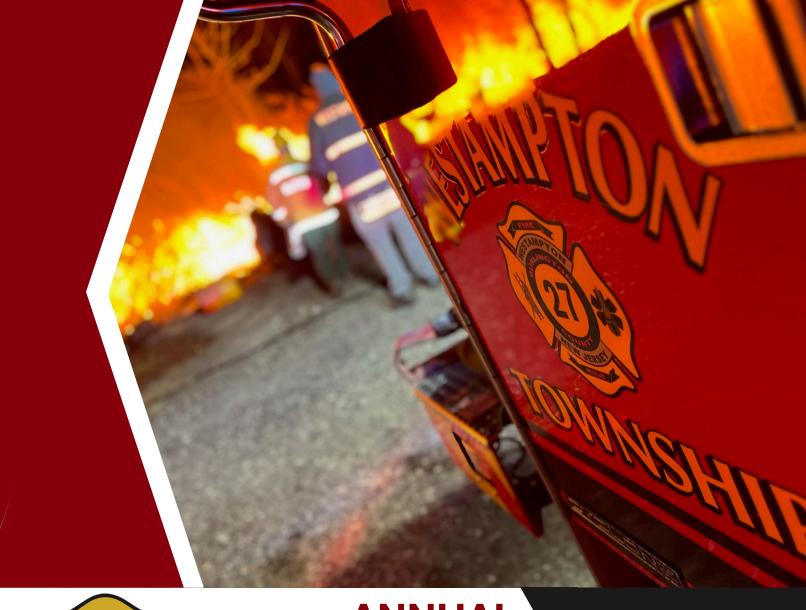
### **WESTAMPTON TOWNSHIP**

## **EMERGENCY SERVICES**





ANNUAL REPORT

2023

Raising The Standard
In Community Service

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#### **OUR MISSION**

To protect life and property by providing the highest level of service to the community.

#### **OUR VISION**

To raise the standard in community service by honoring tradition, professionalism and customer service; we will also create leaders through training, education and strong ethical values.

#### **OUR VALUES**

Character, Integrity & Accountability

# ESSAGE FROM The Chief



Craig Farnsworth Fire & EMS Chief



As we welcome in 2024, I am honored to have this opportunity to share with you what Westampton Township Emergency Services has been able to accomplish in 2023. We also look toward the future to make our community safer for all those that live, work, and visit our Township.

Collectively as a Department we accomplished the following things in 2023:

- Transitioned to new Software for NFIRS Reporting and Preplan Software.
- Purchased and issued Anderson Rescue Straps to all Firefighters.
- · Received Federal Funds for the purchase of additional PPE.
- Purchased and installed new gear lockers to maximize space.
- Purchased and issued new RTF equipment for Active Shooter Incidents.
- Purchased and issued new Policy Software to reduce liabilities.
- Purchased and issued new employee tracking software.
- Purchased and issued additional water rescue equipment to employees.
- Pre-Build Conference for E-One 100foot Quint.
- Sold 2012 KME 109-foot Quint.

- Pre-Build Conference for (2) Frazer Ambulances.
- Sold (2) obsolete Ambulances when delivery is received of the new ambulances.
- Exhaust system installed on 2020 E-One Rescue Engine to reduce cancer.
- Worked with Architectural Firm for feasibility assessment of current and new firehouse.
- Completed required Medicare Ground Ambulance Data Collection.
- Entered Shared-Services Agreement with Mount Holly Fire District #1 for daytime fire protection.
- Reduced on the job injuries by 25% over 2021 and 2022.
- · Hired three additional full-time employees.
- Conducted our second full-time Firefighter Academy over eight weeks.



In 2023, the Department faced the following challenges:

- Multiple full-time employees out for extended periods of time at the same time for various reasons.
- No ladder truck as we await the completion of a new 100-foot quint.
- Multiple calls for service at one time. Over reliance of our Department by mutual-aid partners.

