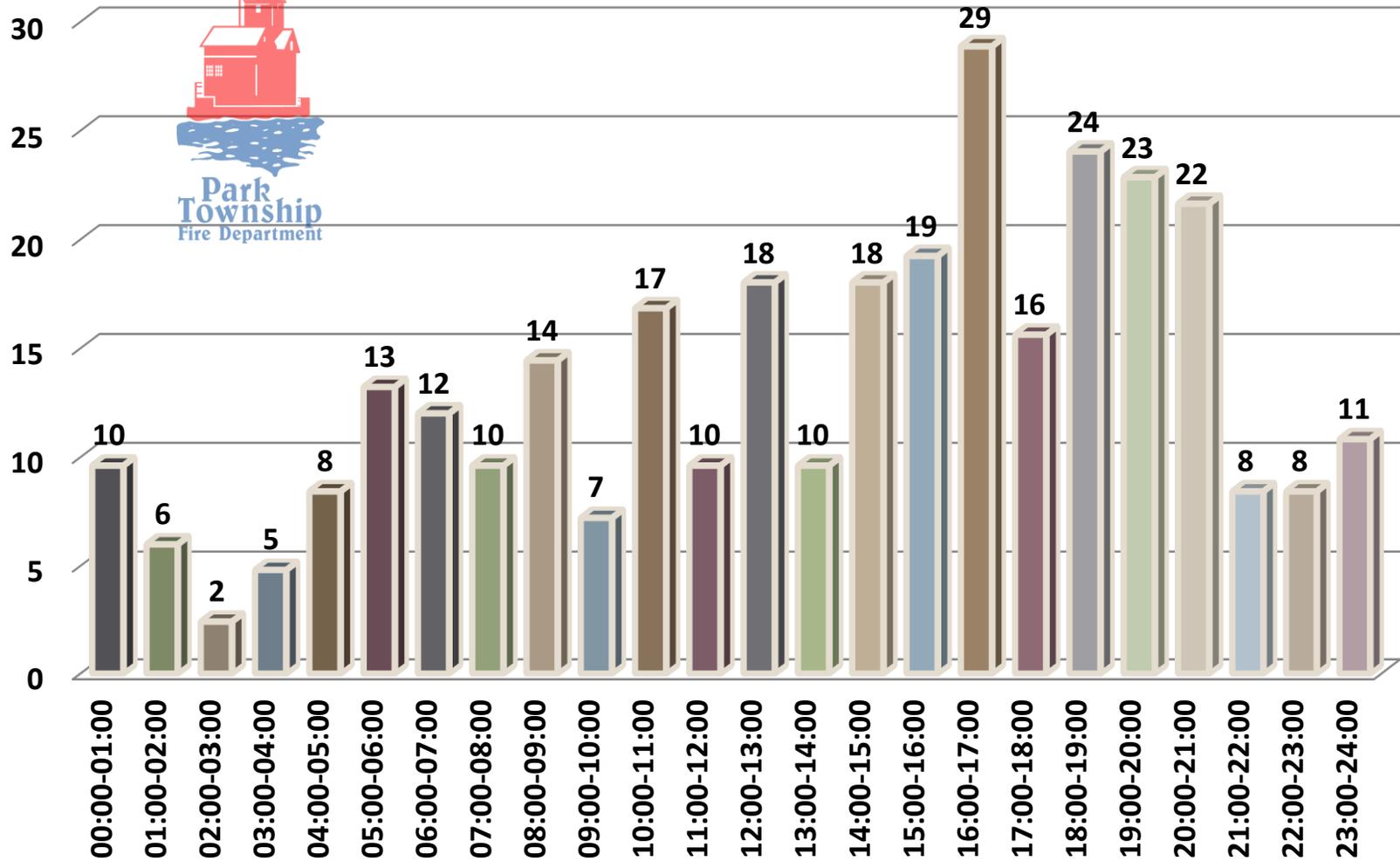
Quadrant 1501	-	58	Calls
Quadrant 1502	-	140	Calls
Quadrant 1503	-	75	Calls
Quadrant 1504	-	14	Calls
Quadrant 1505	-	12	Calls
Mutual Aid	-	21	Calls

