



A publication of the Huntington Fire District

HUNTINGTON

FIRE DISTRICT NEWS

Serving the Huntington Community Since 1843

Volume 9 Number 1 | Spring 2018

COMMISSIONERS' CORNER

This Commissioners' Corner recognizes a milestone, our 175-year anniversary, and is dedicated to the silent majority, the many whose names are unknown and lost to the ages.

This is the time we should reflect on the dedication that began so many years ago in someone's barn. It rose out of the concept of neighbor helping neighbor in the event of a fire or other community needs, and centered on ensuring that those neighbors would be there to lend a helping hand.

It was the time when the legacies of George Washington and Benjamin Franklin were still foremost in the public's mind, a time when all you could count on was oneself or one's neighbor. It was a time of grit, tenacity and the determination to protect one's own community and make it safe.

Today, we as a community are grateful for all those in the nameless silent majority, the unknown ones who came before us. However, their names will live permanently in the rolls of the Huntington Fire Department as part of its rich and vibrant 175-year history with so many more to come.

Sincerely,
Andy Kitzen
Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners



Our 175TH Anniversary Celebration

Putting 175 candles on a cake might constitute a fire hazard...so you won't see that...but there's so much more to see as the Huntington Fire Department celebrates its 175th anniversary with a parade and celebration on Saturday July 28, 2018.

Beginning at Town Hall on Main Street at 4:00 PM, and ending at Fire Headquarters on Leverich Place, all are invited. Refreshments will be available to the community at HQ courtesy of the Huntington Fire Department. The parade will feature Huntington

firefighters and EMS members plus personnel from various fire departments and rescue squads from the Town of Huntington.

In addition to the modern day fire apparatus, come see the antique trucks and equipment. Some date from the 1920s and 1930s, including Huntington Fire Department's original hand drawn pumper. All Huntington community residents are invited to participate in this very special event. Watch for additional details as the date gets closer.



1843 was a long time ago.

- The USA was 56 years old
- John Tyler was President
- 26 states in Union
- Texas was an independent republic
- Abraham Lincoln was 34, U.S. Grant was 21, Teddy Roosevelt wasn't born, and...
- The first 1st Huntington Fire Brigade was formed, complete with leather buckets and hand pumps!



Gregory Hallinan

Celebrating 60!

Gregory Hallinan has achieved a rare feat...60 years of service to the Huntington community, a career that began when Dwight D. Eisenhower was President of the USA. In fact, The Huntington Fire Department was still at the old Main Street facility at the time because the current Leverich Place HQ was under construction. Gregory joined the HFD at age 18 on May 14, 1958.

Gregory wasn't the first Hallinan to serve Huntington. He followed in the footsteps of his father who signed on in 1919. As an HFD member, Gregory served with the fire police and was a

lieutenant in the Hook & Ladder Co. Still as active as he can be, he regularly attends company and department meetings. Aside from fire service, he drove buses and trucks all over Long Island and finally retired from H.A.R.T in 2007. A lifelong Huntington resident, Gregory and his wife Pauline raised three children here.

Gregory Hallinan, we salute you for your 60 years of service to the Huntington Fire Department and to our wonderful community.



Looking Back. Our 150th Anniversary



"If Prometheus was worthy of the wrath of heaven for kindling the first fire upon earth, how ought all the gods to honor the men who make it their professional business to put it out?"

-John Godfrey Saxe, *American poet, 1816-1877*



Chief's Corner



Hello Neighbors,

It's a tremendous honor to serve as Chief of the Huntington Fire

Department, especially in 2018 as we celebrate 175 years of volunteer service to the community with a commemorative parade through Huntington Village on July 28th, 2018. Please join us.

Trained To Meet Danger:

While Firefighting equipment and technology continually improve, the danger never goes away. Consequently, much is required of the Huntington Fire Department Chiefs, officers and firefighters.

We spend countless hours training to meet the qualifications required to provide protection to residents and businesses. As a probationary firefighter, members must participate in extensive training courses at the Suffolk County Fire Academy in Yaphank. These courses enable firefighters to become accredited in Suffolk County and most importantly, to emerge as well-trained firefighters.

