

**POSTED THROUGH THE COOPERATION OF  
PELL CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT**



From Left To Right: CECIL GUTHRIE, Chief; JOHNNY GOSS, Fireman; CHARLES BROWN, Fireman; LAWRENCE HANNAH, Fireman.

H T  
FIR

GOSS, Fire

To Call Fire Dept: 338-2313

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PELL CITY FIRE DEPT.

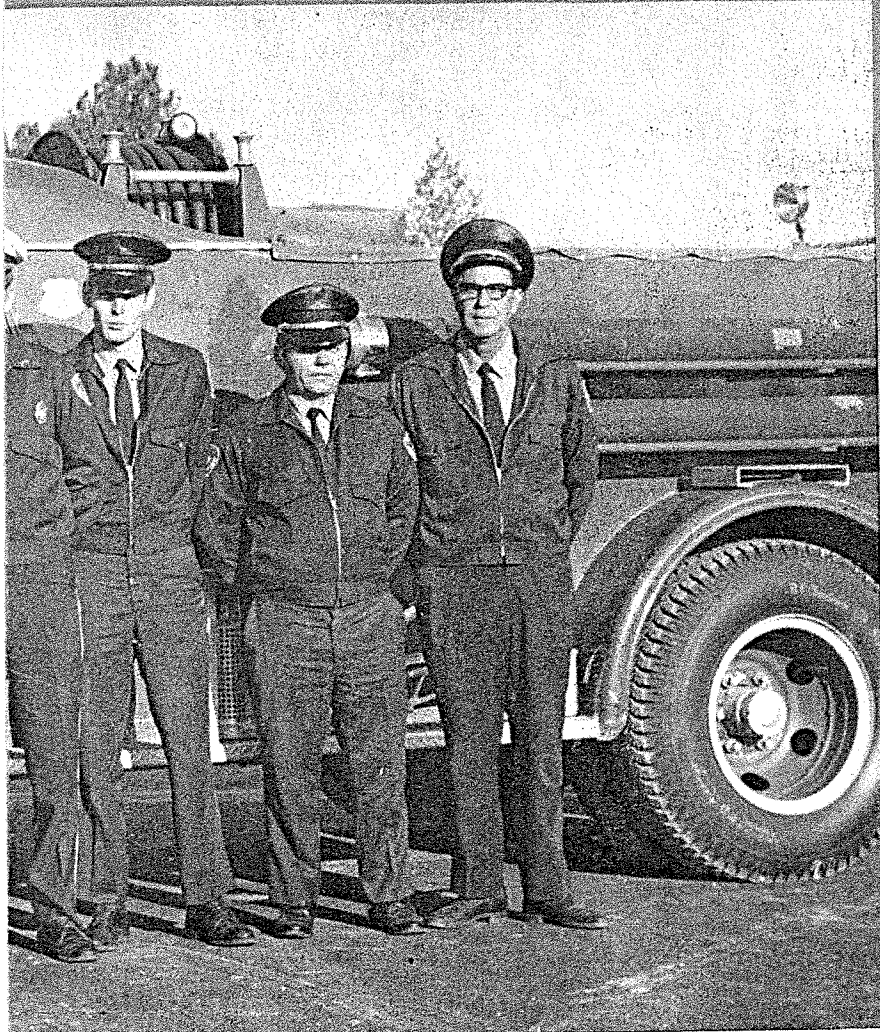


CECIL GUTHRIE  
Fire Chief

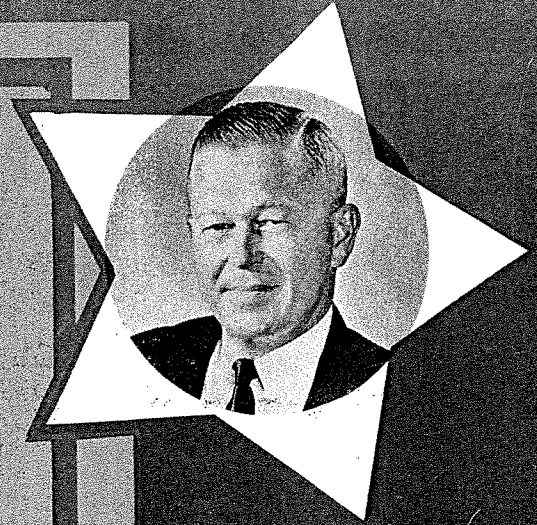


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# E COOPERATION OF DEPARTMENT



...an; CHARLES BROWN, Fireman, LAWRENCE HANNAH, Fireman.



