

THE TRUMPET



ROCKLAND COUNTY
VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION, Inc

“COMPLIMENTARY COPY”

Editor Emeritus: Stuart L. Gates, Dec 5, 1928-Nov 15, 2024

Editor: Sheryl Rose

RCVFA CONVENTION & PARADE

The 113th Convention Meeting of the R.C.V.F.A. will take place on Friday, September 5, 2025, at the Nanuet High School, 101 Church Street, Nanuet, NY 10954, starting at 7:00 PM. At the conclusion of the convention meeting, refreshments will be served at the Pearl River Elks Lodge, 2041 Elks Drive, Nanuet, NY 10954 from 9:00 PM to 11:00 PM. Overflow parking will be located at the George Miller Elementary School, 50 Blauvelt Road, Nanuet, NY 10954.

The Dress Parade will take place on Saturday, September 6, 2025. All units are to be in the line-up area no later than 1:00 PM. The parade will step off promptly at 2:00 PM. All units shall enter the line-up area from the main entrance to Pfizer, 401 North Middletown Road, Pearl River, NY 10965. The parade will exit the Pfizer parking lot and head north on South Middletown Road, proceeding through Main Street and then turning left into the Nanuet Town Centre and proceed to the upper-level parking area where the breakup area will be located behind the old Sears department store. Apparatus and bus parking will be available at the old Sears automotive center. After the parade, refreshments shall be available in the break-up area until the presentation of trophies. The trophies shall be awarded promptly at 7:30 PM.

CARTOONS BY PETE CARNEY



Fund Drives are very important. Our kitchen has run out of Velveeta and shrimp rolls for our Signal 13.

53

PORT JERVIS PARADE

The Parade was on Sat, Jul 12, 2025

Hillcrest won the following:

Best Color Guard

Best Ladies Auxiliary

2nd best Aerial

2nd best company under 25 members

Most Firefighters in the Line of March

2nd best musical until for our band

Relief Hose Co.3 and some members of the Haverstraw Fire Dept, won 3 trophies.
4-1750 won Best Appearing apparatus over 10 years old,
2nd Place Fire Dept Color Guard
Best Appearing Regulation Uniform

RC CHIEFS MEETING



At the monthly meeting on July 17 at West Nyack, Orange County Fire Coordinator Vini Tankasali presented an overview on the Greenwood Lake-Jennings Creek brush fire from the fall of 2024. His detailed briefing covered the challenges faced, the multi-agency response, and key takeaways from the incident.

HELP NEEDED FOR THE FOLLOWING FF'S

www.gofund.me

Please Help Marcos Padilla, Spring Valley Deputy Chief. Hw was seriously injured in an accident while responding to a call, and he needs our help. Each donation, no matter how small, makes a real difference for his family as they face medical expenses and lost income

On the morning of July 27, Richard Apostle—a former firefighter with Chelsea H&L—suffered severe lung and chest injuries from smoke and heat during a devastating house fire. He has been sedated and hospitalized since, facing surgery for third-degree burns and a long road to recovery. In addition to his medical challenges, Richie lost everything he owned in the fire. Every donation, no matter the amount, can make a real difference. If you're unable to give, simply sharing this fundraiser helps spread the word and brings our community together in support. Thank you!

SW JOHNSON SFE CO NO 1

SWJ is raffling off (2) tickets to see the NY Giants VS. PHILADELPHIA EAGLES!!! Parking Pass included!!! The game is Thursday, October 9th. Drawing will be held September 26th. Tickets are \$10 each or (3) for \$20!!! Message Troy Spong if interested!!!

TRIP TO THE FASNY HOME.



Our day at the Home this year was on July 20th. Members of the RCVFA, LA, guests, and a terrific bus driver visited with members of the home and it's gracious staff. It was Rockland-Westchester Day. Everyone enjoyed good weather, food, and unexpected musical entertainment. Let's do it again next year.

Carol Cich LARCVFA

Most of those who attended are pictured.

