



Henrietta Fire District Dispatch

Fall 2013

What is the Story with West Brighton?

A lot has been in the media in the last 2 years concerning The Henrietta Fire District taking over the West Brighton Fire Protection District. This article is meant to shed some light on this subject.

The West Brighton Fire Department has contracted with the Town of Brighton to provide fire protection on the West side of the Town. Over 10 years ago the Town of Brighton had concerns about how fire protection was being provided by the West Brighton Fire Department so a study was commissioned. The results of that study suggested that the West Brighton Fire Protection District be turned over to the City of Rochester, the Henrietta Fire District, or the Brighton Fire District. This was never acted upon by the Town of Brighton. The West Brighton FD worked out a mutual aid agreement with the Henrietta Fire District and the use of our ladder truck for approximately seven years in 1999. Then, for whatever reason, the town of Brighton decided to pay the City of Rochester to provide the same mutual aid that Henrietta had provided for free for seven years. Things continued to deteriorate. The town of Brighton decided to hire part time career firefighters to bolster the fire protection needs of this area of town. It did the job, but the town decided it needed a more permanent solution to the problem, so another study was commissioned about three years ago. The same results were suggested; contract with the City of Rochester or have the Henrietta Fire District or the Brighton Fire District expand their Fire Districts to include the West Brighton area. All three agencies submitted proposals, and the City of Rochester was chosen. This arrangement was not a permanent solution but a long term contract that could be terminated by either party.

It became a problem immediately for the volunteers of the West Brighton Fire Department. They took legal action, and a vote was taken by the citizens to force the town of Brighton to come up with a different solution. So the Henrietta Fire District was asked if we would be

interested in taking over this area. We said yes, and submitted the same proposal that was given before.

When we as a District, considered this proposal, we took many things into account. It made sense because of the close proximity of the two areas. The West Brighton FD and the Henrietta Fire District have worked together for many years. We also consulted our volunteer and career firefighters, and they agreed it was worth pursuing. Also, as your elected Commissioners, we made sure that if this project was undertaken, that it would not negatively impact the citizens of Henrietta in terms of tax resources as well as the level of services we provide. There was enough tax revenue from the acquired area to support the merger. The town of Brighton had approximately one million dollars to take care of any costs of the transition, so that Henrietta taxpayers would not be footing the bill. Also, there were assets of the West Brighton Fire Department that would transfer in the deal to help in the transition. Unfortunately, due to a vocal MINORITY, and I stress, it was not a majority of the members of the West Brighton Fire Department that had their own agenda, the deal was squashed. The courts have refused to get this settled; so your Fire Commissioners have decided that after over two years of trying to get a resolution to this situation, it was time to say enough is enough. This is a major disappointment to a majority of the West Brighton members as well as the citizens group that was formed.

If you have any further questions on this issue, or any other issue, I would be more than glad to discuss it with you personally by phone at 334-1234, email at jmartin@henriettafire.com, or you are welcome to attend our monthly public meeting which is held the second Tuesday of every month at 6 PM at our headquarters, 850 Bailey Rd.

Sincerely,
Joe Martin, Chairman
Henrietta Board of Fire Commissioners

FREE Smoke Alarms

The Henrietta Fire District is excited to announce a new smoke alarm installation and fire safety education project that is available (at no charge) to community residents 65 and older.

The New York State Association of Fire Chiefs was recently awarded \$57,238 in grant funding from the FEMA Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) grant program to conduct an Older Adult Fire Safety Project.

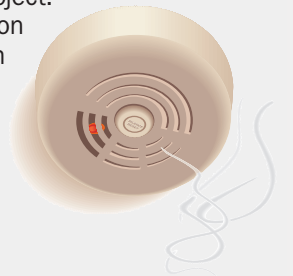
This 6-month project will install 1,640 smoke alarms in six target communities in New York State. Older adults, those aged 65+ years, have a well-documented increased risk for fire injury and death due to declining sensory and motor capacities and a low prevalence of working smoke alarms in their homes. The Older Adult Fire Safety Project will address these risks by increasing the prevalence of working smoke alarms and providing personalized fire safety education to every recipient household.