*Does not include interdepartmental mutual aid responses

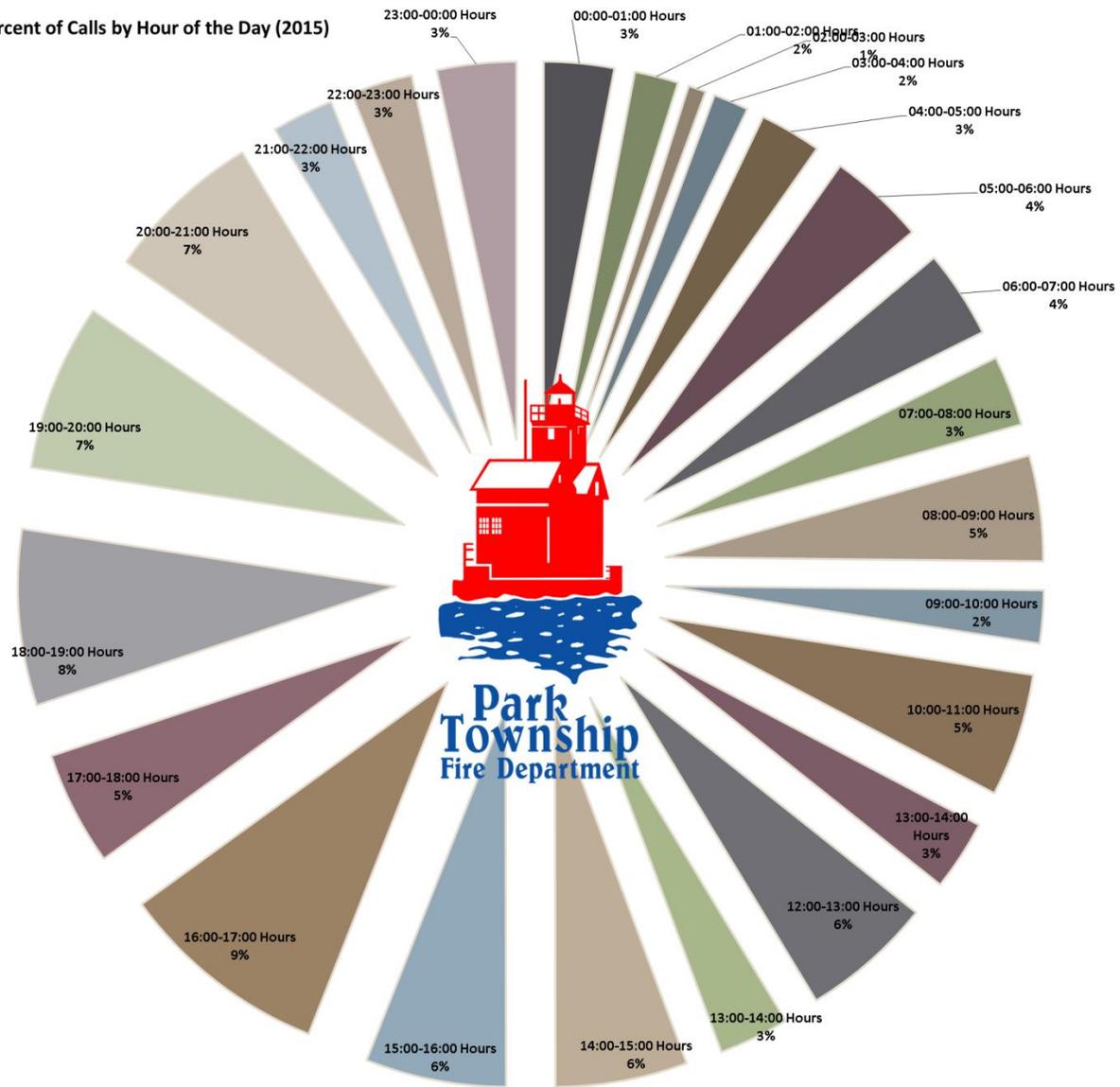
Calls Per Month (2015)



Number of Calls By Hour of Day (2015)

