

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

FDNY
Marches in
the Lunar
New Year
Parade

Meet
"Probie"
Danny
Chan

Firefighter
101

Former
FDNY
Explorer
Becomes
Program's
First FDNY
Paramedic

FDNY Celebrates Black History Month

The FDNY celebrated Black History Month at Headquarters in Brooklyn on Feb. 10. The program was organized by the African Heritage Society for the 22nd consecutive year.

"We must all learn from our past so that we can make our department better in the future," said FDNY Fire Commissioner Daniel A. Nigro. "I believe that we are stronger and that we accomplish more when every voice is heard. Through a renewed focus on every event that celebrates the heritage of our members, we continue to create a more inclusive department."



FDNY Fire Commissioner Daniel A. Nigro delivered remarks at the Black History Month Program on Feb. 10.

The program featured musical performances and a guest speaker – Ginger Adams Otis, whose book *"Firefight"* discusses the efforts of the Vulcan Society and Black firefighters towards a more diverse and

Story continues on page 2

FDNY Celebrates Black History Month

Story continued from previous page



FDNY African Heritage Society Member opened and closed the Black History Month Program in song on Feb. 5.

inclusive Fire Department.

The time taken during this month each year to observe Black history, still, as President Obama has said – gives us the chance to examine the evolution of our country and understand how

African Americans help draw us closer to becoming a more perfect union,” said John Dove from the Fire Inspection Unit, who served as master of ceremonies for the program.

“In 1994, about 20 of us civilians got together and organized the first event because it was important to us that our heritage be represented – here, where we work. Even with most of the original members gone, we are still doing what we first organized to do and we haven’t missed a year,” said Marilyn Gipson, a 40-year employee of FDNY and an original member of the FDNY African Heritage Society. “Everyone throughout the Department has been very supportive of our efforts.”

In addition, on Feb. 18, the society hosted a Craft and Talent Program at Department Headquarters, which allowed members to showcase their creativity in recognition of Black History Month.

FDNY Celebrates the Year of the Monkey



The FDNY kicked-off the Year of the Monkey on Feb. 14 with its largest contingent to ever march in the Lunar New Year Parade in New York City. The FDNY Fire and Emergency Medical Service Explorers joined FDNY Fire Commissioner Daniel A. Nigro and the FDNY Phoenix Society to celebrate the event, which ran along the busiest sections of Chinatown. The FDNY wishes everyone a happy, healthy and prosperous new year!



Meet 'Probie' Danny Chan

After serving tours in Iraq as a U.S. Marine, FDNY Probationary Firefighter Danny Chan said that he is now continuing efforts to give back to the community by working as one of New York's Bravest.

"Working in a great career like this gives you a sense of purpose," he explained. "We help people each day and that's really important."

As a Firefighter Candidate, Chan participated in the FDNY's Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) Training Program, Firefighter Candidate Mentorship Program (FFCMP) and Fitness Awareness Program (FAP). Each program, he explained, enabled him to learn more about the Firefighter job.

"It takes a lot of dedication and hard work to get this job," Chan



FDNY Probationary Firefighter Danny Chan graduated from the Fire Academy on November 6, 2015. He also finished fourth in his class, which had 295 Probationary Firefighters in total.

said. "I spent a lot of time preparing for this job and learning more about it before the Academy and it was definitely worth it."

Story continues on page 5

Meet 'Probie' Danny Chan

Story continued from previous page



While he was a FDNY Firefighter Candidate in April 2015, Probationary Firefighter Danny Chan, center, participated in the Firefighter Candidate Mentorship Program (FFCMP) Information Session at the Fire Academy in New York City.

In this FDNY Family Day photo from October 2015, FDNY Probationary Firefighter Danny Chan, second from right, is all smiles with some of his Alpha 23 squad members. Chan served as the squad's leader while completing the challenging 18-week Fire Academy.



Story continues on page 6

Meet 'Probie' Danny Chan

Story continued from previous page

While in the Fire Academy, he also performed with distinction by serving as a squad leader of Alpha 23. In addition, he finished fourth in his class, which had 295 Probationary Firefighters in total. When he graduated on November 5, 2015, he was also one of 35 veterans in that class.

And now Chan, 31, is helping to keep New York City safe at Ladder 109 in Brooklyn.

