



# THE HEAT



A Publication of the Pine Bluff Fire & Emergency Services  
**FOCUSING ON THE COMMUNITY**  
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## From the Chief

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It is that time of year again when the summer break comes to an end and school age children return to school.

As always we provide safety inspections for all our local schools insuring our children have a fire safe school to attend. This is a very important task and I want all of you to know how grateful I am as a parent and fire chief that we have such loyal and dedicated members performing these inspections for our children. School inspections are

sometimes just viewed as routine and something we just do, but I want to say that they are not just another inspection they are much more. These inspections are for the safety of our children, the teachers, the administrators and all other staff members that work at our local schools. Fire safety inspections also provide the fire department a chance to get to know the school administrators/staff, students as well as the layout of the campus which is vital in keeping everyone safe in event of emergencies!

We also as everyone to keep a watch out for children walking to school or getting on and off school buses. Also keep in mind it is illegal to pass a stopped school bus. As the saying goes "it takes a village".

Would like to wish everyone involved in education of our future a happy and safe school year!

*Shaawn Howell*

Fire Chief

### Important Dates

**August 2nd - Coffee w/  
Chiefs**  
**August 2nd - National Night  
Out**  
**August 15th - First Day of  
School**



## Back to School





# Hot Shots



July 20th  
1019 N University Drive



Davis Life Care King & Queen Pageant

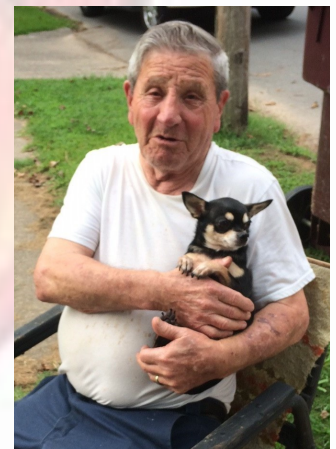
Escorted by crew from Station 7!



Brookshire's Give Back– As a thank you to Brookshire's Grocery for donating Gatorade, crews assisted customers with their groceries!



On 7/29/16 at 8:31am, engine companies responded to 1203 S. Dakota, home of Jerry Allred, for a report of a residential structure fire. All occupants escaped except Mr. Allred's pet Chihuahua, Elvis! Engine 4 arrived on scene and extinguished the kitchen fire. Lt Quinton Wade rescued Elvis from the residence and Firefighter Tony Gibson provided oxygen for Elvis. Although traumatized Elvis will make a full recovery!



Fun Day at New Faith Missionary Baptist Church !





**B.R.A.V.E. Back To School Bash**

Project Fresh Start is the state’s largest and most successful school-supplies giveaway. This year’s event will be held at the Pine Bluff Convention Center on Saturday, August 20th from 9:00am until 1:00pm. Every year Project Fresh Start gives thousands of disadvantaged students a chance to start a brand-new new school year with new school supplies. The group has collected and given away more than 2,500 bags of school supplies every year. The drive has been so successful the past few years that other cities have benefited from it. B.R.A.V.E., who hosts the event, is the south central Arkansas chapter of the International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters. B.R.A.V.E. first started Project Fresh Start in 2004 at Central Park in Pine Bluff. The event will also provide food, entertainment and opportunities to meet personnel from various local agencies including the Pine Bluff Fire and Emergency Services, Pine Bluff Police Department, Jefferson County Sheriff’s Department, TOPPS, Central Arkansas Orthodontics, and Larry Ferrell Neighborhood Watch Group. For more information contact Johnnie Brown at 870.489.2325.

**Sales Tax Free Weekend**

Arkansas will host its fourth sales tax holiday the week-end of August 6th and 7th, 2016. Retail stores will not charge sales taxes on pur-chases of school supplies and some clothing. That means shoppers will pay the sticker price for clothing, accessories and school supplies. It's time to get ready for back to school. The tax free holiday starts 12:01 that first Saturday in August and ends 11:59 the next day on Sunday. Sales tax will be not be charged on clothing and footwear if the sale price is less than \$100 per item, clothing accessories and equipment if the sales price is less than \$50 per item and all school supplies, art supplies and instructional material. Accessories include cosmetics, hair accessories, handbags, jewelry, sun glasses, wallets, watches, etc. Art supplies are limited to clay and glazes, paints, paintbrushes, sketch and drawing pads and watercolors. Instructional material includes textbooks, workbooks and references.

Clothing includes all clothing: footwear, diapers, receiving blankets, wedding apparel, gloves, aprons, hats, neckties, coats and jackets, wedding apparel and formal wear if the marked price is under \$100. It's listed as, "all human wearing apparel," which means it will benefit more than just those going back to school. There is no limit on total items you can buy. The only limit is the price per item limit. You can buy as many \$99 shirts as you would like and still be exempt. Likewise, you can purchase all your school supplies and back to school clothes together. No matter what the total cost, your items will still be exempt if they meet the criteria listed above.

Enjoy the savings of Arkansas’ tax free weekend and please remember to shop local.

**August Anniversaries**

Quentin Williams - August 24th - 1 year  
Juan Ventress - August 30th - 27 years

**August Birthdays**

Brent Ruggeri - August 1st  
Cedric Adams - August 1st  
Kyra Arnold - August 10th  
Michael Burnett - August 17th  
Fredrick Batemon - August 22nd  
Michael Burleson - August 26th  
Aechia Armstrong - August 29th



## It's Back To School Time!!!!

It's that time of year again!! For some parents it's the most wonderful time of year! BACK TO SCHOOL!!!! Here are a some reminders so that everyone has a safe school year!

### Parents

- If dropping your child off at school, be aware of school rules regarding student drop offs, most schools ask that you do not drop off your child in the same area as the bus drop off. This is to avoid traffic congestion and helps to reduce the chance of injury to your child.
- Point out the safe places to cross the street and point out areas of danger.
- Identify bus stop locations and review and re-enforce the school bus safety rules.

### Students

- If walking to school, use bike paths and sidewalks where available. In areas where there are no sidewalks or bike paths walk along the side of the road facing traffic.
- Wear light colored clothing and avoid using headphones or other electronic devices that will distract you from traffic.
- If riding a bicycle to school and there are no bike paths, ride with traffic; if riding in the dark your bike must have a light on it. When riding your bike you should always wear a bicycle helmet.
- While at your bus stop: do not run into traffic.
- Arrive to your bus stop early.
- Never walk behind the bus.
- Make sure the bus comes to a complete stop before trying to enter or exit the bus.
- When crossing the street observe traffic, don't rely solely on the bus lights, and watch for the signal from your bus driver to cross.

### Motorists

- When driving during the hours prior to school and at dismissal time be aware of traffic around the schools.
- Many schools still use school speed zones, and as a driver it is your responsibility to know where these zones are and adhere to the posted speed limit.
- In addition, several schools use Crossing Guards to assist students in crossing the street safely and rely on the motorist to stop when directed.
- All drivers when approaching a school bus that has activated its flashing red lights must stop. Be alert to children's unpredictable behavior and wait for the lights to stop flashing before beginning to move again.

