

THE VILLAGE TRUMPET

A PUBLICATION FROM THE HAZARDVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

WINTER 2012 / VOL. 6 ISSUE 1



IN MEMORY OF JACK FOX



The Hazardville Fire Department (HFD) recently lost a longtime friend, John "Jack" Fox, who passed away at the age of 87. A former resident of Enfield, Jack spent recent years at the The Villages retirement community in Florida.

Jack was a retired schoolteacher, a WWII US Marine Corp Veteran, and an Iwo Jima Survivor. He was also a member of the HFD from 1969 to 1976, serving as Second Engineer from 1971 to 1975. In addition, Jack taught 3rd grade fire safety for six years and was a past member of the Shaker Pines Fire Department. He retired from the HFD and teaching in the early 1990s, at which time he moved to Florida to enjoy the sunshine and warmth.

The HFD was saddened by the loss of Jack and extends its most sincere sympathies to his family.



HAPPY NEW YEAR

The members of Hazardville Fire Department (HFD) extend their best wishes for a wonderful New Year. To help ensure your safety in the year to come, we hope you'll consider adopting the following resolutions:

- If you don't already have one, please make getting a carbon monoxide detector a priority. They are very affordable and can be purchased at virtually any local hardware or department store. If you do have one, be sure it's in working order and has battery back-up. The HFD has received numerous calls as a result of CO detectors going off in homes lately. This small investment could save the lives of you and those you love.
- Make sure your smoke detectors are also in working order, and change the batteries every six months or so. Again, it could make the difference between life and death.
- Check your fire extinguisher and, if necessary, purchase a new one. Familiarize yourself with how it works, and keep it in a place that is easy to access. Stop by the HFD if you need assistance determining what type of extinguisher to purchase.
- This time of year, many people enjoy the warmth of a fire and the glow of candles. Put them out before going to bed. Make sure candles are in stable and secure holders and keep them away from combustible materials and small children.

We want 2012 to be safe and happy for everyone, so please remain alert to the fire dangers that exist in your home. As always, we remain committed to helping to protect this community and look forward to our continued service in the year ahead.

Sincerely,
The Hazardville Fire Commissioners,
Fire Fighters and Volunteers

POWER OUTAGE

Preparedness

The year 2011 will long be remembered for its crazy weather and damaging storms. Hopefully, we all learned some valuable lessons about how to prepare for and function safely during a power outage.

During a power outage – or at any time – carbon monoxide (CO) detectors are critically important for people using alternative heat sources such as a fireplace, kerosene heater or generator. The Town of Enfield distributed CO detectors following the October snowstorm, and they were gone within an hour. If you still do not have a CO detector, please be sure to get one as soon as possible. Smoke and CO detectors, with battery backup, should be located on every floor of your home.

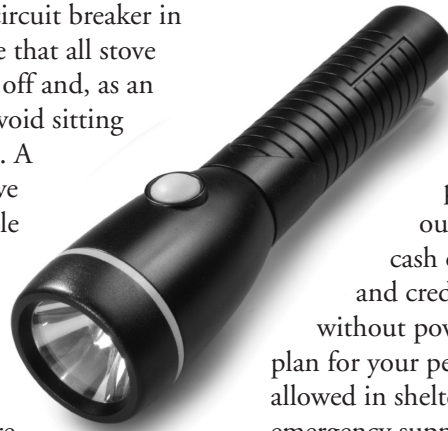
To eliminate fire hazards and danger, strive to keep your home clean and free of clutter. When power is lost, shut off the main circuit breaker in your home. Be sure that all stove burners are turned off and, as an extra precaution, avoid sitting things on the stove. A number of fires have resulted from people putting things like mail and newspapers on their stove during the outage, only to have them catch fire when the power comes back on.

Whenever possible, flashlights or battery operated lanterns should be used instead of candles. Be sure to have

a battery powered radio available so that you can listen for important information. If using kerosene heaters, make sure they are in safe working order, and if using a generator, keep it a safe distance away from your home. Take the time now, while you have power, to familiarize yourself with

where your water shut-off is located.

There are a few other things you can do in advance to help prepare for a power outage. Be sure to have cash on hand, since ATMs and credit cards cannot be used without power. Also, develop a plan for your pets, as they may not be allowed in shelters. Lastly, prepare an emergency supply kit and power outage checklist for your home. Many of us were caught off guard during the October storm, so let's be ready next time!



SPOTLIGHT ON... *New Squad 5 Members*

Recently, the Hazardville Fire Department had the pleasure of welcoming aboard two new Squad 5 members, **Brett Cowhey** and **Cole Magnuson**. Squad 5 is a training program for high school students between the ages of 14 and 18 who are interested in fire service.

Born in Springfield, MA, Brett moved to Enfield at the age 3. He is now a sophomore at Cheney Technical High School, where his favorite subjects are diesel shop and civics. In his free time, Brett enjoys playing paintball and soccer. He has one older sister.