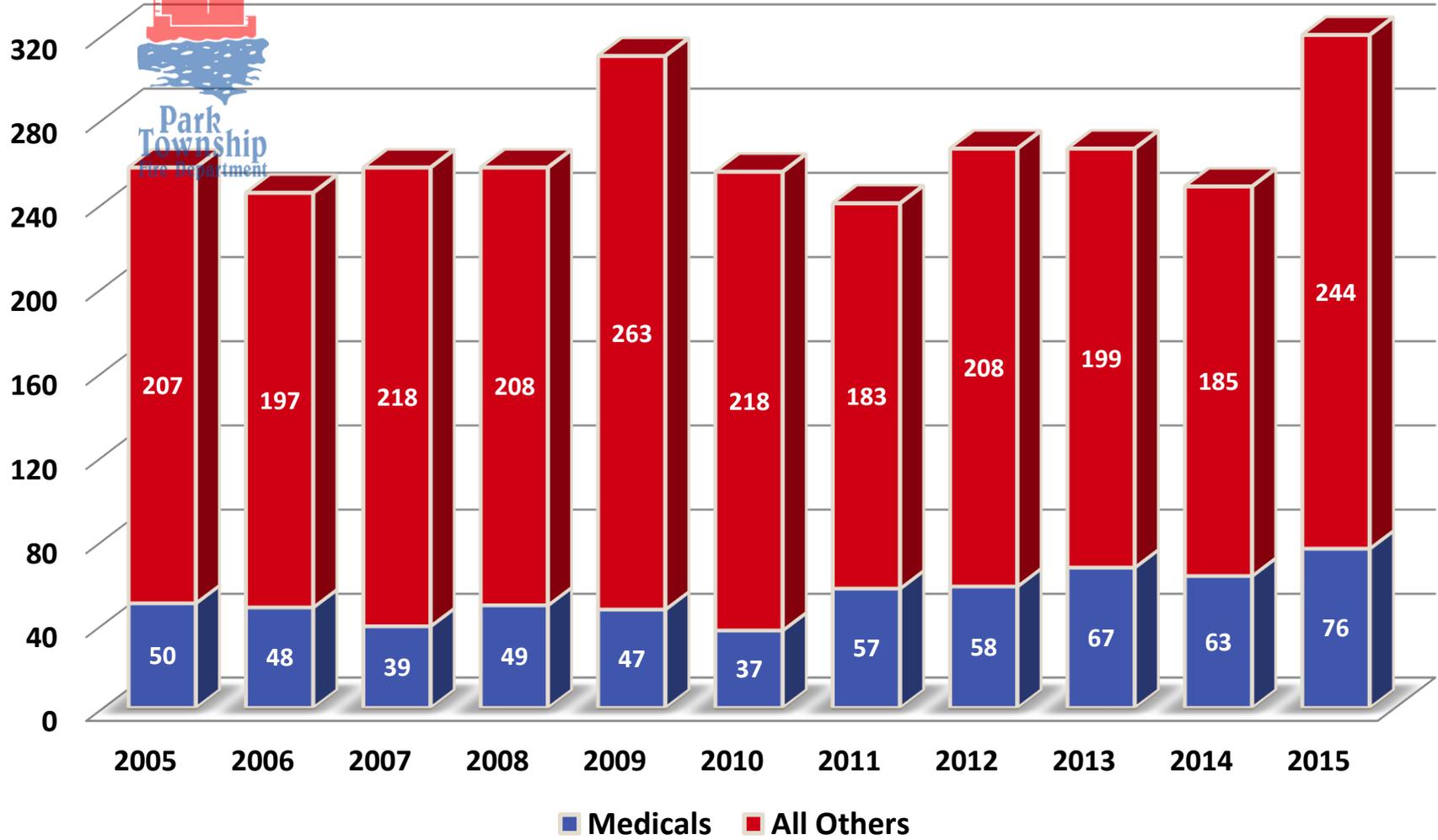


Percent of Calls by Hour of the Day (2015)