HORACE C. CLAYTON  
Fire Commissioner



Firemen 'worked like Trojans'—

# PCFD gets new look

Better working and living facilities for the city's firemen has been a dream of Fire Chief Cecil Guthrie for a long time. But the dream has now become

a reality.

The remodeling of the Pell City Fire Department's new facilities is expected to conclude soon after three to four

weeks of constant work by the firemen themselves.

"All we have to do is a little painting and some cleaning up and the job will be finished,"

Guthrie said. The new fire department is equipped with a large office for Guthrie along with a large, paneled room for the men to live. The room has three beds, refrigerator, stove, television and sofa. "We've got more room now, especially in the living quarters," Guthrie explained, "and more room down below the living quarters for storage."

The job was funded by the city government but it was the firemen that put in the many hours of work needed to remodel the area. "They worked like Trojans," Guthrie said. "The men did all the work it took to build the quarters except the ducts for the air conditioner and the ceiling."

"We think we've made quite an improvement in the quality of our living quarters," the chief explained. "The men will enjoy it," he said.

Guthrie remarked that the only problem has come in furnishing the living quarters with furniture and whatever else is needed. "We could use some furniture if people want to donate some, especially chairs, lights, desk lamps, night tables and curtains," he said.

The chief believes the new arrangement for his workers will greatly aid them in their jobs. "It's always easier to work under nice conditions, especially when you had so much to do with building them," Guthrie said.

The new fire department lacks only a paint job of being completed and the firemen in Pell City are prepared to enjoy it. As one fireman put it, "We have no complaints."



Ben Windsor, Guthrie, Harvey Watson

A local branch of the Christian Crusade Anti Communist group of Torchbearers has been

# Torchbearers Organized In County

The national began crop is expected to total almost 162 million pounds. The crop, much below earlier expectations, is 36 per cent less than the 1965 crop and 24 per cent below average.

Therefore, according to said command, I shall expose for sale at public auction, all the right, title and interest of the above named Nancy Robertson in and to the above described property, on the 27 day of February 1967, during the legal hours of sale, at Pell City in St. Clair County, Ala.

Dated at Pell City, Alabama

THURSDAY, JAN. 26, 1967



PELL CITY FIRE CHIEFS WITH COMMISSIONER  
L. To R: Cecil Guthrie, Dr. H. C. Clayton, Earl Hutton

# PC Proud Of Its Fire Department

Mayor Otis Perry and city councilmen are taking justifiable pride these days in their recently-revamped Pell City Volunteer Fire Department, now bolstered by the presence of two full-time fire chiefs and the very latest in fire fighting equipment.

Cecil Guthrie, the daytime fire chief and Earl Hutton, his nighttime counterpart constitute a 24-hour readiness team which can have a fire truck and crew on the scene within minutes after a local fire is reported.

The city's 25 volunteer firemen are on constant standby, both at home and at their places of employment, ready to lend a trained helping hand whenever a fellow Pell Citizen needs it.

Chief Guthrie is also busy these days trying to establish a rapport between the fire department and local businesses as concerns fire regulations, the maintenance of extinguish-

ers, e. t. c. Guthrie conducts courtesy inspections of extinguishers at intervals and, in addition, the city is now equipped to re-charge extinguishers. The small charge made for re-charging goes into the Fire Station's skimpy grocery fund.

THE DEPARTMENT'S fire-fighting arsenal includes a shiny 1960 model fire truck equipped with protective gear for the firemen, 1,000 feet of 2½-inch hose, about 600 feet of pre-connect hose (for use when an ample water supply is available), and adjustable nozzles that can be used as "straight streams" or for more commonly used "water fog" method. Also tucked aboard are two chemical extinguish-

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untarily getting to the scene of the fire as quickly as possible. Sometimes the curiosity-seekers delay us, and this can mean the difference in saving and losing a house.

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Also tucked aboard are two 20-lb. dry chemical extinguishers, one CO2 extinguisher; drafting hose used for pumping water from wells, lakes, or streams; front and rear-mount search lights, hand lights, axes, 2-way radio, foam nozzles for oil fires. And for the water supply, there is a 750-gallons-per-minute pump, plus a 500-gallon water storage tank.

There is also an older model (1946) but still serviceable fire truck, which carries a 500-gallon pump and a 250-gallon water supply.

Chiefs Hutton and Guthrie consider this one of the finest volunteer departments in the state, but they both agree that their duties could be conducted much more efficiently with just

a little thoughtful consideration on the part local citizens during the crucial times when their services are needed.