"This is the best job in the world, but it comes with great responsibility and I always keep that in my mind," he said. "When you're working, you could save the life of a stranger and help make this world a better place. Not many careers allow you to do that, so it's an honor to be able to work here."

Stay Connected With @JoinFDNY



FDNY Firefighter Featured on Reality Show

In Celebration of Valentine's Day

In recognition of Valentine's Day, Join FDNY caught up with Firefighter Jason Carrion, who fell in love with his wife, Cortney Hendrix, during season one of the A&E Network reality show "Married at First Sight." The two romantics are now looking forward to celebrating their second wedding anniversary next month. Check out what Carrion, who serves at Engine 10 in New York City, had to say about love, marriage and becoming one of New York's Bravest.

JoinFDNY: What do you think about Valentine's Day?

Jason Carrion: It's nice. We celebrate it and have a lot of fun that day. Last year, we went to a



FDNY Firefighter Jason Carrion, right, and his wife, Cortney Hendrix, fell in love on the A&E Network reality show "Married at First Sight."

beautiful restaurant by a pier side and we had a nice romantic dinner. I always try to outdo myself with things like this, so I'm stepping it up again this year [laughs].

JF: Did you ever think you would meet your wife on a TV show?

JC: Absolutely not [laughs]. It was crazy because I went through my first year of

Story continues on page 8

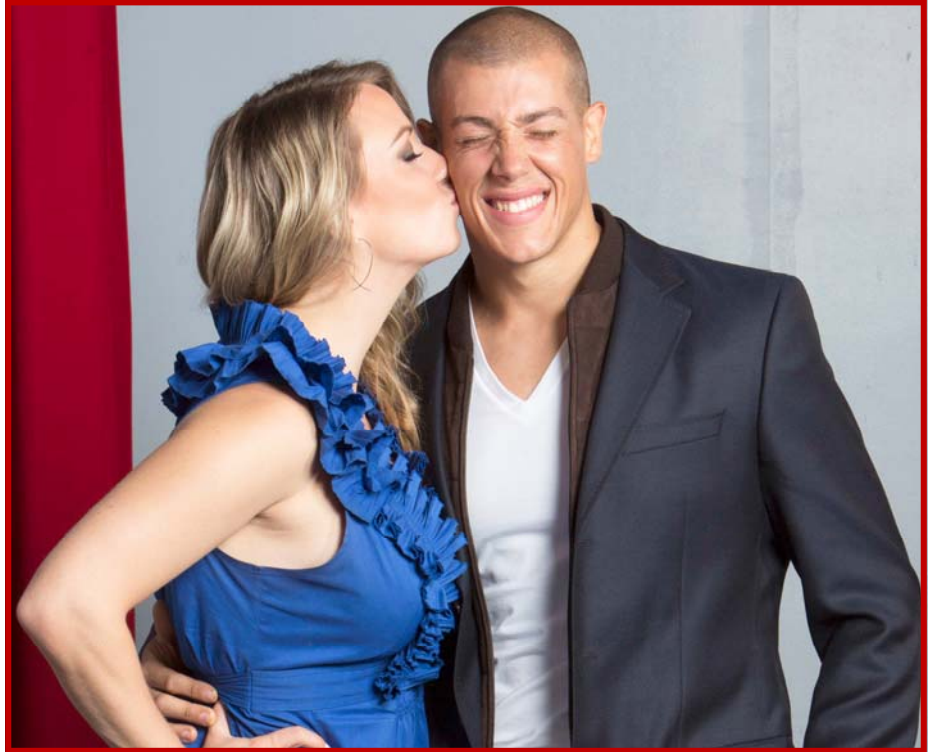
FDNY Firefighter Featured on Reality Show

Story continued from previous page

marriage with a woman that I don't really know while going through the Fire Academy, which was one of the hardest things I've had to complete in my entire life. My mother passed away shortly after we got married, Cortney was in between jobs during that time and we had just moved into a new apartment. We were going through some serious issues and it was unreal that all of this was happening at the same time. But we made it through together. Now I have this beautiful wife in my life and I have a great career, so I'm really happy about all of that.

JF: How's married life?

JC: It's really surreal, because I didn't know her name or anything and I literally met her for the first time at the altar. But we immediately got along great and it was an immediate attraction and instant chemistry. We have an



amazing connection and that's really special. We're truly in love and still going strong.

Story continues on page 9

FDNY Firefighter Featured on Reality Show

Story continued from previous page



job.