The Henrietta Fire District has been chosen as one of those communities and given 200 smoke alarms to be installed free of charge.

The smoke alarms are a great benefit to our department's fire safety education and outreach efforts. The smoke alarms have a value of over \$3,500, because they include a 10-year battery, have a hush button, and photoelectric sensor technology.

The Henrietta Fire District will provide one-on-one fire safety education to every household that receives smoke alarms through this project.

For more information about the new smoke alarm installation project, contact:
Lt. Michael Dinsmore
585-359-7191
or email mdinsmore@henriettafire.com



Henrietta Fire District OPEN HOUSE



Saturday October, 12th from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

at the Henrietta Fire District Headquarters • 850 Bailey Road

See a Live Fire Demonstration

2:00 p.m.

Watch the Firefighters cut a car apart with the "Jaws of Life"!

3:00 p.m.

Join us for our Open House!

- Meet your Firefighters.
- Tour the Fire House and Fire Trucks.
- Visit the Fire Safety Trailer.
- Learn how to use a Fire Extinguisher.
- Have your children participate in our coloring contest.



West Henrietta Fire Department, Inc.
774 Erie Station Rd.
PO Box 201
West Henrietta, NY 14586

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Rochester, NY
Permit #1376

HELPING NEIGHBORS NEAR & FAR

Hurricane Sandy

In October of 2012, Hurricane Sandy struck metropolitan New York City and Long Island with devastating force. Fire stations were destroyed and equipment was lost. Many of the local firefighters lost their homes and were missing loved ones. A request was made by the NYS Office of Fire Prevention and Control for assistance. Within four hours of the request, Henrietta Rescue 618 and a crew of three firefighters (Tam, Guhl, Roberts) and an officer (Lt. Graf) was enroute to the New York City area. Also a SEFU (State Emergency Fire Unit) from Henrietta was responding with a firefighter (Lewis) and an officer (Lt. Stirone). A SEFU is a 4 wheel drive vehicle with pumps, generators, chainsaws and other equipment. Rescue 618 provided fire protection, manpower, and other resources to the Nassau County community of Oceanside. The crew served that community for almost five days. Our SEFU was sent to Suffolk County where they assisted in several communities.

Lt. Hank Graf Shares His Observations From The Deployment

On October 30th at 1600 hrs, the Henrietta fire District was notified by the Monroe County Fire Bureau that a Rescue and storm unit were requested to respond for a 3 day deployment to Long island for Hurricane Sandy Relief. By 1730 hours, Lieutenant Hank Graf, along with Firefighters Justin Tam, Jared Guhl and Tim Roberts aboard rescue 618 were at the County Training Facility awaiting further instructions.

We departed with the convoy of several county units and arrived in Long Island at approx 0200hrs. We were assigned to assist the Oceanside Fire District in Nassau County. Upon arrival we were told to rest until 0700 hrs, at which time we would get our assignment. At the morning meeting, we were assigned truck company duties for a 24 hour period. During that time we responded to multiple alarms for people in distress, gas leaks, fuel oil tanks overturned in yards and basements, and some fire alarms.

The highlight during that time period was responding in our apparatus with Henrietta fire District in big letters to a call on West Henrietta Ave, many of the Oceanside residents saw us and started cheering, "Thanks Henrietta!". That was cool. Upon leaving for home we were presented with the street sign from the Oceanside brothers, which is now proudly displayed on our fire truck.

The following day, the Chief advised he wanted his men to have some downtime, so we were then assigned to ride their tower ladder with one of their guys as a driver and guide. That 24 hour detail turned into a 48 hour detail and our 3 day deployment turned into 4. During that time we responded to many of the same calls we did earlier, but also picked up a few MVA's including one with a vehicle overturned and people trapped. We also responded to a few house fires.