In 2024, we look to accomplish the following:

- Continue to apply for additional Federal Funding.
- Settle IAFF 3091 Contract with Firefighters.
- · Reset expectations for all employees.
- · Increase daily staffing when appropriate.
- Improve Fire Code Enforcement by better communication and keeping on schedule.
- · Continue to decrease unnecessary call volume through Fire Code Enforcement.
- Continue to reduce on-the-job injuries.
- · Review and reduce records retention.
- Increase our cyber security through upgrading of hardware and policies.
- Continue to reduce exposure to on-the-job cancer.
- Place (2) new ambulances in-service.
- Create a new 5-year strategic plan for 2024-2028 with input from our members,
- · Township Officials, and our residents.

I would like to thank the community for the sustained support given to the department and our firefighters. I am grateful to be a part of such a dedicated group of individuals who work each day to protect the lives and property within Westampton Township, its citizens, and visitors. Each day I see their commitment to provide a valuable service to our area and achieve our mission. It is truly an honor to be a part of this organization and this community. If at any time you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me at 609-267-2041 ext. 201 or at cfarnsworth@wtes.us.

#### A MESSAGE FROM



## The President

Jeff DeAngelis

Station President



Like the last chapter in a good book we close 2023 with a new and exciting outlook. The department has worked hard to deliver excellence in its service to the community as always! The volunteer presence remains and is still a vital part of the department working along with the career staff carrying out the Mission statement "To protect life and property by providing the highest level of service to the community."

The future is strong for the department. This year with the increase to the career staff the growth makes us stronger and gives us the tools to even deliver better and advanced services to our community which we strive to be second to none. We look forward to our continued involvement with our community with the many events that we participate in, which are educational, functional, and just plain fun!



## OUR STATION



The station, located at 780 Woodlane Road, was built by the volunteer members in 1978 as part of a two station municipal fire department. Since then our department has taken on a completely different image and structure. We are now a single station department providing an expanded mission to our community and those around us. During the last three decades, the department has had to expand to accommodate a meeting room, fitness area, bunk rooms, bathrooms and showers.

As the township continued to grow and call volume increased, it was time for another change. Career staffing was now needed to staff the apparatus. WTES is a combination (career/volunteer) Fire & EMS Department made up of a career (1) Chief, (1) Fire Marshal, (3) Lieutenants, (19) full time personnel, (10) per-diem personnel, (10) volunteers.

Westampton is a suburban community of 12 square miles with over 9,100 residents. Our township is zoned approximately 60% residential and 40% commercial/industrial. Our population increases dramatically during daytime working hours. Several major county facilities are within our borders that add thousands of people a day traveling here for services provided by: the Burlington County Human Services Building, County Library, County Central Communications and 911 Center, County Morgue, County Animal Control Building, Emergency Services Training Center, Special Services School District and Burlington County Institute of Technology. Exit 5 of the New Jersey Turnpike and exit 45 of Interstate 295, along with Route 541 are located in Westampton Township, bring a steady flow of vehicles through the township.

## 2023 STATISTICS

Total Incidents 4,383



Decrease Of 557

\*A discrepancy can appear in statistics +/-1% due to errors in the CAD data.



EMS Responses

**70%** 

MVA Responses

10%

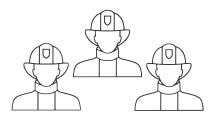
FIRE Responses

19%



Understaffed On Incidents

32%





Missed Incidents

4%



Busiest Day
Of Week

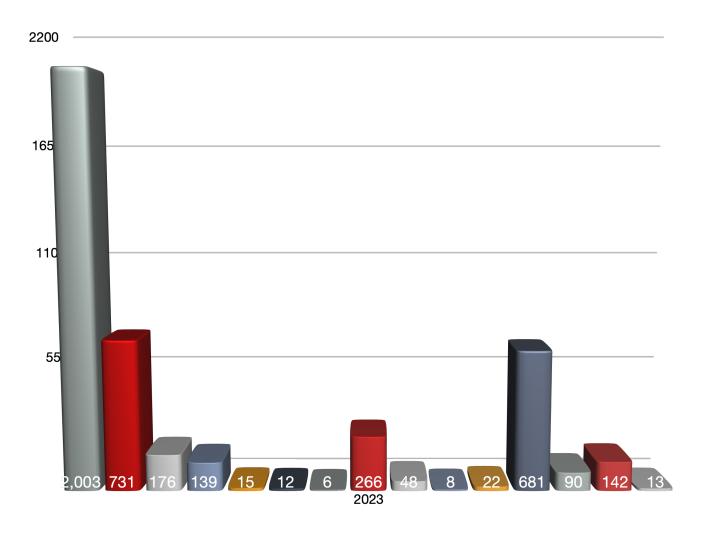
Monday



#### Incidents By District

\*A discrepancy can appear in statistics +/-1% due to errors in the CAD data.

