

THE VILLAGE TRUMPET

A PUBLICATION FROM THE HAZARDVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

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HONORING A HERO



Captain Jamie Hurley

On the morning of December 4, 2013, the crew of Hazardville Fire Department's (HFD) truck 31, among them **Captain Jamie Hurley**, was called to provide mutual aid during a building fire in Somersville. At the time of their arrival, the first Somers officer confirmed a working fire in a two-story, wood-frame building, with possible entrapment of one unaccounted for female occupant. Within three minutes of this report, the HFD firefighting team sprang into action, doing exactly what they do best.

Without hesitation, Captain Hurley entered the building with the sole intent of finding the missing woman. He quickly found her on the second floor and, with the help of Somers Firefighter Ray Stoval, removed her to safety and initiated immediate medical assistance.

As a tribute to Captain Hurley for his heroic actions, the HFD recently presented him with the coveted Life Saving Award. At a gathering held in Hurley's honor, Captain Jack Flanagan commented, "It is my belief that this woman is alive today because of Captain Hurley's aggressive search, his dedication to training, and his focused interest in always enhancing his trade."

Congratulations to Captain Jamie Hurley on this most well-deserved honor!

A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE COMMISSIONERS

It's hard to believe, but another year has passed. Our annual budget process has begun, and at this time, we are anticipating an unavoidable increase in our operating expenses.

As many of you will understand, costs continue to rise for insurance, utilities, fuel, and replacement equipment. Despite our best efforts to keep such expenses in check, our preliminary review indicates that the mill rate will be rising slightly from 2.2 to 2.4. This is unfortunate, as we have successfully managed to avoid an increase in our mill rate for over five years. In addition to this small increase, we are also exploring the possibility of utilizing a portion of the Capital Reserve Fund to supplement the expected income level and help balance the budget.

We, as your commissioners, remain steadfast in our dedication to

protecting our taxpayers and to providing support to the other departments within our town. We are proud of our firefighters and emergency medical technicians, and we thank them for their ongoing commitment to the Department, as well as their continued training. As always, the mission of the Hazardville Fire Department (HFD) is to provide the best, most reliable and professional service to you. We encourage you to visit our new website at www.hazardvillefiredistrict.com for additional information and updates. You are also welcome to join us at the HFD's upcoming Annual Meeting on Monday, May 19, 2014.

Sincerely,
Fred Macsata
Tom Kozikowski
Richard Tkacz

THANKS TO OUR COMMUNITY HELPERS

Many thanks to those local residents who diligently worked to keep our district's fire hydrants clear and accessible throughout an especially difficult winter season. With so many snowy, icy, bitter cold days, your efforts to help ensure the safety of your community are commendable and much appreciated!

While snow-covered hydrants are the primary concern during winter, an overgrowth of grass and weeds can also make hydrants difficult to see and access. Please keep this in mind year round. Those who are homebound, disabled, elderly or unable to clear their hydrant for any reason are urged to call the Hazardville Fire Department at **(860) 749-8344**. We will send someone out to clear the hydrant for you.



BBQ SAFETY 101



With spring upon us, many of you are breaking free from the confines of your kitchens and enjoying some outdoor cooking. To ensure a safe season, bear in mind the following tips each and every time you ignite your grill:

- Keep it away from combustibles, including your home, car, flowers, trees and shrubs, weeds, grass and anything else that could potentially burn.
- Regardless of whether you are using gas or charcoal, stay with the grill while it is lit.
- When using charcoal, NEVER start the fire with gasoline.
- Gas cylinders should be stored outside, away from any structure.

For additional tips or safety measures, please call the Hazardville Fire Department at **(860) 749-8344**. If you have an old propane cylinder to dispose of, you can drop it off at the station Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

SPOTLIGHT ON...

Owen Jarmoc

Owen Jarmoc's passion for firefighting runs deep. Four years ago, at the young age of 14, he joined the Hazardville Fire Department's (HFD) Squad 5 as a means of serving his community. In doing so, he also carried on a family tradition. His great-grandfather, Owen Joseph Coyne, for whom he was named, had been a fireman in the Scollay Square district of Boston.

Recently, Jarmoc completed his Squad 5 tenure, and he is now in training to become a full-fledged firefighter. As such, he will be able to respond to all fire and EMT-related situations. Due to his passion and dedication, Jarmoc's transition will be relatively short. He achieved his EMT certification two years ago and is now taking advanced EMT courses.

In addition to firefighting, Jarmoc enjoys lacrosse and farming. This fall, he'll be heading to college to study business. He plans to continue volunteering his time with the Department on weekends and school breaks. Asked what he enjoys most about his involvement with the HFD, Jarmoc says it's the sense of camaraderie amongst firefighters.