"One of the biggest problems we have," they said, "is curious bystanders getting in our way."

They said people who follow the fire truck to a fire often cause traffic hazards and sometimes park their cars where the fire truck is blocked in case it has to be moved.

"The secret," they said, "is getting to the scene of the fire as quickly as possible. Sometimes the curiosity-seekers delay us, and this can mean the difference in saving and losing a house. Those who are not volunteer firemen would do us a big service by not following the fire truck to a fire."

Volunteer firemen are: Asst. Chief Randles Smith, Lt. Charles Lockridge, Lt. Ulma Perry, T. C. Alexander, Bobby Banks, Don Blanton, Bubba Gray, Richard Guthrie, Dee Hyde, James Macon, J. F. Mullins, Don Rich, Nat Riddle, Bill Starnes, Forrest Walls, John Whitten, Perrigin Williams, Littleton Yarbrough, H. G. Fraim, Jr., John Lockridge, Billy Wayne Nixon, Rodney Love, James Patterson, and Millard Graham.

Dr. Horace Clayton is chairman of the City Council's Fire Department Committee, which also includes councilmen Dill Nixon and Wallace Shoemaker.

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# Elkins takes firefighter job

BY KELLY GREEN  
News-Aegis Writer

Traditionally, one does not expect to see a pretty, blonde feminine form decked out in fire fighting gear working along with her male colleagues to extinguish a powerful blaze. But whether you approve or disapprove, the traditional male-female roles are fast fading and the Pell City Fire Department has welcomed the changes with the employment of Sherry Elkins.

She has been with the Pell City Fire Department since November, 1986 and is the first female fire

fighter in St. Clair County.

Elkins said she is enjoying her new career. "It has been very interesting and I am just glad Chief Windsor was open-minded enough to give me a chance," Elkins said.

She is also a licensed paramedic and before coming to the fire department, Elkins was employed with Suburban Ambulance. She has also completed her training for a level one fire fighter and will proceed to the next classification.

During her six weeks of training for the fire fighter one classification, Elkins said, "I learned all the basics. I learned about the trucks,

setting the pumps, how to approach a fire and when to call for help. Everything you need to know starting out."

Because of her prior medical training, Elkins said she feels more comfortable answering medical calls. "I have done more of that. I am more experienced at it," Elkins said.

She added, "Everytime the truck goes off, you don't know what you will be facing. Whether it will be a house fire or woods fire or what."

Elkins, 32, lives in Talladega and is married to Billy Ray Elkins. They have three children: Jonathan,

Putting  
out the fire





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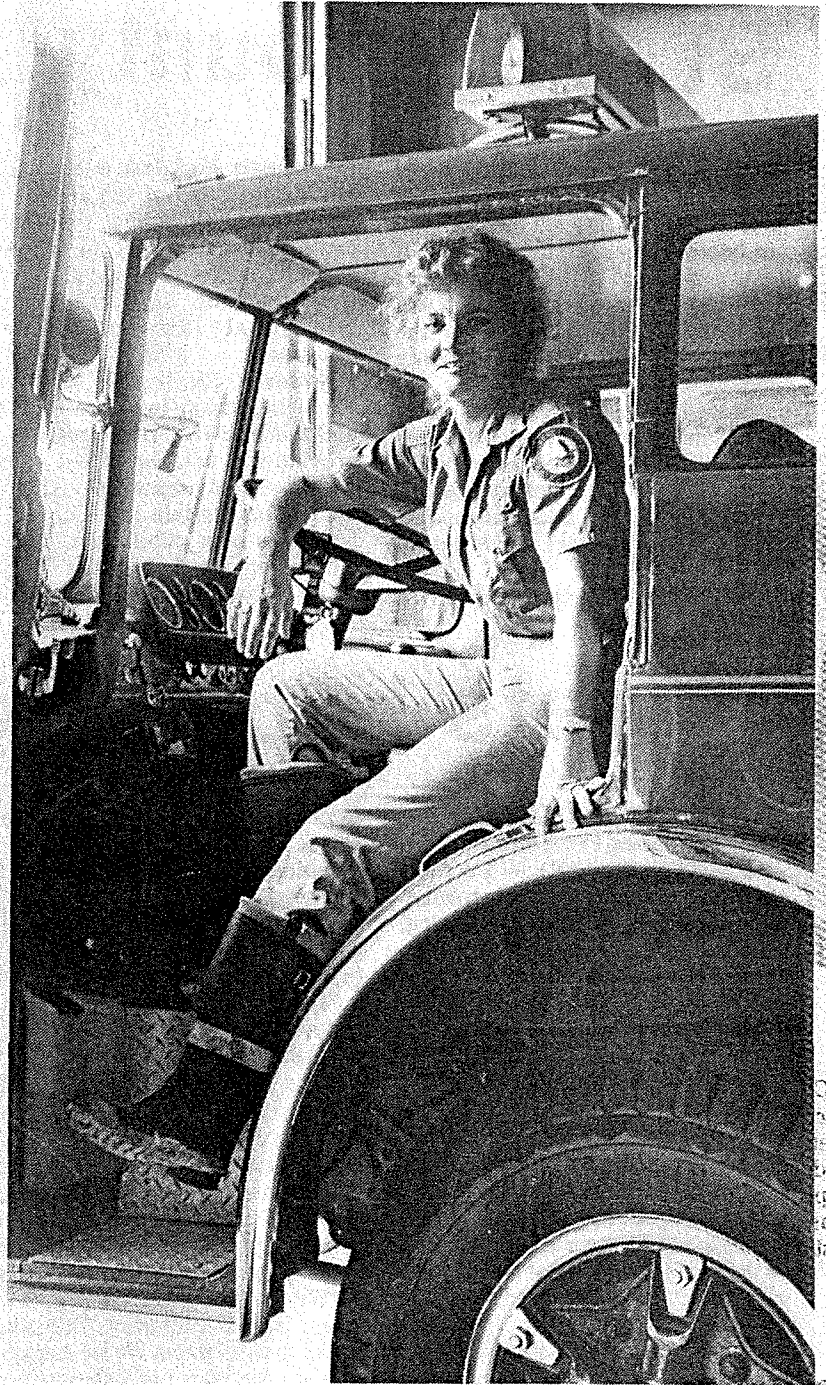
lives in Talladega and Billy Ray Elkins. They children: Jonathan, 11,