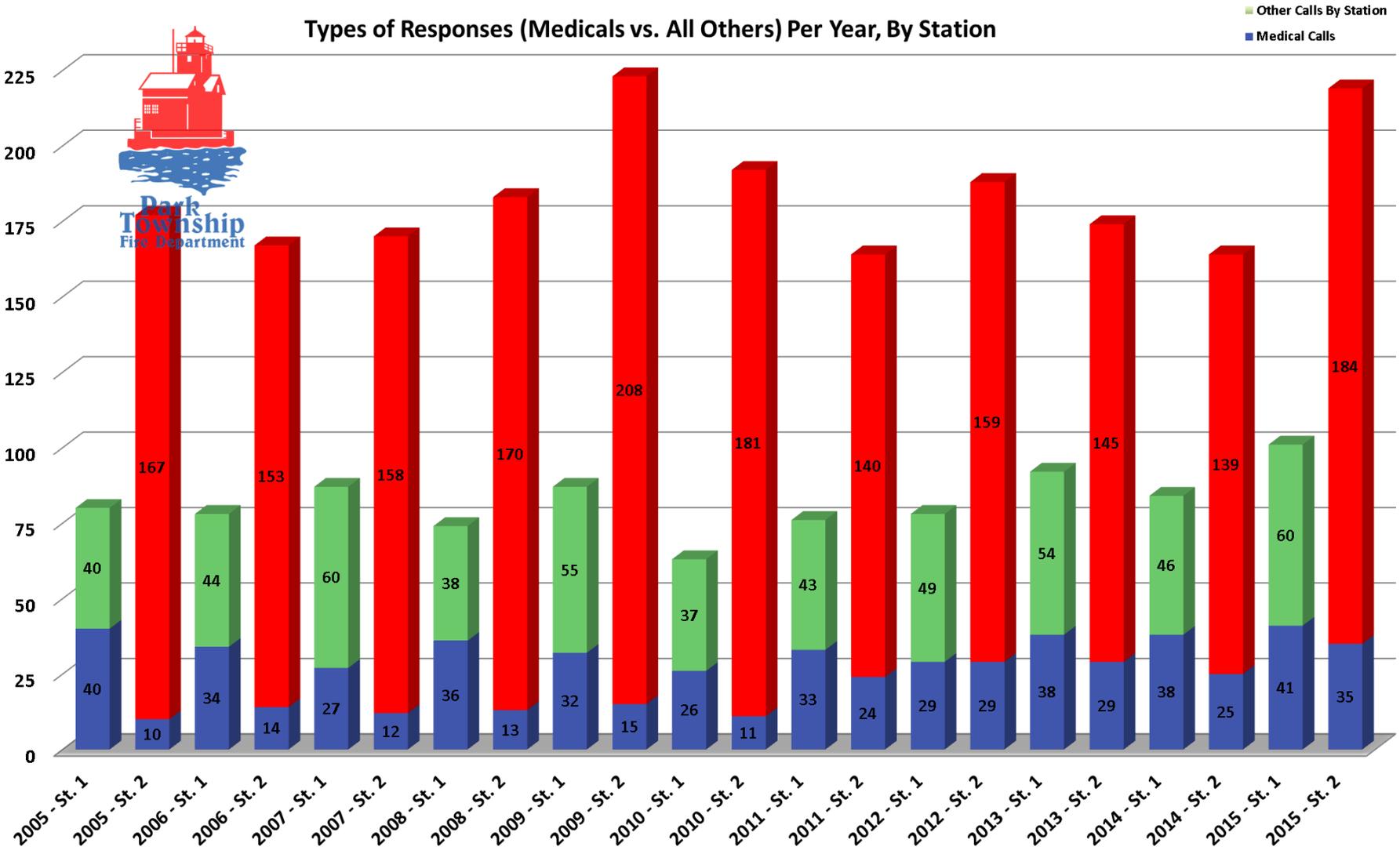


Medical Responses vs. All Other Responses (2005-2015)

