



# HUNTINGTON

## FIRE DISTRICT NEWS

Serving the Huntington Community Since 1843

Volume 13 Number 1 • Summer 2022

### COMMISSIONERS' CORNER

One of the most important goals of the Huntington Fire District's Board of Fire Commissioners involves transparency and keeping residents informed about the work of the Department, our members and the Fire District itself. We strive to communicate the work performed by our dedicated volunteer men and women and the decisions made by the Board that affect the operation of the Department and the District. That includes the fire and safety services we provide as well as the causes we support such as Toys for Tots and the Huntington Food Pantry. To help accomplish our objectives the District has regularly published and disseminated Fire District News, our official newsletter, now in Volume 13.

Newsletters require time to write, edit, publish and distribute. A few years back we developed our website ([www.huntingtonfiredept.org](http://www.huntingtonfiredept.org)) to keep information flowing to Huntington Fire District residents in a timely manner. By accessing the website, all residents can monitor the work of the District and the Department at any time. The website is regularly updated, and major points of interest include legal notices, minutes of board meetings, important safety tips, as well as news and events about the Fire Department itself.

We trust that through the dual communication efforts of our newsletter and website we are attaining our goal of keeping all District residents informed and up to date.

Sincerely,  
**Edmund M. Erickson**  
Chairman



### Chief's Corner



*It's finally summer! I hope everyone made it through this winter in good health and safety.*

**A**s one of Long Island's oldest fire departments, the Huntington Fire Department proudly celebrated our 179th year installation dinner, with many more to come. Congratulations to all the honorees. We are currently conducting our annual recertification requirements.

Being Chief of the Huntington Fire Department for 2021/2022 is a prestigious honor that carries a great deal of responsibility. It's a job that entails representing a busy, thriving community, a task that can't be accomplished without the volunteering, hard work, training and bravery of all our members. I thank every one of our men and women for their service, time and dedication. I also want to acknowledge the often unrecognized contributions of their families, including my own, who supported me along the way. It has been a dream of mine to be Chief of the Huntington Fire Department since the day I joined in 1999.

#### WHY NOT JOIN US?

We represent the Town of Huntington, and we're always looking for new members. Becoming a member provides an opportunity to serve your community and to join a family that will stand with you shoulder to shoulder in an unmatched spirit of camaraderie. Please visit the Leverich Place Fire House or go to our website, [www.huntingtonfiredept.org](http://www.huntingtonfiredept.org).

**We look forward seeing you!**

Yours truly,  
**Scott Dodge**

**Chief of the  
Huntington Fire  
Department**



### Commissioner Election Results

**I**n the December 2021 election, Tom Collins was reelected to the Huntington Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners. A Huntington resident since 1939 and proprietor of Collins Electrical Contracting, Tom has served on the Board since 1992. His new 5-year term began on January 1, 2022. Congratulations Tom!



# Milestones

## Firefighter of the Year: 2020 William Martin



A member of the Huntington Fire Department Hook & Ladder Company since 2018, William “Billy” Martin was recognized as our 2020 Firefighter of the Year. The son of longtime HFD firefighter William J. Martin, Billy learned the ropes as a Junior Firefighter for six years prior to joining the Department. He actively helps to instruct new members in our probie training program, serves on the scholarship committee, and is distinguished by his willingness to go above and beyond to help his fellow brother and sister firefighters. Congratulations, Billy, on receiving this honor, and thank you for all your contributions.

## Firefighter of the Year: 2021 Anthony Martin



Firefighting is in the genes of our 2021 Firefighter of the Year. When Anthony joined the HFD Engine Company on August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019, he became the third generation of his family to serve following his grandfather James Martin Sr., father Anthony Martin and uncle James Martin Jr. Anthony began as a Junior Firefighter. Through hard work, determination and a desire to benefit the Huntington community as a firefighter and member of the Honor Guard, Anthony has made a difference. His respect for the uniform and fellow firefighters is a prime example of the camaraderie that permeates the HFD. Congratulations Anthony!

## Pop Schwier Award: 2020 Bob Berry



Robert “Bob” Berry joined the Huntington Fire Department Hook & Ladder Company in February, 1991. A 30-year member, Bob’s energy and dedication enabled him to rise through the ranks, progressively becoming 1st Lieutenant, Captain and then, in 2014, Chief of Department. Bob has served his fellow men and women in many capacities including on the Huntington Fire Department Grievance Board and also as Head of the Marine Division. Congratulations Bob, for being honored with the Clifford “Pop” Schwier Award in recognition of all your efforts on behalf of the Huntington Fire Department and the Huntington community.