JF: We also heard that you recently helped to rescue an injured hawk while you were working in Manhattan. Tell us about that.

JC: Yes. When we arrived to the site after we got the call, we saw the hawk and it was basically banging into buildings while it was flying around and you could immediately tell something was wrong. The bird landed and we tried to grab it, but it flew away. When the hawk finally landed again, it was just near the World Trade Center site, and one of the Lieutenants in my firehouse was able to put a jacket over the hawk and we eventually put the hawk in a box and brought it to our firehouse. From there, we really just tried to keep the bird as calm as possible until animal rescue arrived. We were just glad that we could help the bird before it hurt itself even more. You never know what kind of call you're going to get on this job, but we're always here and ready to utilize our training to help the City. Being a New York City Firefighter is an amazing job and you learn so much working here.

JF: What's it like being a New York City Firefighter?

JC: It was a long journey to get here and I had to dedicate a lot of time to get this job. But now I'm here and it's really a great feeling to know that I work for such a great Department. This is the best

Join FDNY in the Community



Our recruiters can be spotted in many areas throughout the five boroughs sharing important information about our rewarding careers. This month, they visited, among other places, Queens College, the Flatbush Avenue/Atlantic Avenue subway station in Brooklyn and the Super Foodtown of Harlem.



Aspiring Firefighters and EMS members were able to learn more about our job opportunities and meet some of our members, as well as complete an expression of interest form for the career they are interested in pursuing. Check out more highlights from these events on the next page.