After being on the run from Wednesday morning until Friday afternoon, it looked like we would be off duty at approx. 2000hrs. But after meeting with all of the officers, and with info that power was being restored and they expected a spike in calls, we were moved into the role of RIC (Rapid Intervention Crew) team until 0900on Saturday. At 0900 we met with the Chief, at which time we were officially released. We arrived home at 1800 hrs on Saturday night.

We have stayed in contact with many of the brothers from Oceanside and looked forward to going down again to spend some time together during a much less trying time.

We thank the residents of Henrietta for allowing us to be their representatives during a very tragic event to our fellow New Yorkers.



Long Island Supply Drive

Those who remained home also assisted those in need. With the assistance of the members of IAFF local 3738, our volunteer firefighters, explorers, and the ladies auxiliary, a supply drive was held to gather items to assist the displaced hurricane victims. At the end of the one day drive, enough supplies had been collected to fill a truck. These items which included bottled water, gloves, cleaning supplies, generators, and many other items were transported for distribution in Nassau County.



West Webster FD Tragedy



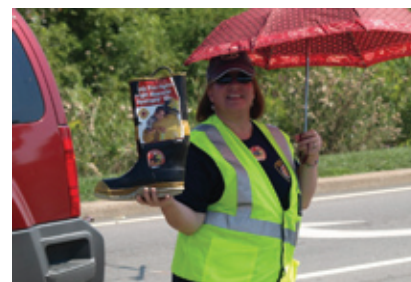
On December 24, 2012 tragedy struck the West Webster Fire Department. Two firefighters lay dead and two others were wounded due the actions of a gunman. These events were devastating to the members of the West Webster Fire Department. They requested assistance to provide coverage to their community and allow time for their members to grieve. The Henrietta Fire District responded with one

engine and a crew of four firefighters (J.Muscato Jr.,B. Reynolds, D. Barber, F. Martin III) and Capt. Marshall. These firefighters spent Christmas Eve and early Christmas Day away from their families making sure that the people of West Webster were protected.

The Henrietta Fire District also provided an engine and crew on Saturday December 29th to provide coverage during the calling hours for the funeral. A large contingent of firefighters from Henrietta attended the calling hours and the funerals.

Thank you, Chief Bloss!

The Board of Fire Commissioners, the officers and the members of the Henrietta Fire District would like to thank Deputy Chief Steven Bloss for his over twenty five years of dedicated service to the citizens of Henrietta and the Henrietta Fire District. Deputy Chief Bloss progressed through the ranks to obtain the highest volunteer rank within the fire district. The Henrietta Fire District wishes Steve great success in all his future endeavors.



Fill the Boot

This years Fill the Boot was held on Saturday August 17th in the Town of Henrietta. Firefighters, Explorers, and spouses volunteered to help raise over \$10,000 to support MDA. Thank you to all that contributed to this worthwhile cause.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Everyone is welcome to come and meet your firefighters at these events.

Genesee Valley Fire Dept. Turkey Party

On Saturday, November 23, 2013, the Genesee Valley Fire Department will once again hold its annual Turkey Party at the firehouse at 9 Riverview Drive (off River Meadow Drive). The party starts at 7pm and continues throughout the night. In addition to over 40 turkeys being raffled off, there will also be games, free food and refreshments and door prizes. Admission is free. For more information, contact Bill at gvfire@gmail.com.



The Henrietta Fire District Open House

Saturday, October 12, 1:00 pm - 4pm 850 Bailey Road West Henrietta, NY 14586 Live fire demo @ 2 pm and Extrication Demo @ 3 pm.

Henrietta Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners

Commissioner Joe Martin (Chairman)	Secretary – Treasurer Barb Sharp
Commissioner Jim Potter	Counsel Louise Beale
Commissioner Bill Gilchrist	
Commissioner Frank Myers	Fire Chief Jim Comstock
Commissioner William Heist	

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

In addition to their Fire Service duties, District members have a long history of being involved in other community activities.