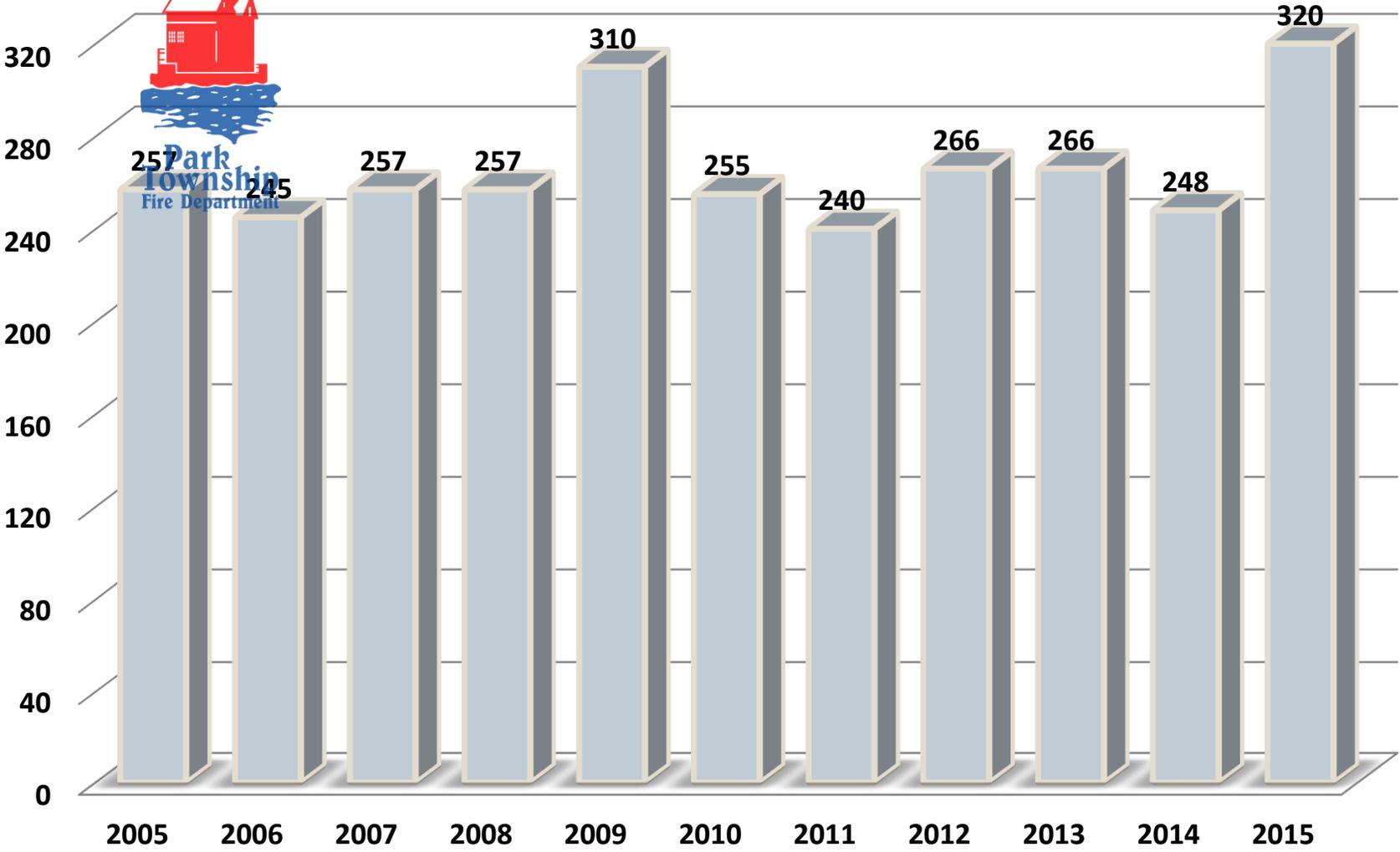




Types of Responses (Medicals vs. All Others) Per Year, By Station

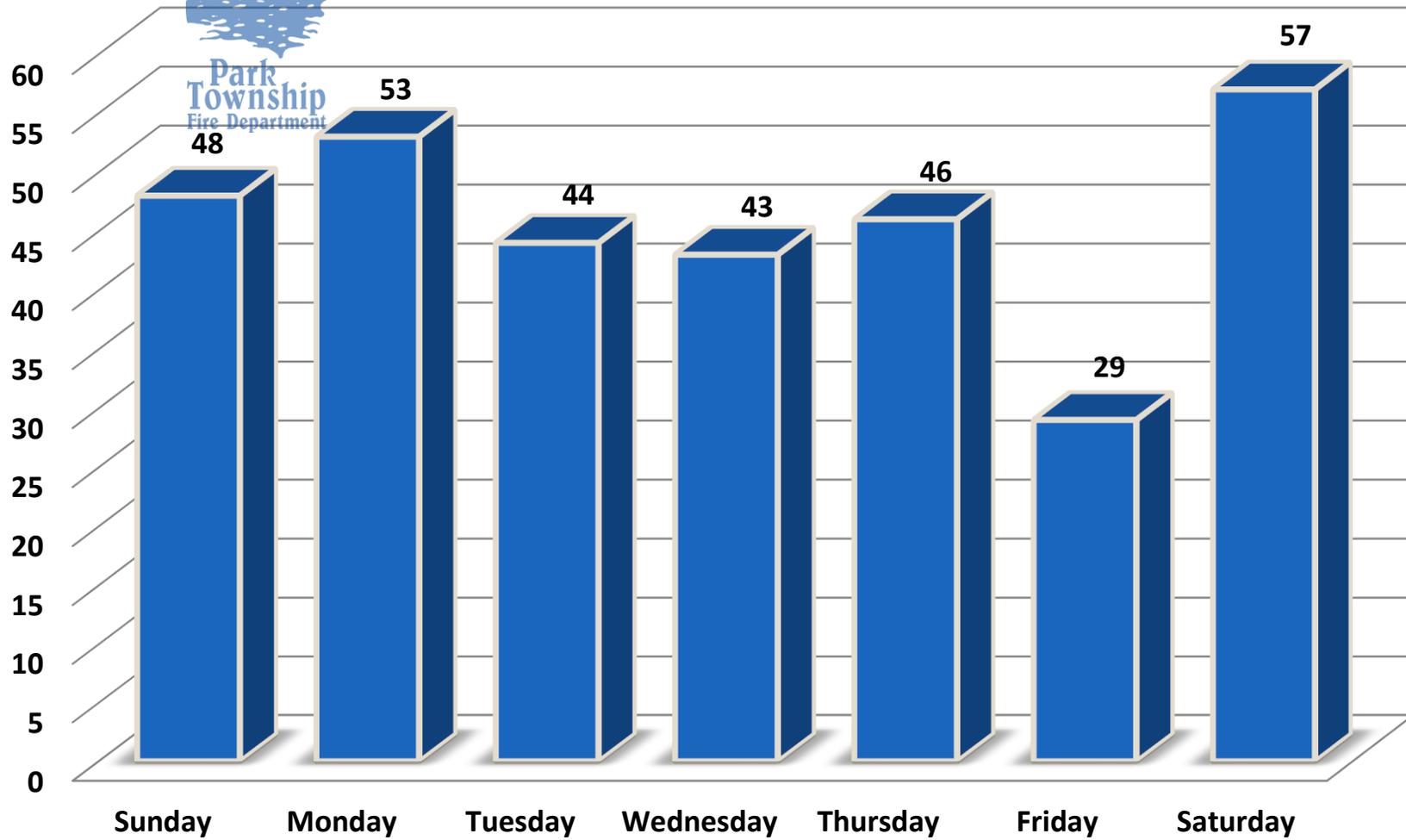


Total Responses By Year





Total Responses By Day of the Week (2015)





Engine 1521

Station #1

- Year: 1995 Pierce Saber Pumper
- Engine: 300 Horsepower Detroit Diesel Engine
- GPM (Gallons Per Minute) Pump: 1,500
- Water Tank: 625 Gallons
- Foam System: Class "A" Foam System
- Number of Seats: 6
- Number of Airpacks: 8
- Primary Duties: Second Out Engine for Fire Suppression; First Out Engine for all other responses including medical responses



Engine 1523

Station #1

- Year: 2006 Pierce Enforcer Pumper Engine
- Engine: 350 Horsepower Cummins Diesel Engine
- GPM (Gallons Per Minute) Pump: 1,500
- Water Tank: 550 Gallons
- Foam System: Class "A" Foam System
- Number of Seats: 4
- Number of Airpacks: 10
- Primary Duties: First Out Engine for Fire Suppression; Second Out Engine for all other responses; SCBA Air Bottle Refill System