At all times and in all kinds of weather, HFD firefighters are called upon to assist in many different capacities, from structure fires and brush fires, to vehicle extrication and carbon monoxide emergencies, naming just a few. Our professional members come from all walks of life and volunteer their time with pride and utmost dedication. As Chief of Department I am proud to lead these devoted members of the Huntington Fire Department alongside Assistant Chief Brian Keane, 2nd Assistant Chief Scott Dodge and our newest addition, 3rd Assistant Chief Sean Schwier.

A Heartfelt Thank You:

In closing I would like to recognize Ex-Chief Jesse Cukro for all he has accomplished. I express the Department's heartfelt appreciation, and I am personally proud to have served our community and the Huntington Fire Department alongside Jesse.

Yours truly,

Rob Conroy

Chief of the

Huntington Fire Department



3rd Deputy Chief

If the name Schwier sounds familiar, it is probably because new 3rd Deputy Chief Sean Schwier is a fourth generation HFD member, following in the footsteps of father Cliff Schwier Jr., grandfather Cliff Sr., and great grandfather John. (John was a member from 1918-1976, and his brother, Henry Schwier, Sean's great-uncle, was a member from 1913-1984).

Sean joined the Protection Hook and Ladder Company in 2005. In 2012 he was elected 2nd Lieutenant of the Protection Hook and Ladder Company, followed by two years as 1st Lieutenant, then as Captain in 2016. In 2018 Sean was elected to the position of 3rd Deputy Chief. Congratulations Chief!

Sean Schwier
3rd Deputy Chief



Edmund M. Erickson
Fire Commissioner

Election results.

In the December 2017 election, Edmund M. Erickson was re-elected to the Huntington Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners. Ed began the new five-year term, effective January 1, 2018. Commissioner Erickson is a 52-year member of the Engine Company and also serves as Treasurer for both the Engine Co. and the Fire Department.

HUNTINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS



Chief of Department
Robert Conroy



Assistant Chief
Brian Keane



2nd Deputy Chief
Scott Dodge



3rd Deputy Chief
Sean Schwier



Treasurer
Edmund M. Erickson



Financial Secretary
Neil Getter



Chaplin
Richard Fernandez



Asst. Chaplin
Paul Smith

PROTECTION ENGINE COMPANY



Captain
Adam Smitman



1st Lieutenant
Jesse Kitzen



2nd Lieutenant
Ryan Doyle



Treasurer
Edmund M. Erickson



Secretary
Andrew Kitzen

PROTECTION HOOK & LADDER COMPANY



Captain
John Mohlenhoff



1st Lieutenant
Chris Amendolare



2nd Lieutenant
Michael Plant



Treasurer
Fred Buckholtz



Secretary
Walter Tillotson

PROTECTION HOSE COMPANY



Captain
Justin Bodnar



1st Lieutenant
Matt Getter



2nd Lieutenant
Jason Sandvik



Treasurer
George Bodnar



Secretary
Jason Sandvik

HUNTINGTON

FIRE DISTRICT NEWS

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Board of Fire Commissioners

Chairman: Andrew Kitzen
Vice Chairman: Andre Sorrentino, Jr.
Thomas Brown
Thomas Collins
Edmund M. Erickson

District Manager: Bruce Smith

Treasurer: Fred J. Buckholtz, Jr.

Deputy Treasurer: Joyce Logan

Fire District Secretary: Karla Wright

Account Clerk: Marie Caputo

District Counsel: Joseph Frank

Questions or Comments? Email us at hfd230@gmail.com



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Ya'll come down and stomp up a storm!

They're often called shindigs, hootenannys, jamborees or barn dances...but at the Huntington Fire Department we call our line dancing party with a live country band a Hoedown!

It's our 7th annual Hoedown, and each one has gotten bigger and better, with great barbecue, beer and wine, a Chinese auction and a 50/50 raffle! This year you can dance to the sounds of Jake's Rockin' Country Band as they play rocking country, bluegrass, Southern rock, Cajun, Zydeco & New Orleans sounds. They cover hits by Garth Brooks, Carrie Underwood, Patsy Cline, Lady Antebellum, Rascal Flatts, Dolly Parton, Tammy Wynette, Taylor Swift, and Keith Urban to name a few.



WHEN: June 30, 2018

TIME: 6:00 - 11:00 PM rain or shine

WHERE: Fire Headquarters, Leverich Place

TICKETS: \$35 presale, \$40 at the door.

Can be purchased from Huntington

Fire Department members or from

brownpapertickets.com