



A publication of the Huntington Fire District

# HUNTINGTON

## FIRE DISTRICT NEWS

Serving the Huntington Community Since 1843

Volume 9 Number 2 | Fall 2018

# CELEBRATING 175 YEARS

**PARADE 4:00 PM** **FAIR 5:00 PM**

**HUNTINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**1843 175<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY 2018**

**OPEN TO THE WHOLE COMMUNITY  
FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY**

**WHEN: JULY 28 2018** **WHERE: FIREHOUSE 1 LEVERICH PL. HUNTINGTON, NY**

Long Island News



## Of Service Our 175th Anniversary Parade had it all!

**T**he Huntington Fire Department's 175th anniversary celebration won't be soon forgotten. It was a day for all ages with fun and festivities, live music, great history and a ton of civic pride. An outstanding parade through the village capped the event. And judging from the crowds, a great time was had by all!

### What's a 175th anniversary parade without...

- **Fire trucks?** There were dozens of sleek modern vehicles at the HFD's 175th anniversary parade, plus vintage fire trucks like our own original hand drawn pumper (c.1845) and Southampton F.D.'s ladder truck.
- **Music?** Several fire department bands and bagpipers entertained, including the Northport Pipe and Drum, Amityville Highlanders and NYPD's famed Emerald Society. And the Little Wilson band performed for post-parade dancing, just as they did at the 125th anniversary celebration!
- **A Grand Marshall?** Henry Gerdes, Honorary Chief and the longest serving member of the department (since 1939), did a great job as Grand Marshall.
- **Fun for kids?** Pony rides, bouncy houses and a dunk tank kept children of all ages entertained.
- **Great food and drink too!**
- **And most of all, what's a 175th anniversary parade without firefighters and EMTs?** Huntington Fire Department members hosted departments from all over Long Island, upstate New York and Connecticut.

### THANKS!

A huge thank you goes out to Neil Getter, Chairman of the 175th Anniversary committee and to sub-Committee heads Joe Amendolare, Wally Tillotson, Chris Amendolare, Scott Loechner, Matt Getter, Paul Smith, Jesse Cukro, John McCrickert and to the Chiefs Office. And many thanks to General Committee members Jim Scuderi Sr., Ben Kitzen, Dana Aliperti, Brian Riggs, Nick Ambrosio, Jimmy Martin and Adam Smitman.

TBR News Media

## COMMISSIONERS' CORNER

### Hello Fall! Hello Winter!

The Huntington Fire District and I would like to take the time to wish all the folks in the Huntington area a very safe and happy Thanksgiving and holiday season.

As we begin our 176th year of service, I must express my most heartfelt thank you to those who made our 175th year such a memorable one. To all who celebrated with us, to all who were able to make it down for the celebration and festivities, I thank you, and I trust that you were impressed with what the membership was able to accomplish. Your all-volunteer Huntington Fire Department membership dedicated thousands of man hours to make this event an unforgettable success. We now look forward to another 175 years of faithful service to the Huntington community.

The young folks who will follow in the footsteps of those that have served will inherit a tradition rich in dedication, achievement and honor.

It is one of my greatest of pleasures to have served as Chairman of the Board of The Huntington Fire District during this wonderful year, and here's to another great chapter in the book that is yet unfinished called the Huntington Fire Department. 175 years old and stronger than ever!

Sincerely,  
**Andy Kitzen**  
Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners



### Hello Neighbors,

I would like to thank the public for their support in making our 175th Anniversary Celebration particularly memorable. The parade and fair drew hundreds of

people from near and far and over twenty departments participated. Some made the trek from as far away as Southampton, with the farthest hailing from Shelton Connecticut in Fairfield County! I also applaud our officers and members who once again showed their true dedication and professionalism.

#### Make A Difference:

The Department is successful due to the hard work and dedication of our volunteers. I personally invite you to join us and reach out to our Recruitment

Committee for more information. You can help us make a difference in the Town of Huntington. Please include your name, phone number and the most convenient time to contact you. Please email [ushfdrecruitment@yahoo.com](mailto:ushfdrecruitment@yahoo.com).

#### Be Safe:

As we approach winter and the holiday season, I would like to remind all residents to exercise caution when using extension cords, holiday lighting, portable heaters and generators. Further, I cannot stress enough the importance of having working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in your home. They can, and do, save lives.

Yours truly,  
**Rob Conroy**  
Chief of the  
Huntington Fire Department

## Milestones



#### Henry Gerdes turns 99

A special birthday celebration was held by the Huntington Fire Department Protection Hose Company No. 1 for Honorary Chief Henry Gerdes who turned 99 years old. Chief Gerdes, a World War II veteran, joined the Department on December 18, 1939, and has been serving his community ever since. The Chiefs, Officers and Members of the Huntington Fire Department wish Chief Gerdes a happy and healthy birthday!

Our District is always a beehive of activity, but recently many good milestones have been achieved.



50 year members Edmund Erickson, Jimmy Scudieri & John LoScalzo. Not in photo, Robert Archer.



60 Year Members William Archer & Greg Hallinan. Not in photo, Bud LaMay.



**Conrad Vogel**  
Member of Hook & Ladder Co. with 50 years of service.



**Paul Smith**  
Firefighter of the year 2018.



**Charlie Ranft**  
Recipient of 3rd annual Clifford "Pop" Schwier Award.



**Nicholas Smyth**  
Recognized with the Unsung Hero Award: From left, Chief Rob Conroy; Nicholas Smyth.



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## FIRE DISTRICT NEWS

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### Board of Fire Commissioners

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**District Counsel:** Joseph Frank

Questions or Comments? Email us at [hfd230@gmail.com](mailto:hfd230@gmail.com)



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## Support Your Community:



With the holidays just around the corner, families in our community direly need support. Help the HFD to help all. Please drop off food donations at the Leverich Place Firehouse at any time. Let's help make it a happy holiday season for all.



## HFD NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

As an organization that averages over 800 help calls annually, we need volunteers more than ever. You'll be trained to become a New York State Class A Firefighter, an Engine Chauffeur and other advanced certifications. It's the right thing to do, and the personal bonds between members cannot be equaled. Drop by the firehouse or call (631) 427-3030 to inquire.



## TOYS FOR TOTS

Your Huntington Fire Department is once again supporting the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. The Toys for Tots Program delivers a powerful message that somebody cares to needy youngsters in our community. Please help motivate everyone to become responsible, patriotic citizens. Bring an unwrapped Christmas gift to Leverich Place firehouse this year.