

March 07th - March 13th

During the week of March 07th – March 13th the Virginia Fire Department responded to a total of 61 calls; five fire calls and 56 EMS calls. During this week the EMS calls were split 24 Transfers and 32 Emergency 9-1-1 calls. We went to three different hospitals to get our transfer patients three from Essentia Health northern Pines, one from Cook hospitals, and 20 from Essentia Health Virginia. We brought these patients to four different hospitals; one to Miller Dwan, four to St. Luke's, 17 to Essentia Health St. Mary's, and two back to Nursing Homes. The 32 Emergency 9-1-1's brought us five communities; once to Aurora and Tower, twice to Gilbert, three times to the Iron area, seven times to Mt. Iron, and 18 in Virginia. These patients were brought to four different locations; one straight to St. Mary's and an aircraft, two to Fairview Range Medical Center in Hibbing, 24 to Essentia Health Virginia, and four did not need transport. Monday was the busiest day with 14 calls and Saturday was the slowest day with five calls. The call we received the most often was Cardiac in nature. We did 34 procedures and delivered 38 medicines. Our average age was 58 and we treated more women (30) than men (26). During this week the Fire Marshall was busy teaching some of the Virginia City Employees the proper way to use a fire extinguisher. The Fire Marshall and Fire Chief attended an interviewing technique class sponsored by the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) as part of their continuing education. The class focused on the legal requirements, evidence collection and interview methods along with several arson case studies. During this week the Virginia Fire Department hosted an area Fire Training night, the class was on Incident Command taught by a Hibbing Battalion Chief and attended by over 20 area Firefighters from Eveleth, Gilbert, Fayal, Mountain Iron, Vermilion and Virginia attended.

The Virginia Fire Department is pleased to announce that we have purchased oxygen masks that are designed specifically for use on cats and dogs. We have placed them on three of our frontline apparatus. In the near future, we will also be doing some refresher training given by the Mesaba Animal Clinic in the care of dogs and cats. A big thank you to Mesaba Animal Clinic who have graciously committed time in the past to train our tactical medics in the care of canines, so we are prepared to treat the police K-9's as well as domestic pets in the event of an injury such as smoke inhalation.