Sonny, 5, and Ashley, 20 months. She said her husband has been very supportive of her decision to become a fire fighter.

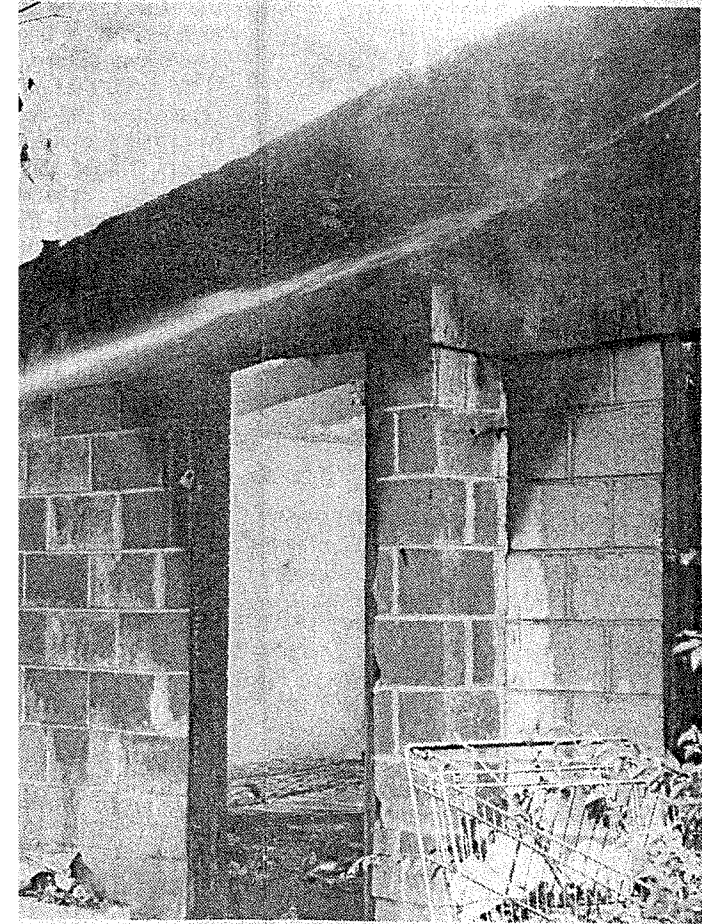
She said the other firemen have treated her well too. Elkins said, "If they see me doing something wrong, then they are willing to help me out. They have been great to work with."