REPS FOR RESPONDER



Reps For Responder sharing their mission speaking about first responder mental health and working with five Nyack Fire Department Companies by putting them through a tough workout in the 'labyrinth'. The workout focused on Purpose, Communication and Fear-Less

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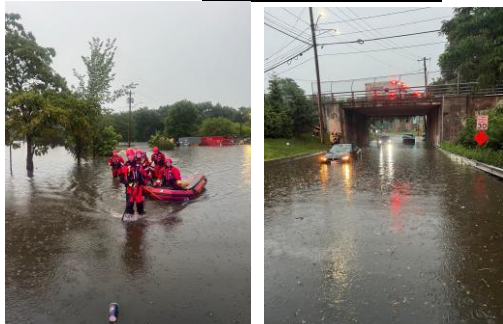
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WE SADLY REPORT THAT:

John "Jackie" Sullivan, died July 9, 2025, age 67. He was a member of Spring Valley FD, Westchester County town of Yorktown, 31-year career in New York City Emergency Medical Services, eventually rising to the rank of Deputy Chief at FDNY EMS

WORKING FIRES



As heavy storms started in the afternoon, Mon, Jul 14, 2025 lasting through the night 17-3, 17-Tanker and 17-1750 both fully staffed responded to various calls into the night including flooding conditions and multiple water rescues. Great job by all including multiple mutual aid companies in efforts to keep the citizens of Spring Valley safe.



Early the morning of Tue, Jul 15 at 7:18am, 29 Fanley Dr. Spring Valley Fire Department along with Hillcrest Fire Department, Monsey Fire Department, and South Spring Valley Fire Department were dispatched to a reported structure fire. 17-1 and 17-3 Kenny Conjura, shortly after arrived on scene confirming the working fire. 17-Tanker arrived on scene minutes after with a crew of 1st Lieutenant Michael Streim, 2nd Lieutenant Stevie White, FF Nathan Steiner, FF James Barrera, FF Cesar Gomez, and FF Austin Conjura. The crew stretched a 1 3/4 preconnected line to the 3 side of the building making an aggressive interior attack, quickly extinguishing the fire. Mutual aid from Hillcrest, Monsey, South Spring valley and West Nyack. Also, 44-6, 44-13, Spring Hill Ambulance Corps, Sheriff's Fire Investigation Unit and Orange & Rockland
Photo Credit: Andy Schlissel



At approximately 3:15 am on Sunday, Jul 27 multiple fire departments responded to a working fire at 27 Summit Avenue in Nyack with reports of people trapped in the residence. Two officers helped remove 2 tenants from the first floor and a third officer found another victim on second floor that he was able to get out.

One victim is in Westchester Medical and two other tenants were transported to Nyack Hospital. Three officers went to the hospital for smoke inhalation. Nyack Fire Dept and mutual aid responses from Central Nyack, West Nyack, Piermont, Valley Cottage, and Orangeburg, along with Nyack EMS and Rockland Paramedic Services. The cause of the fire is under investigation at this time and the Rockland County Sheriff BCI unit responded to the scene.

WEATHER EVENT JUL 14, 2025

The Rockland County Office of Fire and Emergency Services was actively monitoring the storm throughout the day and providing support to local municipalities as needed.

Our office maintains rain gauges throughout the county. Here are some of the rainfall totals from the storm:

- Hillburn – 2.30 inches
- Spring Valley – 2.91 inches
- West Nyack – 4.51 inches
- Tappan – 4.19 inches
- Thiells – 1.49 inches

STREET RENAMED

On Aug 12, 2025 The Congers Fire Department, in coordination with the Town of Clarkstown, will be honoring Al Magnatta by dedicating and renaming the street where he grew up. Chauncy St. & Endicott St will officially be renamed in his honor. Light Refreshments at Congers Firehouse, 40 N Harrison Ave

Reps For Responders
Non-Profit 501c3
Giving First Responders A Space To Feel, Heal & Thrive

Frank, Founder & President
repsforresponders@gmail.com
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CSST = LODD

The best part of teaching across our nation is the people you meet and how much I learn from them. At FDIC I met Celeste Flynn and Sara Laird whose Firefighter husbands were killed at house fires started by CSST. They shared some great info about CSST and its hazards and have some great tactical suggestions to prevent future tragedies. Last week in South Dakota State Fire School I met Calen Maningas, a BC from the Rapid City SD FD who responded to a very interesting house fire started by CSST. If you don't know what CSST is you need to look it up, fast, it could kill you and your crew tonight.