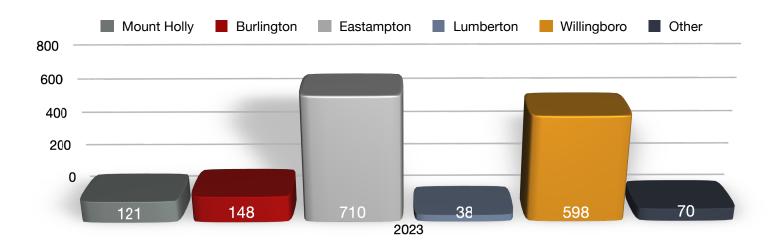




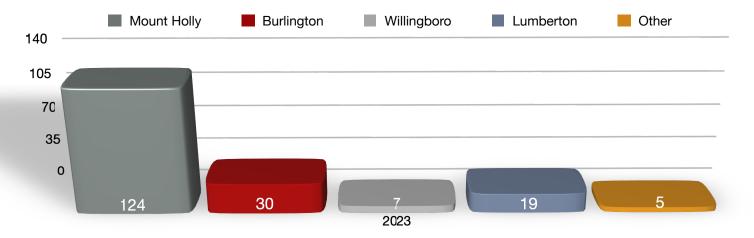


#### EMS Mutual Aid - Given

\*A shared service agreement is in place with Eastampton, as we are their primary EMS provider.

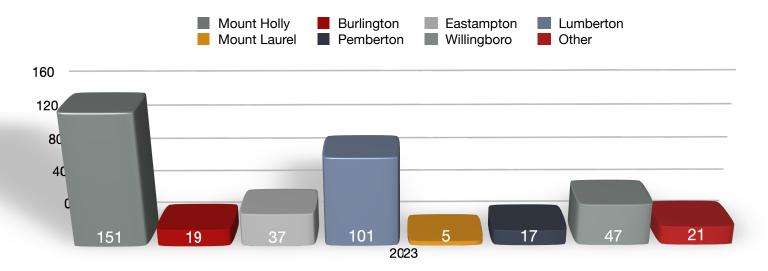


#### EMS Mutual Aid - Received

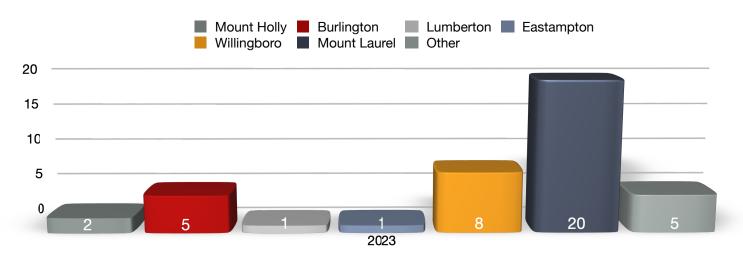


## 2023 STATISTICS

#### Fire Mutual Aid - Given



#### Fire Mutual Aid - Received



## 2023 STATISTICS



#### **Incidents Of Importance**



Gun Shot Wounds

0



**Stabbings** 

1



**Overdoses** 

**17** 



Cardiac Arrests

37



**Traumas** 

32



Brush Fires

3



Vehicle Fires

9



Misc Fires

6



Dwelling Fires

32



Vehicle \*\*Extrications

21



Hazardous Materials

3



Technical Rescues

6

# TRAINING ROOM



#### 6,220 Total Hours In Training



Training comes in many different forms. From an online class using zoom, to a nearby classroom. From the engine bay floor reviewing tools, to familiarizing ourselves with a new housing development/business, or at the training academy practicing our techniques.

Not only do we train in many different ways over the course of the year, we also have to train on various topics. Primarily, we focus on fire and medical, but it goes way beyond that; to include vehicle extrication, HAZMAT, technical rescue, water rescue, active shooter, and much more.

