

# THE VILLAGE TRUMPET

A PUBLICATION FROM THE HAZARDVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

WINTER 2008 / VOL. 2 ISSUE 2



## IN MEMORY OF LONGTIME FRIEND

The commissioners and members of the Hazardville Fire Department (HFD) were deeply saddened by the passing of Department Historian **Erick Loos, Jr.** in October. Erick's dedicated service to the HFD spanned more than 57 years. He was a member from 1951 to 1972, retiring as deputy chief. He served as historian from 1972 until 2008, during which time he took responsibility for researching and cataloging photos, events and activities



of the entire Department history from 1892 to the present. In addition, Erick served as a fire commissioner following his retirement.

Erick's tireless commitment to the community and to helping others extended beyond the HFD. He also

volunteered his time through the St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Bernard's Church, the Enfield Historical Society, the Enfield Ambulance Committee, Loaves and Fishes and the Enfield Food

Shelf. He was a World War II veteran and an active member of the John Maciolek Post #154 of the American Legion.

In honor and memory of the time Erick dedicated to the HFD, his family recently donated a beautiful statue (shown above), which is now displayed in front of the Department. This statue will serve as an inspiring reminder of a man whose loyalty, kindness and willingness to give of himself touched many lives.



## CAN YOU FILL THESE BOOTS?



The Fire Departments of Enfield, which includes the Hazardville Fire Department, is always in need of courageous men and women to serve as volunteer firefighters. 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.

Duties are outlined more specifically at [www.hazardvillefire.org](http://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.

## CHANGING OF THE HELMETS...

The Hazardville Fire Department (HFD) is pleased to introduce our newest firefighters, **Scott Brown** and **Tony Muniz**, both of whom recently transitioned from the status of "probationary" firefighter to regular firefighter following six months of training in firefighting skills. Among topics covered during this training period are breathing apparatus, hydrant operation, hose evolutions, ladders, hazardous material, safety, location of



Firefighter Scott Brown (left) and Deputy Chief Mark Zarcaro

equipment, power tools operation, hand tools, thermal camera, emergency evacuation and department regulations.

Probationary members of the Fire Department wear helmets with an orange front that states "probationary firefighter."



Firefighter Tony Muniz (right) and Deputy Chief Mark Zarcaro

Exchanging these helmets for official HFD helmets is a momentous occasion that the firefighters look forward to throughout their training. Scott and Tony are shown here as they proudly receive their official HFD helmets from Deputy Chief Mark Zarcaro.

## HOLIDAY GREETINGS

*from the Commissioners*



*The Commissioners of the Hazardville Fire District wish you a safe, happy, healthy holiday season.*

*If our fire service personnel can be of any assistance in providing fire safety information to you or your family, now or in the future, please don't hesitate to call on us.*

*All the best in 2009!*

*Sincerely,  
Philip Edward Thomas  
Tom Kozikowski  
Richard Tkacz*

# Stay **WARM...** and **SAFE!**

*Winter has officially arrived, bringing with it a host of heat-related fire and safety concerns. Before you fire up that wood stove, fireplace or portable space heater, be sure to review the following tips regarding appropriate use and maintenance:*

## **PORTABLE SPACE HEATERS**

- Purchase electric space heaters that bear the mark of an independent testing laboratory, such as UL, ETL, CSA, etc.
- Place space heaters at least three feet away from anything that can burn, including furniture, people, pets and window treatments.
- Turn off space heaters before leaving a room or going to sleep.
- Supervise children and pets at all times when a portable space heater is in use.
- Use kerosene heaters only where permitted by law. Use the recommended grade kerosene and never use an alternative fuel. Kerosene heaters must be fueled outside.
- Never use space heaters to dry clothing or blankets.

## **FIREPLACES AND WOOD STOVES**

- Burn only seasoned hardwood. Items such as trash, cardboard boxes or Christmas trees burn unevenly, may contain toxins, and increase the risk of uncontrolled fires.
- Have a professional chimney sweep inspect chimneys annually for cracks, blockages and leaks and have them cleaned and repaired as needed.
- Keep all persons, pets and flammable objects, including kindling, bedding and clothing, at least three feet away from fireplaces and wood stoves.
- Open flues before fireplaces are used.
- Use sturdy screens or doors to keep embers inside fireplaces.
- Keep young children away to avoid contact burn injuries.



In addition to following the above guidelines, be sure that your home is equipped with a working smoke alarm. It is also important to develop a home escape plan and practice it with your family on a regular basis. For more information about fire safety, please call the Hazardville Fire Department at (860) 749-8344.

## **CARBON MONOXIDE PRECAUTIONS**

According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, carbon monoxide (CO) claims the lives of nearly 300 people in their homes each year. This highly toxic gas is produced by fuel-burning heating equipment, such as furnaces, wood stoves, fireplaces and kerosene heaters. CO is often referred to as the "silent killer," because its colorless, odorless and tasteless nature renders it impossible to detect with human senses. With this in mind, please follow the guidelines below to help ensure the safety of your family:

- Install at least one CO alarm near sleeping areas.
- Have a trained professional inspect, clean and tune-up your home's central heating system and repair leaks or other problems; fireplaces and woodstoves should also be inspected each year and cleaned or repaired as needed.
- Keep gas appliances properly adjusted and serviced.
- Never use an oven or range to heat your home.
- Never use a gas or charcoal grill inside your home or in a closed garage.
- Portable electric generators must be used outside only. Never use them indoors, in a garage, or in any confined area that can allow CO to collect. Carefully follow all directions for usage.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding carbon monoxide, please call the Hazardville Fire Department at (860) 749-8344. We will be happy to assist you.

## **VISIT US ONLINE**

Visit the Hazardville Fire Department online at [www.hazardvillefire.org](http://www.hazardvillefire.org) for information about our many programs and services, an up-to-date listing of events and activities, seasonal fire safety and prevention tips, a complete roster of our members, a glimpse into the rich history of our Department and much more!

## **HAZARDVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

385 Hazard Avenue  
Enfield, CT 06082

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
HARTFORD, CT  
PERMIT NO. 2775