Adopt-A-Hydrant Program

The Henrietta Fire District offers the Adopt-A-Hydrant program to all third, fourth, and fifth grade students at all Rush-Henrietta Elementary schools. We ask the child (or family) to "Adopt" a fire hydrant. The children are asked to keep the fire hydrant accessible for the fire department by cleaning weeds and debris from around the hydrant, and keeping it clear of snow in the winter time.

We hope this program increases awareness of the important role fire hydrants play in

the protection of their homes and additionally foster civic participation in the children.

The children fill out an adoption form and return it to school. The Henrietta Fire District will then issue an "Adoption Certificate" with the child's name and Hydrant location on it. In addition to the certificate, one participating child from each school will be chosen for a special ride to school in a fire truck.

These pictures are of the winners of the ride to school for the 2012-2013 school year.



Morgan Shultis
Sherman Winner



Aidan Gleghorn
Crane Winner



Mia Tuttle
Winslow Winner



Elizabeth Abert
Leary Winner



Juliana Evans
Fyle Winner

Life Safety Achievement Award

The Henrietta Fire District is proud to announce that we have been recognized with the Life Safety achievement award.

The National Association of State Fire Marshals Fire Research and Education Foundation (NASFM Foundation) and Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company are pleased to announce that 117 fire departments across the United States have earned the Life Safety Achievement Award for their fire prevention accomplishments in 2012. For over 20 years, this award has recognized fire departments nationally for actively promoting fire prevention in the pursuit of saving lives.

"When we hear the fire truck coming down the street and see their lights, we know they're responding to someone in trouble. What we don't know is that these unsung heroes are doing a lot of things behind the scenes that save lives," said Alan Clark, assistant vice president of Special Investigations at Grinnell Mutual. "The Life Safety Achievement Award recognizes fire departments for their fire prevention programs that have been proven to save lives year after year."

According to the National Fire Protection Association, in 2011, the most recent year for which statistics are available, more than 1.3 million fires were reported in the United States. The fires caused more than 3,000 civilian deaths, 17,500 civilian injuries, and almost \$12 billion in property damage.

"These nationwide loss numbers will not go away by themselves," said President of the NASFM Foundation J. William Degnan. "Sustained effort is required on the part of communities to keep fires from claiming lives. The Life Safety Achievement Award recognizes fire departments for the positive results they achieve in protecting the lives of their citizens and emergency responders from fire."

To qualify for the award, fire departments must record zero fire deaths in residential structures or a 10 percent reduction of fire deaths from the prior year. In addition, they must demonstrate commitment to prevent residential fires in their local communities through active and effective fire prevention programs. The applicants also must present evidence by some measure (department-determined) that the department's fire prevention efforts increased over the previous year and made a positive impact

This year's award recipients have organized educational programs targeted to specific age groups, such as training for care providers of at-risk populations and juvenile fire-setting intervention programs. They participated in fire safety inspections and home fire safety surveys, emergency evacuation drills, smoke alarm giveaways and installation assistance, the National Gasoline Safety Project "Stop Gas Fires," and child car seat installation and safety checks. They have provided safety information through open houses, community events, newsletters, YouTube videos, and street boulevard banners, as well as by working with local news stations to provide monthly fire safety video clips. Recipients were also active in increasing fire sprinkler coverage in homes and encouraging the adoption of fire prevention codes that require residential sprinkler systems.

"We are impressed by the variety and creativity of many fire department programs reported by our award winners," said NASFM Foundation Executive Director Jim Narva. "We are also seeing more emphasis on residential sprinkler implementation, as well as an increased use of social media to reach audiences, particularly younger people in communities."