Brett made the decision to become involved with the HFD after doing some research about Squad 5 online. He has been with the department for about a month and enjoys watching the firefighters train and seeing how everything works. He looks forward to completing his training so that he can



Brett Cowhey



Cole Magnuson

ride on the fire truck with the other firefighters.

Cole was born and raised in Enfield and has a twin brother and two sisters. He attends Fermi High School, where his favorite class is wood shop. He is a member of the school's indoor track team and also enjoys playing baseball and basketball for fun. Cole has been a member of Squad 5 for a month and spends Monday evenings training. He says it's "pretty cool" and has really enjoyed the experience so far. He plans

to work with his partner, Brett, once a week and looks forward to future opportunities.

Squad 5 members, like Brett and Cole, participate in weekly drills and training sessions. They are able to attend emergency incidents and perform such duties as fighting grass fire, setting up air bottle change stations and assisting with traffic control. They are also able to pull the lines from the apparatus, hook up hydrants and provide tools, as needed. Although members are not allowed into burning buildings until age 18, Squad 5 offers an excellent opportunity to gain valuable skills and knowledge.

"There's still room on Squad 5 for other interested teens," says HFD Fire Chief Jack Flanagan. "We take this program very seriously, because these kids are the future of our Department."

If you would like more information about Squad 5, please call the HFD at (860) 749-8344.

FIREFIGHTER RESCUE DRILL PROVIDES ESSENTIAL TRAINING

Thanks to Kelly Fradet Lumber, Hazardville Fire Department (HFD) firefighters recently participated in an important drill focused on rescuing fellow firefighters. Kelly Fradet enabled this drill by offering the use of a building slated for demolition.

Firefighter rescue, which involves assisting and/or removing a firefighter from a troubled location or situation in the fireground, is one of the most challenging situations a firefighter encounters. When faced with rescuing a fellow firefighter, factors such as teamwork, communication and focus become very difficult to control.

Depending on circumstances, firefighter rescue may be as simple as guiding the firefighter to the outside or as complicated as extricating the firefighter from a collapse or entanglement, securing his/her air supply with a new source, and

removing him/her from the structure. There are three possible scenarios:

1. Assisting/rescuing a member of their crew;
2. Assisting/rescuing a firefighter encountered during interior operations;
3. Assisting/rescuing a firefighter when performing as part of a rapid intervention.

In any of the above situations, the firefighter(s) performing the rescue must remain calm, communicate effectively, and use teamwork to resolve the situation. This is one of the reasons why continual training is important, as well as having the opportunity to utilize real-life situations such as an actual building for training. Many thanks to Kelly Fradet for making this possible!

THESE BOOTS ARE MADE FOR HELPING...



Searching for an opportunity to make a difference? Consider joining forces with the Hazardville Fire Department (HFD). Becoming a volunteer firefighter is a life-changing experience – not only for you, but for the individuals and families whose lives you will touch along the way.

Volunteer firefighters are trained to work under the direction of company officers to perform rescue, fire extinguishment, ventilation, salvage, overhaul, extrication and medical-aid duties. Some of the specific job functions and responsibilities include responding to emergency calls; gaining knowledge of all tools and equipment in use by the fire department; becoming familiar with the streets and general conditions of the district; actively taking part in the general care and maintenance of the fire station and its equipment; and participating in required training sessions. Duties are outlined more specifically at www.hazardvillefire.org.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer firefighter, please visit us online or call (860) 749-8344. Volunteers enjoy many rewards and incentives, the greatest of which is a sense of belonging to a brotherhood/sisterhood that is unlike anything you have ever known before.



Thanks to Kelly Fradet Lumber, members of the HFD recently participated in a drill to prepare them for the difficult task of rescuing a fellow firefighter.

HFD RESPONDS TO *Storm Alfred*

Back on October 29, Storm Alfred took many Connecticut residents by surprise, but members of the Hazardville Fire Department were ready and waiting to help their community. Firefighters were on duty throughout the storm to ensure the safety of Enfield residents. As you can imagine, they were very busy responding to EMT calls, checking on the accessibility of roads with downed trees, and contacting the power company to report downed wires.

Chief Jack Flanagan commends the Hazardville firefighters and greatly appreciates their commitment during the storm. "These firefighters went above and beyond the call of duty to help their community in time of need," he says. "This was also a

difficult personal time for many of them, as they dealt with their own storm-related damage and lack of heat and power at home."

Many members' families helped out by providing homemade meals and support to the firefighters throughout the disaster. "It was great to come back to the fire station after a call to the aroma of a home-cooked meal," says Jack.

The HFD responded to 250 storm-related calls, including carbon monoxide calls resulting from generators being too close to the home or inside the garage. To put this in perspective, Jack points out that in the course of a normal year, the HFD responds to approximately 700 calls total. "This definitely has not been a typical year," he laughs. Hopefully, 2012 will be a little calmer, but local residents can count on the HFD team, no matter what comes our way.



HAZARDVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

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