Story continues on page 11

Join FDNY in the Community

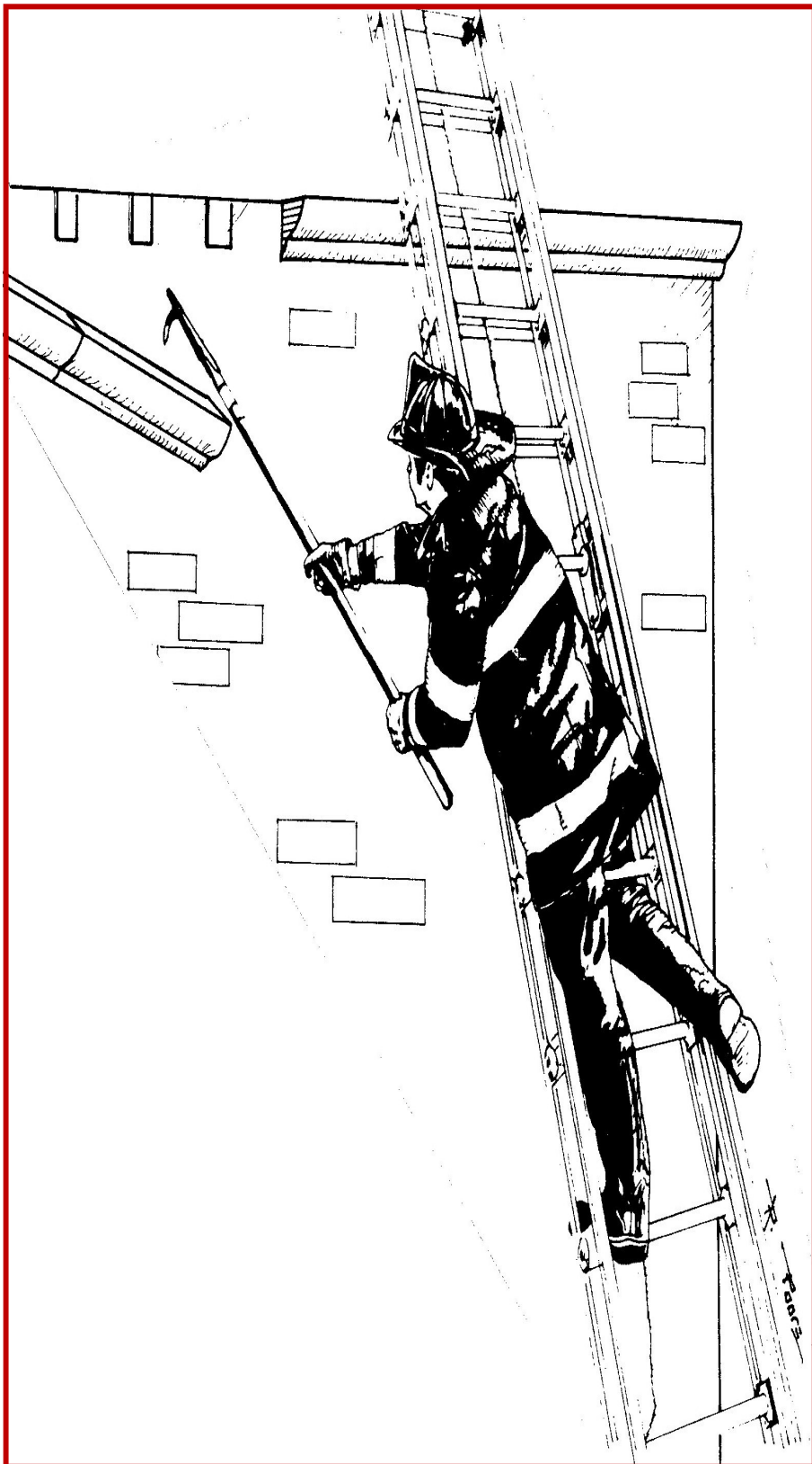


Firefighter 101:

The Leg Lock

Duties that require a New York City Firefighter to work from the ladder necessitate the use of a leg lock or the life belt for safety. The leg performing the locking maneuver is opposite the working side. For example, if the member wants to lean to the right and vent a window, he or she will lock his or her left leg on the ladder. To perform the leg lock, the locking leg is placed over and under the rung that is two rungs above the one on which the member is standing. In addition, the snap hook of the life belt hooks directly to the ladder rung. Want to learn more about this topic? Visit our website: <http://on.nyc.gov/1Kea0tF>.

Don't Procrastinate! Start studying the "Probie" Manual today to get ready for the Fire Academy!



UWF to Host Training for Candidates

The United Women Firefighters (UWF) is scheduled to host physical fitness training for women Firefighter Candidates in March at the New York Sports Club on Wall Street in New York City. The club is located at 30 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005. To



be eligible to participate, every candidate must bring a gym lock, at least a 50 pound vest, fitness clothes and sneakers, water and a medical waiver. In addition, every candidate should attend the training properly hydrated and fueled and ready for an intense workout. Please note that these workout sessions are designed to prepare candidates for the physical training at the Fire Academy. To register for the sessions, please e-mail womenrecruitsfdny@yahoo.com.
***Please note that all new candidates must arrive to the training sessions early.**

March 2016 UWF Training Schedule

March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 23 at 7:30 p.m.

March 6, 13, 20 and 27 at 12 p.m.

RECRUITMENT CORNER

Former Explorer Becomes Program's First FDNY 'Medic'

Congratulations to former FDNY Explorer Zarhar Washington, left, for becoming the Exploring Program's first FDNY Paramedic on Feb. 5.

Washington, who now serves as a Post Advisor in the program, was one of 59 Paramedics who graduated from the FDNY EMS Academy that morning.

The Exploring Program, which is a part of the Office of Recruitment and Diversity's (ORD) Youth Workforce Development Initiative (YWDI), educates high school students ages 14 to 20 about careers in the fire and emergency medical services fields.

As an FDNY Explorer, students participate in weekly meetings, community service projects, field trips to fire-



houses and EMS stations and other important activities.

ORD Deputy Director Nafeesah Noonan, right, congratulated Washington for his exceptional achievement during the ceremony.

And Washington has already experienced his first major emergency rescue effort when he worked during the January

Story continues on page 15

RECRUITMENT CORNER

Former Explorer Becomes Program's First FDNY 'Medic'

Story continued from previous page



FDNY Paramedic Zarhar Washington shared his amazing story with the media during the FDNY EMS graduation on Feb. 5. The former FDNY Explorer currently serves as a Post Advisor in the Exploring Program.

2016 blizzard.

“I was in the ambulance starting at 10 pm on Saturday night, and it was incredibly busy. The Department handled thousands of calls during the storm, we were working nonstop,” Washington recalled about that challenging day. “Every situation is different and you have

to approach each call differently, but your training just kicks in. I had a lot of confidence in my partner, and it feels good knowing someone has your back. We were able to get the job done even through the snow.”

The YWDI is largely funded by the FDNY Foundation, the official non-profit organization of the FDNY. To learn more about this initiative, please visit:

on.nyc.gov/1fztKww.

To read more about our latest EMS graduation, which was held at York College in Queens, please visit: **on.nyc.gov/20gic4G.**