Training has many benefits too. It can improve the skills of the firefighter or EMT. Various scenarios and technique repetition will improve their skill level. It will allow them to gain confidence and when that skill is required will help them fumble less and perform with fewer errors. It can create a pride that resonates through the department. Ultimately, training improves patient and victim survivability on the emergency scene.

# TRAINING ROOM PHOTO ALBUM







#### **COMMAND APPARATUS**

#### **Chief 2700**

2021 Ford Expedition

A custom box was fabricated and installed by WTES Staff for further organization and specialized equipment storage for the Chief. Required preventative maintenance was performed throughout 2023, and no outstanding repairs were left open at the conclusion of 2023.



#### Fire Marshal 27

2021 Ford F-150

Required preventative maintenance was performed throughout 2023, and no outstanding repairs were left open at the conclusion of 2023.



#### Fire Inspector 272

2021 Ford Expedition

Currently utilized by the shift supervisor, fire inspector and code enforcement officer. Required preventative maintenance was performed throughout 2023, and no outstanding repairs were left open at the conclusion of 2023.



# OUR APPARATUS

#### **FIRE APPARATUS**



#### **Squad 2722**

2020 E-One

Squad 2722 is our first out piece of apparatus for all types of incidents. Required preventative maintenance was performed throughout 2023, and no outstanding repairs were left open at the conclusion of 2023.



#### **Squad 2723**

2006 KME

Squad 2723 is utilized as a reserve apparatus since the delivery of Squad 2722. The generator is no longer functioning. Required preventative maintenance was performed throughout 2023, and no outstanding repairs were left open at the conclusion of 2023.



#### **Utility 2729**

2016 Ford F-350

Utility 2729 is used for traffic control at incidents and fire inspections. It is currently stored outside due to station limitations. Required preventative maintenance was performed throughout 2023, and no outstanding repairs were left open at the conclusion of 2023.



#### **EMS APPARATUS**

#### Ambulance 27801

Required preventative maintenance was performed throughout 2023, and no outstanding repairs were left open at the conclusion of 2023.



#### Ambulance 27802

Ambulance 27802 remained a reserve Ambulance and remains outside due to station limitations. It does continue to respond to emergencies while other apparatus were out of service for repair and maintenance. Required preventative maintenance was performed throughout 2023, and no outstanding repairs were left open at the conclusion of 2023.



#### Ambulance 27803

Required preventative maintenance was performed throughout 2023, and no outstanding repairs were left open at the conclusion of 2023.



#### Ambulance 27804

Required preventative maintenance was performed throughout 2023, and no outstanding repairs were left open at the conclusion of 2023.



# **NEW APPARATUS**

# Upcoming deliveries Two BLS Ambulances in 2024 One Ladder Truck in 2025





### RECRUIT CLASS 2023







Beginning in September of 2023, Chief Farnsworth approved Westampton's second academy class created for the newly hired FF/EMT's of WTES. Lieutenant Bozoski, FF Guerrini, and FF Engle were tasked along with Chief Farnsworth and other employees to develop and deliver programs to the attending recruits to receive certifications for FF2, Vehicle Extrication, Pump Operations, and Incident Command.



The courses were frequently held at BCESTC, allowing classroom and facility use throughout the academy. Due to the success of the previous class, Medford Township, Burlington Township, Medford Lakes, and Florence sent recruits to attend the academy. A total of 9 recruits participated and graduated, receiving a wealth of experience and certifications.

### RECRUIT CLASS 2023





#### Recruits received instruction on the following topics:

- Stop the bleed
- Patient packaging and movement
- Airway management
- · Firefighter down CPR
- Lucas CPR
- Personal protective equipment donning and doffing
- Self contained breathing apparatus confidence
- Fire suppression
- Ventilation
- Forcible entry
- Coordinated fire attack
- Foam operations
- Search, rescue and removal
- · Large area search
- High rise fire operations

- Engine and truck company operations
- Pump operations
- Flashover simulator
- Fire ground size up and considerations
- Metering for hazardous materials incidents
- Rapid intervention awareness and operations
- · High and low angle rescues
- · Rope rescue
- · Man vs machine
- · Vehicle stabilization
- · Vehicle extrication
- · Elevator emergencies
- Thermal imagining

This academy program was made possible to the support of the BCESTC, Chief Farnsworth, Chief Dovi, the Instructors who dedicated countless hours in assuring the best possible curriculum was delivered, and the WTES's staff who filled in where needed to either ensure the day to day calls and duties were handled or also providing assistance to the Recruit Class to ensure that it ran successfully.



