

## February 29<sup>th</sup> – March 6<sup>th</sup>

During the week of February 29<sup>th</sup> – March 6<sup>th</sup> the Virginia Fire Department responded to a total of 73 calls 7 Fire calls and 66 EMS calls. The 66 EMS calls are splint into 19 transfers and 47 9-1-1 calls. The 19 transfers brought us to 4 different Hospitals to get Patients Blooming Hospital in Ely, Fairview Range Medical Center in Hibbing, Essentia Health Northern Pines and Essentia Health Virginia. We brought these Pt's to 5 different Hospitals; Fairview Range Medical Center, Miller Dwan, St. Luke's, Essentia Health Virginia, and Essentia Health St. Mary's. Our 47 9-1-1 calls brought us to six communities; once to Gilbert and Iron, twice to Eveleth, three times to the Britt area, four times to Mt. Iron, and the rest 36 calls in Virginia. These Patients were transported to three different locations; Essentia Health St. Mary's, Fairview Range Medical Center, and Essentia Health Virginia four of our Patients didn't need to be transported. During this week our busiest day was Tuesday where we treated 15 Patients and our slowest was Sunday with only four Patients. We performed 58 Procedures and administered 47 different medicines, our top reason for dispatch was cardiac in nature, our average Patient age was 57 and we treated more females (36) than males (30). During this week the Fire Marshall conducted three inspections. The Fire Marshall would also like to remind all building owners that it is important to be mindful to the amount of weight you may place on your roof, decks and any other suspended structures this includes snow, storage, and people. Overloading or improper storage can become a life safety concern not only for collapse but increased fire load, as well as health risks for mold and stale water being a breeding ground for bacteria and insects. The EMS Coordinator was in the Cities learning about Community Paramedicine, which is when a Paramedic may go to a Patient's home for follow up care in order to save the Patient from another trip to the Hospital or Clinic. This practice is becoming popular in many metro areas and starting to gain favor in rural areas. The thought is to take some pressure off of the busy clinics, emergency departments, and hospitals. This practice could also in turn lower costs for the hospitals and Patients alike. This may also become beneficial for the rural population as the number of Doctors for the rural population is considerable lower, about 20% of the population lives in a rural setting, but about 9% of the Doctors practice in the rural setting.