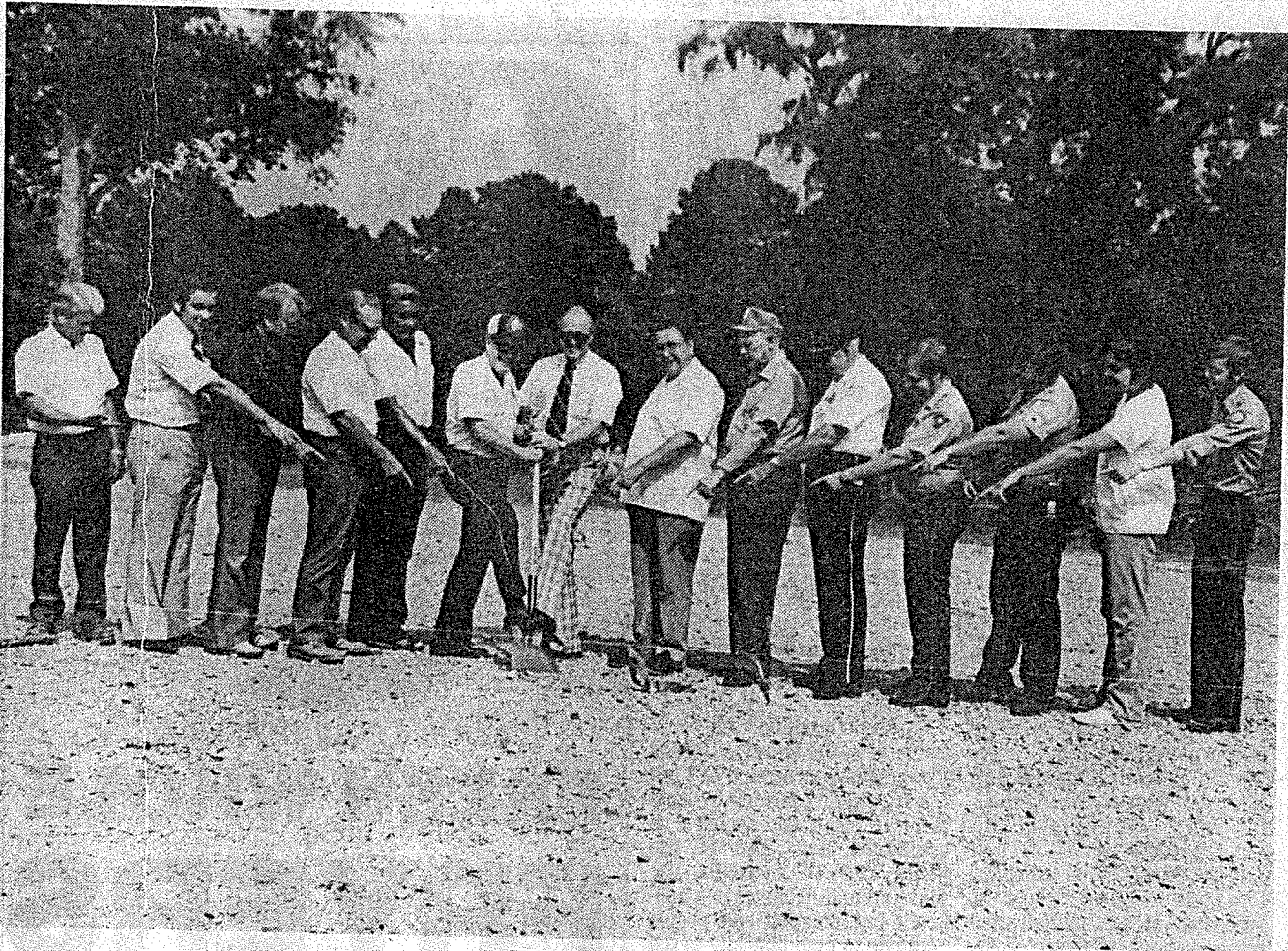
Elkins advice to other women that may be interested in becoming a fire fighter is: "If you feel like you can do it, then go for it."

She added, "Sometimes it is a lot of hard work and a lot of heavy work."



**Elkins often drives engine 2**





## ***Finally Broke***

The much-talked about new Cropwell Fire Station took a step towards reality this week with ground-breaking ceremonies and a large number of folks showed up for the celebration. Pointing out the spot for the new station are, from the left, councilman Forest Walls, councilman Charles Lockridge, councilman Paul Turner,

councilman Bam Cox, councilman Joe Sawyer, fire chief Ben Windsor, mayor Hugh Williamson, contractor Pick Cosper, firefighters R. B. Graham, police chief Ruble Bowlin, firefighters John Wyatt, Terry Glidewell, Morgan Arnold and Steve Harbison. (News-Aegis photo by Bill Bryant)