Command/Rescue Vehicle 1571

Station #1

- Year: 2014 Ford Expedition EL 4X4 XL
- Engine 8-5.4L-FI
- VHF and UHF mobile radios
- Command Center
- Medical Response Unit
- Number of seats: 5
- Number of Airpacks: 1
- Primary Duties: Command, Medical and Support Vehicle



Ranger 1531

Station #1

- Year: 2008 Polaris Ranger Utility Vehicle (UTV)
- Engine: 700 CC Engine Six-Wheel Drive
- GPM (Gallons Per Minute) Pump: 65
- Water Tank: 95 Gallons
- Foam System: 5 Gallon Class "A" Foam System
- Number of Seats: 3
- Number of Airpacks: 0
- Primary Duties: Wildfires, Medical Transports In Remote Areas, Search and Rescue Along Our Shorelines



1533 Insulation Vacuum

Station #1

- Year: 2014
- Trailer: Sure-Trac Utility
- Vacuum: Versa-Vac os
- Engine: 18HP Kohler V-Twin 2cyl. 12V Electric Start
- Primary Duties: This equipment will be used to remove the exposed insulation that could contain "hot spots" from an attic fire. Instead of using water/foam to soak down the area and causing a lot of water damage we will be able to remove the affected area.



Engine 1524

Station #2

- Year: 1994 Pierce Dash Pumper
- Engine: 250 Horsepower Cummins Diesel Engine
- GPM (Gallons Per Minute) Pump: 1,250
- Water Tank: 1,000 Gallons
- Foam System: Class "A" Foam System
- Number of Seats: 6
- Number of Airpacks: 10
- Primary Duties: First Out Engine; Fire Suppression



Engine 1562

Station #2

- Year: 2002 Pierce Freightliner Pumper-Tanker
- Engine: 450 Horsepower Cummins Diesel Engine
- GPM (Gallons Per Minute) Pump: 1,500
- Water Tank: 2,500 Gallons
- Foam System: Class "A" Foam System
- Number of Seats: 2
- Number of Airpacks: 4
- Primary Duties: Water Supply Including a 3,000 Gallon Dump Tank



Engine 1572

Station #2

- Year: 2009 Pierce Saber Rescue
- Engine: 365 Horsepower Cummins Diesel Engine
- GPM (Gallons Per Minute) Pump: NA
- Water Tank: NA
- Foam System: NA
- Number of Seats: 4
- Number of Airpacks: 4
- Primary Duties: Medicals, Extrication, Ice and Water Rescues, SCBA Air Bottle Refill System



Brush Truck 1582

Station #2

- Year: 2012 GMC Sierra Heavy Duty K-3500, One Ton, 4 Wheel Drive Pickup Truck
- Engine: 6.0 litre, 322 Horsepower V-8
- GPM (Gallons Per Minute) Pump: 520 From C.E.T. Pump in Skid Unit
- Water Tank: 250 Gallon Poly Tank With a 10 Gallon Foam Cell
- Backup Camera, Provisions for Portable Front and Rear Winch
- Number of Seats: 2
- Number of Airpacks: 0
- Bed of Truck Has a C.E.T. Slide In Firefighting Skid Unit
- Primary Duties: Wildfire Extinguishment; Snow Plowing During Winter Months With a 8' 5" Fisher V-Plow



Ranger 1532

Station #2

- Year: 2008 Polaris Ranger Utility Vehicle (UTV)
- Engine: 700 CC Engine Six-Wheel Drive
- GPM (Gallons Per Minute) Pump: 65
- Water Tank: 95 Gallons
- Foam System: 5 Gallon Class "A" Foam System
- Number of Seats: 3
- Number of Airpacks: 0
- Primary Duties: Wildfires, Medical Transports In Remote Areas, Search and Rescue Along Our Shorelines



Community Involvement (CI) Trailer

Station #2

- 2012 5x8 Haulin Utility Trailer
- Led Lights
- 24" side door
- Rear ramp door
- 32" Samsung TV mounted inside
- Insignia soundbar with Bluetooth