Adam Borawski

Adam Borawski joined Squad 5 in 2009, at the age of 16. His interest had been sparked by visits to the HFD during open houses, and he also had friends who were already involved and encouraged him to join. He graduated to the role of firefighter in 2012 and recently earned his EMT certification.

While Borawski is now a busy junior at Western New England College, studying Criminal Justice, he still manages to find time for the HFD. In fact, he can be found at the fire house approximately 25 hours a week. He enjoys "hanging with the guys" and doing his part to serve the community. He plans to continue as a firefighter



Owen Jarmoc, Firefighter, Hazardville Fire Department.



Adam Borawski, Firefighter, Hazardville Fire Department.

when he graduates from college.

Among Borawski's other hobbies are golf, hockey and spending time with his German shepherd puppy. He is a lifelong resident of Enfield.

Both Owen and Adam began their involvement with the HFD through Squad 5, a fire-training program for Enfield teens. Through this program, students participate in hands-on learning activities aimed at helping them acquire some of the skills associated with being a firefighter. Following high school graduation, Squad 5 students are eligible to become full members of their local fire departments, with no restrictions. If you would like more information about Squad 5, please visit us online at www.hazardvillefire.org or call (860) 749-8344.

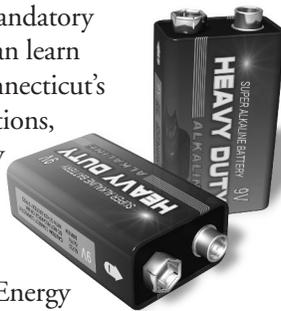
KNOW THE HIDDEN DANGERS: 9-VOLT BATTERIES

Assuming your home is equipped with smoke alarms, as it should be, you likely have spare 9-volt batteries sitting in a drawer somewhere. You may also use 9-volt batteries in your children's toys or other household items. As useful and essential as these batteries may be, did you know that they can actually be a fire hazard if not stored and disposed of properly? The reason is that the positive and negative posts on a 9-volt battery are very close together. If a metal object touches the two posts, it can cause a short circuit that can make enough heat to start a fire. Below are a few tips from the National Fire Protection Association to help ensure that 9-volt batteries – the very item used to power lifesaving devices like smoke alarms – don't pose a threat to your home and family:

- Keep batteries someplace safe where they won't be tossed around.
- Never store 9-volt batteries loose in a drawer near paper clips, coins, pens, or other batteries. Do not store common household items such as steel wool, aluminum foil, and keys near 9-volt batteries.
- Keep batteries in original packaging until you are ready to use them. If loose, keep the posts covered with masking, duct, or electrical tape.

- Store batteries standing up.
- Do not store 9-volt batteries in containers with other batteries.
- Do not throw 9-volt batteries away with trash. They can come in contact with other batteries or pieces of metal. Even weak batteries may have enough charge to cause a fire.
- 9-volt batteries can be taken to a collection site for household hazardous waste.
- To be safe, cover the positive and negative posts with masking, duct, or electrical tape before getting rid of batteries.

Some states do not allow batteries to be disposed of with trash. In Connecticut, certain types of batteries are subject to mandatory recycling. You can learn more about Connecticut's rules and regulations, as well as battery recycling programs, by visiting the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection website at www.ct.gov/deep.



CAN YOU FILL THESE BOOTS?



The Hazardville Fire Department relies on the support of volunteers to help ensure the safety of our community. Please consider joining forces with us by becoming a volunteer firefighter. It's 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.

GOLF TOURNEY COMING SOON...

Watch for details on the Hazardville Fire Department's (HFD) **22nd Annual Golf Tournament**, featuring 18 holes of golf and dinner. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Jarmoc Memorial Scholarship. For more information, please call **Patrick Martin** at **(860) 614-5506**.



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.

**HFD OFFERS PRE-SCHOOL
FIRE SAFETY CLASS**

It's never too early to educate children on basic fire safety skills and prepare them for how they should respond in the event of a real fire. To this end, members of the Hazardville Fire Department offer a Pre-School Fire and Life Safety Class at four local day care programs, including Hazardville Day Care, Hazardville Memorial School, Luther Church and Here We Grow.

The Pre-School Fire and Life Safety Class consists of four different lessons. The first, entitled "My Friend the Firefighter," is intended to increase children's familiarity with firefighters so they will not be afraid in the event of an emergency. This is important, as many children are scared the first time they see a firefighter in full gear. Learning more about what firefighters wear and why each part of their gear is important helps put them at ease. The second topic addressed is "Safe for Play, Keep Away," which emphasizes that matches and lighters are tools that only adults should use and should never be used for play. The final two lessons, "Crawl Low Under Smoke" and "Stop, Drop and Roll," are both aimed at keeping children safe during an actual fire.

Following the final lesson at each facility, all participating children receive a graduation certificate and gift from the firefighters.



Thanks to program offered by the Hazardville Fire Department, children at local day care facilities learn that firefighters are their friends