"While funding for fire suppression efforts will always be necessary, spending money and time preventing a fire or significantly reducing its impact is preferable to having to respond after a fire has occurred," added Narva. "Our Life Safety Achievement Award recipients recognize that and fight for more fire prevention resources every chance they get."

Henrietta Fire District Recruit Firefighters Complete Recruit Class



On Wednesday evening July 31, 2013, fourteen recruit volunteer firefighters for the Henrietta Fire District were sworn in by Deputy Chief of Department Steven Bloss. The recruit firefighters completed the Henrietta Fire District recruit class and became NYS certified Firefighter I. The Firefighters completing this training were:

- Emad Alnuaimy
- Kirk Bater
- Daniel Blair
- Patrick Byrne
- Matthew Cody
- Dmitri Galitsky
- Chris Greer
- Amanda Novitske
- Paul Reed
- Michael Seeber
- AJ Seiler
- Steven Shuboney
- Trey Smith
- Matthew Sorber

The Henrietta Fire District recruit class includes the NYS Firefighter I curriculum, the NYS Hazardous materials – Operations Level curriculum, and the National Fire Academy "Calling the Mayday" curriculum. This entire training course has over 120 hours of classroom and hands-on training and is designed to give the students the basic training required to operate safely and effectively at emergency scenes.

A short video of the skills and classes these firefighters participated in is available for viewing at the Henrietta Fire District Website, www.henriettafire.com.



Car Seat Safety

Is the car seat in tight? Are the harness straps positioned properly? When should my child use a booster seat?

We have the answers!!!

The Henrietta Fire District can teach you how to install your child's car seat!

Have questions or want to schedule an appointment: Contact Lieutenant Mike Dinsmore at (585) 359-7191



St. Baldrick's Foundation

In March of this year firefighters Brian Reynolds, Todd Strassner, Charles Dodson & district photographer Carol Greene shaved their heads for the St. Baldrick's Foundation. They raised over \$4,000 for the foundation, which in turn uses this money to fund grants for childhood cancer research.



Prevention Through Education

The Henrietta Fire District has made a commitment to educating our residents about fire safety. We have many programs that are offered free of charge to schools, businesses, churches, daycares, to name just a few.

The Fire District provides fire prevention education to over 3000 Rush-Henrietta School students each year. Lessons were developed with the help of RH School teachers and are taught throughout the year, not just during fire prevention week as it had been done in the past. When we visit the schools now, we visit with one class at a time, and deliver a grade specific lesson.

When visiting our elementary school friends, we always have a focus on Home Escape planning. We in fact do a home fire escape homework assignment for all elementary students during fire prevention week. (This Year it is October 6 - 12) We want children to understand how to get out of their house and where to go when fire strikes. This is something that is practiced regularly at school and generally overlooked at home, where most fire deaths occur.

We visit with our Kindergarten friends twice a year. The first visit introduces the children to what a firefighter looks like when they are all dressed to do their job. We emphasize that firefighters are "good guys or gals", and that they should not be afraid of them. We also give a couple of children from the class an opportunity get dressed like a firefighter, we then do a class picture that the children can take home and share with their families. We also share a short video entitled 'Sparky's ABC's of Fire Safety' that touches on lots of different fire safety messages. The children are then given an opportunity to demonstrate crawling low in smoke (under a white sheet) and stop drop and roll. Before we leave we discuss the importance of 911 and when it would be appropriate for them to dial that number.

The second visit is a short 15 minute lesson that is usually given later in the year. We visit each classroom and share a fire safety story with the children. The book we have been using is a book written by Jean E. Pendziwol entitled "No Dragons for Tea". When we are done we give each child a copy of this book to take home and share with their families.