#### 2023 WTES Bureau of Fire Prevention Year in Review

- 364 Fire Inspections Conducted
- 1998 Violations Cited
- 309 Fire Reinspection's Conducted
- 44 Permit Inspections Conducted
- 11 Imminent Hazards Issued
- 155 Home Resale Smoke Alarm Inspections
- 28 Fire Safety Complaints Investigated
- · 23 Fire Investigations Conducted
- 10 Projects Reviewed
- 129 Code Enforcement Complaints Investigated

The Westampton Township Emergency Services Bureau of Fire Prevention is comprised of one uniformed Fire Lieutenant full-time acting as the Deputy Fire Official/Fire Marshal/Fire Investigator, six uniformed Firefighter/EMT's who as part of their fire suppression assignments conduct Fire Inspections, and two Fire Lieutenants who as part of their fire suppression assignments also conduct Fire Inspections. These personnel operate out of the WTES Fire Headquarters, are all Certified Fire Inspectors, and answer directly to the Fire Chief/Fire Official. In addition to conducting Fire Inspections and Investigations, uniformed personnel are also responsible for fire suppression and emergency medical care and respond to calls for service with the Fire Department.

#### WHAT DO WE DO HERE?

As the Authority Having Jurisdiction (the AHJ), the WTES Bureau of Fire Prevention is responsible for maintenance and enforcement of the adopted New Jersey Edition of the International Fire Code and applicable Local Ordinances in all properties within the Township other than owner occupied one- and two-family dwellings. Our primary mission is the protection of life and property through enforcement of the fire code and education. Administrative duties of the Bureau include: plan review of new and existing projects in association with the Land Development Board and the Construction Official to ensure they are designed and constructed to the adopted codes and ordinances, reviewing temporary or permanent street and business closures that potentially affect life safety or emergency response, Life Hazard Use Registration on behalf of the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety, issuing code variance requests to provide acceptable alternative methods of compliance, revamping and instituting fire code and ordinance changes or amendments, and witnessing Fire Protection Systems test/ inspection as performed by permitted contractors. In addition to the above responsibilities within the Bureau, our staff are also responsible for inspecting all home resales for Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm compliance and code enforcement throughout the Township.

The top five most frequently cited fire safety deficiencies by our inspectors

- 1. Failure to Inspect/Maintain Fire Protection Systems
- 2. Failure to Inspect/Maintain Exit and Emergency backup power
- 3. Failure to Maintain electrical wiring/equipment
- 4. Failure to Maintain orderly and compliant storage of combustibles
- 5. Dangerous Conditions (Blocked exits/fire protection equipment)

Another focus as part of our mission is to determine the origin and cause of all fires within the Township in order to prevent future fires. This is achieved through complete and thorough investigation of any unwanted fire. Conducting these fire investigations allows for potentially cheaper insurance rates and an easier claim process. As part of this initiative, 23 fires were investigated during 2023 within Westampton Township. Bureau staff were also made available to neighboring jurisdictions including the Westampton Township Police Department, Burlington County Fire Marshal's Office, the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety Arson/K-9 Unit, the New Jersey State Police Arson/Bomb Unit, and the US Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives Fire Investigators at various times throughout the year to assist in Fire Investigations. Bureau staff assisted in Fire Investigations in Mt Holly, Hainesport, Lumberton, and Eastampton during 2023 all at no expense to the taxpayers of Westampton.

#### **TRAINING**

The Members that make up the Bureau of Fire Prevention are all at minimum trained as Certified Fire Inspectors as issued by the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety and must meet stringent continuing education and recertification guidelines to maintain such a certification. This training and certification process allows our "Fire Inspectors" to maintain current knowledge in the field to ensure thorough and complete fire safety inspections within Westampton Township. By Statute, Initial certification of a Fire Inspector by the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety requires over 100 contact hours of instruction and an additional 10 hours of time spent with an already certified Fire Inspector in order to "shadow" him/her during actual fire inspections. Many of our staff attended an additional 40 contact hours of classroom instruction to attain the higher-level designation as a Certified Fire Official which is in addition to Fire Inspector. Both of these courses of study are college level classes and require many additional hours studying over the hours spent in the classroom. Twice a year, the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety in conjunction with Kean University offer free training for Fire Officials, Fire Inspectors, and Fire Instructors within the State of New Jersey. Bureau staff must attend at least two of these classes annually in order to recertify at the end of the three-year certification cycle.

