

THE VILLAGE TRUMPET

A PUBLICATION FROM THE HAZARDVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

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CAN YOU FILL THESE BOOTS?



With 33.8 square miles and more than 45,000 residents to protect, 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. We invite you to join forces with us for 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. Duties are outlined more specifically at www.hazardvillefire.org. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer firefighter, please visit us online for more information and an application 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.

OPENING THE LINES OF COMMUNICATION

Public Meeting Provides Opportunity for Discussion and Resolution

On August 12, 2013, voters of the Hazardville Fire District (HFD) gathered at Enrico Fermi High School for a special meeting to discuss and vote upon articles that were presented but not put to vote at the HFD's Annual Meeting in May of this year. Fire Commissioner Rich Tkacz opened the meeting. Mayor Scott Kaupin was elected to serve as moderator, while Firefighter Patrick Martin was elected clerk. Residents had an opportunity to ask questions, many of which pertained to the HFD budget. Tkacz and fellow Fire Commissioner Tom Kozikowski responded to their inquiries. The vote, which took place following discussion, resulted in all articles being adopted.

"We are appreciative that so many people took the time to attend this important meeting and learn more about the needs of our fire district," says Tkacz. "Looking ahead, the HFD Commissioners welcome bi-partisan, open communication with taxpayers as

we work toward improving response times and decreasing damages resulting from fire."

During the meeting, Tkacz and Kozikowski told residents that they will be sure to provide a clearer line item breakdown on future budgets. Residents also asked for a comparison budget between the proposed budget and actual budget each year. To ensure everyone has access to current information, the Commissioners vowed to post minutes from future monthly meetings on the District website, which is in the process of being created.

In response to these changes, Kozikowski says, "there is a new breed of taxpayer out there. They want to be more involved, and that's just good practice."

The budget presented for the fiscal year July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014 has a mill rate of 2.1 and a total expected revenue of \$1,234,401, reflecting a zero increase over last year's mill rate.

CONGRATULATIONS *are in Order*

As a testimony to their hard work and dedication, six members of the Hazardville Fire Department recently achieved new degrees and certifications. A hearty congratulations to the following:

Firefighter Adam Krajewski

Bachelor of Fire Science from
Anne Maria College

Firefighter Adam Borawski

Fire Fighter 1 Certification

Firefighter Tom Carriere

Fire Fighter 1 Certification

Firefighter Sean Clifford

Rescue Tech. Core Class

Firefighter James Hubbard

Rescue Tech. Core Class

Lieutenant Ryan Cunningham

Health and Safety Certificate

BEST WISHES TO *Tom Moriarity*



Firefighter Tom Moriarity has retired from the Hazardville Fire Department.

After 41 years of dedicated service, Firefighter Tom Moriarity has retired from the Hazardville Fire Department. "Tom shared so much of himself with this Department," says Chief Jack Flanagan, "it will be very difficult, if not impossible, to fill his boots."

Tom joined the Department as a Squad 5 member back in 1971 and graduated to the role of firefighter a year later. In the years hence, he has filled many roles, including lieutenant (1976-1982), captain (1982-1990), assistant chief (1990-1992), and deputy chief (1992-2003). He returned to the role of firefighter in 1993 and has served in this capacity ever since.

During his tenure with the HFD, Tom served on the Ways & Means Committee in 1975, 1976 and 1978; was honored as Fireman of the Year in 1979; was awarded the Medal of Gallantry in 1999; and received the Company Comp Award in 1980 and 1984.

Members of the HFD are grateful to have benefited from Tom's support and expertise for so many years and wish him all the best in his retirement.

FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

At Hazardville Fire Department's (HFD) recent Annual Banquet, **Jim Hubbard** was honored as Firefighter of the Year. Jim, who also serves as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) joined the HFD in June 2007. He works under the direction of a company officer to perform rescue, fire extinguishment, ventilation, salvage, overhaul, extrication, medical aid and mutual aid to surrounding districts.

"We chose Jim to receive this honor because he exemplifies the type of individual that makes a great firefighter," says HFD Fire Chief Jack Flanagan. "Not only does he attend all of the training classes and report to calls whenever possible, but he has a great, positive attitude. He works well with fellow members and the public."



Jim Hubbard was honored as Firefighter of the Year.

Members of the HFD extend their congratulations to Jim on this important honor and thank him for his many contributions to the Department.

ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT *a Success*

A good time was had by all at the Hazardville Fire Department's (HFD) Annual Golf Tournament, held June 8, 2013, at the St. Anne Country Club in Feeding Hills, MA. A total of 56 golfers turned out to enjoy 18-holes of golf, while additional guests participated in the evening banquet, featuring a delicious prime rib dinner. The event, organized by Lt. Alex Martin, netted \$1,691. This would not have been possible without the support of the following sponsors:

Jason Carlton and Alex Martin enjoying the day.



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Good Friday, Bad Golf
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Many thanks to each of these generous sponsors, as well as to the event participants. We hope to see you all on the greens again next year!

Tips to Help You

“WEATHER THE STORM” SAFELY

Summer got off to a stormy start this year. With the high levels of heat and humidity in July, it seemed that hardly a day passed without the threat of severe weather. Now, with several weeks of summer still remaining and hurricane season upon us, it's important that we all keep an eye to the sky and pay attention to weather warnings as they are issued.

Lightening, high winds and heavy rain can cause many safety hazards, including the threat of fire. The safety tips below, offered by the United States Fire Administration, will help you learn to identify potential hazards and reduce your risk of fire during or after a summer storm:

Electrical Safety

- If your home has sustained water damage and you can safely get to the main breaker or fuse box, turn off the power.
- Assume all wires on the ground are electrically charged, including cable TV feeds.
- Avoid down utility lines and report downed or damaged power lines to the utility company or emergency services.
- Remove standing water, wet carpets and furnishings. Air dry your home with good ventilation before restoring power.
- Have a licensed electrician check your home for damage.

Gas Safety

- Smell and listen for leaky gas connections. If you believe there is a leak, leave the house immediately and leave the doors open.
- Never strike a match. Any size flame can spark an explosion.

- Before turning the gas back on, have the gas system checked by a professional.

Generator Safety

- Follow the manufacturer's instructions and guidelines when using generators.
- Use a generator or other fuel-powered machines outside the home. CO fumes are odorless and can quickly overwhelm you indoors.
- Use the appropriate size and type of power cords to carry the electric load. Overloaded cords can overheat and cause fires.
- Never run cords under rugs or carpets where heat might build up or damage to a cord may go unnoticed.
- Never connect generators to another power source such as power lines. The reverse flow of electricity or 'backfeed' can electrocute an unsuspecting utility worker.

Before the next storm strikes, make sure your home is equipped with working flashlights to be used for emergency lighting. Also take a few moments to test your fire alarms and, if you haven't done so within the last six months, install fresh batteries. If you would like more information about summer storm safety, please call the Hazardville Fire Department at **(860) 749-8344**.



YOUTH FIRESSETTER PROGRAM: Preventing Tragedy from the Misuse of Fire

In an effort to prevent tragedies resulting from the misuse of fire by children, adolescents and teens, the Fire Departments of Enfield, under the direction of John Alexander, have been offering the Enfield Youth Firesetter Program for the past 20 years. This program was established to educate youth and their families about issues pertaining to the misuse of fire and the dangers of intentionally setting fires.

The Youth Firesetter Program includes an assessment designed to identify those who may be at risk for the misuse of fire and to gauge level of knowledge regarding fire safety and fire survival. It also brings together fire service, mental health and youth services professionals to provide positive role models and to assist at-risk youth and their families.

Youth can be referred to the Youth Firesetter Program by concerned parents, caregivers, fire officials, fire marshals, teachers and/or law enforcement officials. Participation can be voluntary, but in some cases, it may be a requirement of the Juvenile Review Board or Juvenile Court.

If you are concerned that your child has an unhealthy interest in fire, it is important that you address this issue right away, before a tragedy occurs. For more information, please call the Enfield Fire Department at **860-745-1878**.

HAZARDVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

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MISSION STATEMENT

Hazardville Fire Department is committed to providing a superior emergency service organization, which continually improves the quality of service delivered to our customers, the citizens of Hazardville.

**FIREFIGHTERS BENEFIT FROM
HANDS-ON TRAINING**

In an effort to maintain the skills of its firefighters and ensure compliance with all of the most current firefighting practices, the Fire Departments of Enfield provide frequent drills and training sessions. These include

OSHA-required sessions, as well as experimental labs that provide members with a hands-on opportunity to explore new techniques and tactics. Below are some photos of firefighters in action during recent drills:



Firefighters brush up on auto extrication skills.



Firefighter Scott Tingley (in water) practices swift water rescue in the Scantic river.