First and third grade students get a visit from our Fire Safety Trailer. This is an excellent tool that gives us the ability to teach children how to escape from their home in the event of fire. We smoke up the bedroom in the trailer with theatrical smoke, we heat the door so it feels warm, and we sound smoke alarms to make it as realistic as possible. **We emphasize the three parts to a good fire escape plan:**

- 1 Working Smoke Alarms**
- 2 Two Ways Out**
- 3 Meeting Place**

While visiting the trailer, the children visit the kitchen area of the trailer and learn about kitchen safety. They visit the living room and discuss common home hazards they should avoid and get a chance to make a practice 911 phone call.

When we visit the second grade children we tell them that we are there to convert them into "Home Hazard Detectives". We bring with us a state of the art doll house that is loaded with common home hazards, and with the help of the children, we work through the house room by room discussing and correcting all the hazards. This doll house allows us show the dangers of mixing electricity and water, chemical safety, gun safety amongst many others. The children are then given another opportunity to make a practice 911 calls.

The fourth grade program utilizes the NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) "Where There's Smoke There's Science" video. This program teaches the students what ingredients are needed to make fire and how removing any of those ingredients affects the fire. This is demonstrated in the classroom by a firefighter. We once again emphasize the importance of practicing a fire drill at home.

Our last visit with elementary students is in the fifth grade. We start off the lesson by having the children teach us what they know about fire safety, which always leads us to home escape planning. We have the children watch a short NFPA video entitled "Fire Power". This is a video of a house that is being burned on purpose, they have cameras and temperature gauges in the house that give the students a bird's eye view of how fires grow. The main idea of this lesson is to show the children that time is not their friend during a house fire. The key to survival is early detection (well placed smoke alarms) and leaving immediately in the event of the fire.

Below are some examples of other services offered:

- Extinguisher Training
- Car Seat Education
- Free Smoke Detector program for seniors
- Seniors programs
- Fire House tours for all groups big or small
- Health and Safety Fairs
- Adopt-A-Hydrant Program

If we can be of any help to you or your group, I would urge you to contact us
Lieutenant Michael Dinsmore
585-359-7191
mdinsmore@henriettafire.com
www.henriettafire.com

Is There a FIRE in You?

Do you have the Commitment, the dedication, the drive to do something great? Have you always wanted to do more for your community, but you didn't know how or where to start? Have you been longing to take on a new challenge and be a part of something big and impactful, where pride is the reward?

Join the Henrietta Fire District!

Get Involved

By joining the Henrietta Fire District, you are afforded the chance to truly make a difference in your community. This is your opportunity to get involved in something rewarding and meaningful. You'll find out what it takes to be a volunteer firefighter, to have the courage to act, the ability to perform.

Give Back

Giving back is answering the call when no one else will. It's providing the safety and reliability the community needs. It's the ultimate service to your community. You might think at first that you don't have the time – until you feel the honor of helping out your neighbors in a way that no one else can, when they truly need you. You'll realize nothing is more worth your time.

Train for Safety

Your first thought may be that you're

not trained to fight fires and handle emergencies. But when you join the volunteer fire service, you're trained to be safe. You'll receive continuing education on the most current technology and equipment as you go along to hone your first responder skills. You can rest assured you're making a huge difference in your community and doing so in the safest way possible thanks to the exceptional training provided to you.

Benefits

As a member of the volunteer fire service, not only do you get the satisfaction of helping others, but you get free training, tuition assistance and other great benefits. You become part of a new family, a brotherhood and sisterhood unlike any you've ever

known.

Do it for the pride, the honor of it all, and most of all, do it for your community who needs you. You will find that it will be one of the best decisions of your life.

Find out if you have what it takes to be a volunteer firefighter. Take the first step. Volunteer at www.henriettafire.com.

Other potential benefits of becoming a volunteer firefighter include but are not limited to:

- Free training
- Life insurance policies
- Being a team member
- Retirement benefits
- Tax breaks
- Tuition assistance

If you have any questions or comments please contact us at the Henrietta Fire District

850 Bailey Road • West Henrietta, NY 14586

334-1234 or visit our website and click on the CONTACT US tab

www.henriettafire.com