



A publication of the Huntington Fire District

HUNTINGTON

FIRE DISTRICT NEWS

Serving the Huntington Community Since 1843

Volume 4, Number 2, Fall 2013

COMMISSIONERS' CORNER

In past newsletters the Board of Fire Commissioners discussed the physical plant needs of the Leverich Place headquarters building constructed in 1958. Volume 3 Number 1 revealed the repairs, renovations and modernization required to meet today's firematic standards. Subsequent newsletters established costs, and the sale of bonds proved to be the only feasible funding avenue. On December 10, 2012, residents of the Huntington Fire District voted to approve the bond issue.

Keeping Promises:

During our October 2012 presentation on the need to issue bonds, the Board promised to keep residents abreast of progress. In this issue we're pleased to include photos that show the progress being made on the Main Headquarters and the Annex.

Headquarters:

At Headquarters, the footing, floors and block walls have been completed on the front of the building. This will dramatically increase the size and capacity of the Dispatcher's office (first floor), the Department Chief's office (second floor) and the rear of the building as well. The rear area, which is one story, will house the training and physical fitness area. It will also have dedicated space for a larger District Manager's office, shower area and the sleeping quarters needed for standbys.

Annex:

Across the street at the annex, the footing and block wall have been completed on the East and West ends. These additions will give the Fire Department a dedicated training area and provide much needed Fire District storage space.

We will keep you posted on all progress.



Making It Happen: Building Progress Report

If you see dust clouds in the area of Leverich Place, rest assured it's not a tornado! It's the new firehouse under construction. There hasn't been so much building activity at 1 Leverich Place since...well, since the headquarters was constructed in 1958! Thanks to the Huntington community's positive vote on our bond issue, renovations and additions are underway...and they're right on schedule.

In late August the shovels broke ground, and the new site preparation began. One key objective was to get all additions constructed and closed in before the winter weather arrives.

The foundations for the dispatcher's area, shop and training facility were poured and back filled. Next came the masons, and the block and brick walls began to take

shape. In fact, they may be complete by the time you read this publication. In the interior, electricians are busy running conduit throughout for all electrical upgrades, and soon a new generator will be installed.

All trades are on schedule with their work.
- Bruce Smith, District Manager



Leverich Place construction continues at a steady pace.



Building the future today.



Getting Involved 2013

NEW MEMBERS

Our annual recruitment drive was a success once again! In 2013 the Huntington Fire Department grew by six members. We are also in the process of interviewing two additional applicants. However, we are always in need of additional volunteer members, so please contact us if you would like to serve your community. We'll give you a tour of the new and expanding firehouse and answer any questions you might have.

Each year becomes more difficult to attract new members. Training requirements continue to increase, call volumes rise and young people relocate elsewhere due to the high cost of living on Long Island.

Why not find out if you have what it takes to be a part of this special organization and serve your community? Come in and fill out an application. We need you. Join us and give back to your community. Become a proud member of the Huntington Fire Department. Call us at 631-427-3030.

Robert Berry

1st Assistant Chief
Recruitment and
Retention Coordinator



From The Chief



As 2013 comes to a close, so does my term as Chief of the Huntington Fire Department.

As I take time to reflect on my term, I can say the Huntington Fire Department has been through a lot. Our members have had many hours of mandated training and numerous emergency calls. They have been there for everything the community has asked of them, including our biggest challenge, Super Storm Sandy. Many members were at the firehouse for 36 hours straight, leaving their families and homes to take care of the community needs first and foremost.

The Huntington Fire Department has been in existence for 170 years, and I am proud to have served my community and to be a part of Huntington's history.

The opportunity to run the daily operations for the entire fire department was both a major

commitment and also a great experience. My time as Chief has been a most exhilarating experience that now will be turned over to Chief Robert Berry, who will no doubt do a great job. Deputy Chiefs Jesse Cukro and Robert Conroy will assist Chief Berry in every aspect along the way. Having these Chiefs in place enables me to step down with a feeling of great confidence.

Everything we do as a fire department has our community's best interest at heart. To my fellow members, thank you for my best years in the Huntington Fire Department. It was an honor to

have served as your Chief.

**The Huntington Fire
Department Chief's
Office**
Chief Kenneth
Cochrane





Back in the day circa 1958.



RECOGNIZING THE HEROISM IN OUR RANKS SUFFOLK COUNTY FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

As a result of his bravery on the job, Chief Ken Cochrane was voted Suffolk County Fireman of the Year.

On June 15, 2012, at 8:55 p.m. the Huntington Fire Department responded to a reported structure fire at the Nathan Hale Apartment Complex, located at 44 Nathan Hale Drive in Huntington.

A neighbor advised Chief Cochrane of an occupant inside the affected first floor apartment. Within seconds of arrival, Suffolk County Police officer Joseph Lanzisera entered the apartment through a living room window and met Chief Ken Cochrane and Assistant Chief Bob Berry who had gained entry through the front door. None of those entering the apartment were wearing their Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA's) or protective gear at the time of entry.

Chief Cochrane and Officer Lanzisera were forced to pass the fire through a hallway and quickly located

the victim, an 84 year-old disabled woman. The men carried her out of her bedroom to safety while Assistant Chief Berry suppressed the fire with a water can before the first Engine arrived on the scene.

Though a relatively small blaze, both Chief Cochrane and Officer Lanzisera were confronted with very heavy toxic smoke due to burning plastics and carpeting.

The victim was found covered in black soot and sustained 2nd degree burns to her head, face and hair as well as smoke inhalation. Both the victim and Officer Lanzisera were taken by ambulance to Huntington Hospital for sustained injuries and smoke inhalation.

After more than a month in the hospital, the victim has fully recovered from her injuries and is back home. Without Chief Cochrane's quick, heroic actions, the outcome of this incident would have been much different.



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Join Us And Support Toys For Tots

Please join us, along with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, and donate an unwrapped Christmas gift this year. The Toys for Tots program shows needy youngsters that somebody cares about them, in keeping with the goal of motivating them to become responsible and patriotic citizens.

All unwrapped gifts will be distributed to children and families in Nassau and Suffolk. In 2012 we collected some 1,900 toys at the Leverich Place Firehouse. Let's set a new record for the 2013 holiday season!

The Huntington Fire Department is proud to support Toys For Tots for the 10th consecutive year!

Please Support The Huntington Food Pantry

The holiday season is upon us once again, and there are more needy families in our community than ever. Let's pull together as a community and meet the increased need. In 2012 the HFD helped needy families and individuals with more than 600 pounds of food. Let's set a new record and help those who are less fortunate.

Please drop off food donations at the Leverich Place Firehouse. There is someone there at all times.



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