Bureau staff not only participate in training and courses required of their suppression counterparts, but also routinely attend training as offered by the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety, Kean University, National Fire Academy, New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice Academy, the US Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and the Burlington County Prosecutors Office Law Enforcement Training Program. The Bureau Fire Marshal is an Internationally Certified Fire & Explosion Investigator who must routinely attend those law enforcement courses listed above in order to maintain an up-to-date knowledge in the fire investigation field. Most, if not all of the training offered is free of charge. Bureau staff attended over 600 hours of additional training during 2023. The Bureau of Fire Prevention has some of the most trained and experienced Fire Officials within the State of New Jersey.

#### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

This past year, proved to be another challenging and busy year for the Bureau of Fire Prevention since being absorbed under the Fire Department in 2015. Some of the Bureau of Fire Prevention's accomplishments for 2023 include:

- Completed all required inspections
- Continued the responsibility for Code Enforcement within the Township
- Increased business awareness and participation via thorough fire inspections
- Updated Department website with many common forms available online
- Ensured continuing 24/7 coverage and availability by Bureau staff
- Completed 600+ hours of training
- Delivered Department Training to several new recruits during the 2023 Recruit Fire Academy
- Fire Marshal Vincent Knott completed the testing, training, and experience requirements for licensure through the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs as an Inspector Hotel & Multiple Dwelling, Housing Code Official, and Mechanical Inspector.
- FF/EMT Treece completed all training requirements for certification as a Fire Inspector and will be added to our Bureau staff
- All staff completed all requirements to attain the new Hazardous Materials Technician certification as issued by the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety

- Held our well attended annual Fire Prevention Week Open House at the fire house on 10/12/23 and conducted a live-fire safety demonstration on kitchen grease fires.
- Completed a School Fire Suppression Survey for all K-12 schools in the Township as required by the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety.
- Completed mandatory annual reporting to the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety

#### WHERE ARE WE GOING FROM HERE?

We're not stopping there. The year 2024 has begun, and we have our "running" list of goals to accomplish. Some of those goals include:

- A more established timeline for inspections to increase efficiency and compliance
- Bring the "After the Fire" program back to matriculating seniors of RVRHS and BCIT Westampton; this program is taught by survivors of the 2000 Seton Hall fire who deliver messages of dorm room and barracks fire safety as the in-person program was halted due to COVID-19.
- Continue updating equipment and necessary supplies
- Work with the Construction Official for mandatory registration of new businesses
- Work with the Township for proper reporting and fire safety of vacant properties/businesses
- Work with the Police Department to ensure thorough and proper Fire Investigations are conducted and a second to none working relationship is forged within Westampton Township
- Continue staff training
- Deliver Department training regarding the Bureau to our Suppression Staff
- Deliver business and community training
- Hold another well attended and successful Fire Prevention Open House at the Fire House in October 2024 with a live fire demonstration on dryer lint fires.

- Educate Fire Protection Permitted Contractors operating in Westampton regarding a new direct reporting opportunity through the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety's new online portal
- Train additional staff in Youth Fire Setter Prevention and Intervention
- Update the Westampton Township Fire Prevention Ordinance

As always, we appreciate the opportunity to serve. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please contact the Bureau of Fire Prevention at (609)267-2041, option 3 for the Fire Marshal or via email at <a href="wky.nct.">wky.nct.</a> who will be a serve. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please contact the Bureau of Fire Prevention at (609)267-2041, option 3 for the Fire Marshal or via email at <a href="wky.nct.">wky.nct.</a> who will be a serve. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please contact the Bureau of Fire Prevention at (609)267-2041, option 3 for the Fire Marshal or via email at <a href="wky.nct.">wky.nct.</a> who will be a serve. If you have any questions, and the serve is the s



## PHOTO ALBUM



## PHOTO ALBUM



## PHOTO ALBUM

