

## HVFD prepares for 2014, answered 50 calls in 2013

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

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Holyoke Volunteer Firefighters gathered at their annual meeting to revisit 2013's activities as well as elect officers for 2014 Thursday, Jan. 2.

Steve Young and Bob Heldenbrand were elected to resume their posts as president and vice president. David Churchwell was named chief for 2014 after serving as 1st assistant chief in 2013. Rod Trumper was elected as 1st assistant chief, John Durbin 2nd assistant chief and Ken Hoch secretary/treasurer.

HVFD had a busy 2013, responding to 50 fire alarms throughout the year, according to the 2013 annual secretary and historian reports.

Of the 50 alarms in 2013, auto accidents were the source of the majority of the alarms. HVFD was called to automobile accident scenes on 23 occasions. HVFD also responded to six grass/stubble fires, five gas leaks and five false alarms, four fires inside structures, four fire sprinkler alarms, two calls for mutual aid requests and one vehicle fire.

Twenty-six of all of the fire alarms were for the City of Holyoke.

The average firefighter answered 40 percent of the alarms. Hoch answered the most, responding to 41 alarms. Gary Huss wasn't far behind, responding to 40 alarms.

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