## Pop Schwier Award: 2021 Jason Sandvik



A Junior Firefighter prior to joining the Hose Company in December 1995, Jason has been employed as an HFD Fire House Attendant since 2000. He has been instrumental in preserving the Department’s renowned history, displaying artifacts, memorabilia and period images throughout our facilities. His own history is extensive including service as Hose Company 2nd Lieutenant 2000 – 2002, Hose Company 1st Lieutenant 2002 – 2004, Hose Company Captain 2004 – 2006 and as Hose Company Secretary since 2010. Jason, a proud second generation firefighter following his father Geoffrey Sandvik, has served as Huntington Fire Department Secretary since 2019.

## Passings



### Conrad Vogel 1931- 2021

Conrad Vogel became a member of the Cold Spring Harbor Fire Department beginning in 1949 and joined the Huntington Fire Department Hook & Ladder Company in November, 1968. He gave 72 years of dedicated services to the community at large.

### Jay Verme Sr.

Jay Verme became a member of the Huntington Fire Department Hook & Ladder Company in May, 1958. He served the Huntington Fire Department as a Lieutenant and also as a Chauffeur.



# Recognizing 50 Years of Service William Muskopf



Bill Muskopf joined the Huntington Fire Department on December 14, 1971, bringing with him 21 years of invaluable experience as an FDNY firefighter. Bill's half century with the HFD is part of a long legacy of service dedicated to protecting our community, our state and our great nation.

With the HFD, Bill held positions on the Hook & Ladder Company's screening and fundraising committees and served as Captain during the Department's 150th Anniversary (1993). A retired

US Marine who served as a Sergeant with the 7th Engineer Battalion as an Electrician in Vietnam, Bill continues to work with the USMC Toys for Tots organization for less fortunate children. He also works closely with the Town of Huntington Food Pantry. Bill has been married to his lovely wife Ann for 54 years, and they have four children and eight grandchildren.

The Department, the Board of Commissioners and the Huntington community thank Bill for all his service, support and dedication.

## Election Results

### DEPARTMENT ELECTION RESULTS FOR 2022



Chief of Department  
**Scott Dodge**



1st Deputy Chief  
**Sean Schwier**



2nd Deputy Chief  
**Paul Smith**



3rd Deputy Chief  
**Matthew Getter**



Secretary  
**Jason Sandvik**



Treasurer  
**Edmund M. Erickson**



Financial Secretary  
**Neil Getter**



Chaplin  
**Richard Fernandez**



Asst. Chaplin  
**Matthew Kennaugh**

### COMPANY ELECTION RESULTS FOR 2022

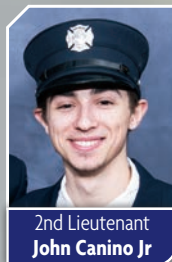
#### ENGINE COMPANY



Captain  
**Ryan Doyle**



1st Lieutenant  
**Ben Kitzen**



2nd Lieutenant  
**John Canino Jr**



Treasurer  
**Edmund M. Erickson**



Secretary  
**Andrew Kitzen**

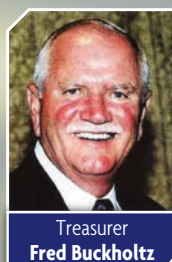
#### HOOK & LADDER COMPANY



Captain  
**Matt Mohlenhoff**



1st Lieutenant  
**Connor Riggs**



Treasurer  
**Fred Buckholtz**



Secretary  
**John Mohlenhoff**

#### HOSE COMPANY



Captain  
**Mike Friel**



Treasurer  
**George Bodnar**



Secretary  
**Jason Sandvik**

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## FIRE DISTRICT NEWS

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[www.huntingtonfiredept.org](http://www.huntingtonfiredept.org)

### Board of Fire Commissioners

Chairman: Edmund M. Erickson  
Vice Chairman: Michael F. Plant  
Commissioner: Andre Sorrentino  
Commissioner: Thomas Brown  
Commissioner: Thomas Collins

**District Manager:** Bruce Smith

**Treasurer:** Fred J. Buckholtz, Jr.

**Secretary/Deputy Treasurer:** Karla Wright

**Account Clerk:** Marie Caputo

**District Counsel:** Joseph Frank

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



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## Fire Safety Tips to Live By

Tens of thousands of Americans are injured or killed in fires every year, and annual fire devastation costs run into the billions of dollars. Any fire can be a devastating, deadly event. Avoid potential tragedies by observing the following:

### NEVER

- Never overload electrical extension cords or outlets.
- Never reenter a burning building for any reason.
- Never use a barbecue indoors and never store propane indoors.
- Never use space heaters near combustible or flammable materials.
- Never assume someone else has called in a fire or gas emergency.
- Never smoke in bed.

### ALWAYS

- Always call your fire department immediately!
- Always practice fire evacuation with your family.
- Always install smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors.
- Always have a fire evacuation plan.
- Always test alarms and sensors monthly.
- Always use caution and common sense when cooking.
- Always clean the filter in your dryer after each use.



## COMING SOON:



## 179 YEARS OF HISTORY.

Keep an eye out and mark your calendars for our fire museum grand opening in Fall 2022!