BC Maningas just published an excellent article in June Fire Engineering about this fire and here are the key points.

1. Fires started by CSST after a lightning strike in the area that energizes the ground or the piping are hard to find and can easily fool us during size up. His recommendation, start at the lowest level to see if the fire is in the basement or crawl space.
2. Because the fire starts in the basement or crawl space when the CSST charged by lightening arcs against something metal it often is hard to find. Look low first, it often shows during size up as a first floor fire. Then, thru the door, thru the floor especially if the house is framed with wood I joists or trusses. UL tells us thru many live burns we can expect collapse of these lightweight structural supports within 6 min from when the fire reaches them. See FSRI.org
3. Do a thorough 360 size up.
4. Control the utilities early. Shut off the gas.
5. Look for the highest velocity smoke and start there. Lazy smoke thru the home is confusing and not the source of the fire.
6. Check the weather history prior to the fire for extremes that could be the origin.

Identify hazardous CSST installations before the fire. Put it into your pre-plans so your officer riding the front seat can pull them up off the CAD or your tablet. Let someone else blow the air horn and siren, enroute, prepare to command the fire and not get surprised with a CSST caused LODD. As Frank Brannigan said, "Why don't you know, did that building just land from Mars and catch fire?"


Jerry Knapp

Nanuet Fire Engine Company
165th Anniversary Raffle


NAME: _____
PHONE: _____
ADDRESS: _____


(PLEASE PRINT)


NANUET FIRE ENGINE COMPANY
165th Anniversary
R.C.V.F.A. CONVENTION & PARADE
SEPTEMBER 5 & 6, 2025



50/50 ANNIVERSARY RAFFLE
\$5 PER TICKET
5 TICKETS FOR \$20
~ DRAWING ON SEPTEMBER 6, 2025 AT 7:30 PM ~


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Thank you for your support.

The Nanuet Fire Engine Company is holding a 165th Anniversary 50/50 raffle. Tickets are \$5 each or \$20 for five tickets. The grand prize is half of the proceeds of the tickets sold. The drawing will take place on September 6th at 7:30 PM. Please see any member if you are interested in tickets.



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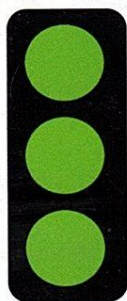
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CALENDAR**LISTINGS ARE FREE****845-364-8800****Deadline for Next Issue Last Wed. 8/27/2025**

- Now till Dec 13 ● Orangeburg, Fire Dept, RAFFLE 2025 POLARIS SPORTSMAN 450 H.O, We are raffling a 2025 Polaris Sportsman 450 H.O, \$25 per chance, The drawing will take place on December 13, 2025, following the Holiday Parade. The winner does not need to be present.
- Now till Nov 27 ● Tappan FD Ladies Auxiliary is holding a Scratch Off Lottery Fundraiser for \$10 a chance. Winner will receive 1 full roll of \$10 NY State Lottery Scratchoffs, a \$500 value. Only 200 chances are being sold and the drawing will be on Thanksgiving Day 2025. Contact Dianne Werner for chances @ 914-263-8445 or diannemw@optonline.net.
- Fri, Aug 8 ● RCVFA Next Meeting, 7:30 PM at **Columbian, Spring Valley** with Pres **Evan Humphrey**, Bring a Buddy or Future New Member
- Sat, Aug 9 ● SV Hook & Ladder, Stand Up Comedy Night, 8 PM, 7 Furan Place, SV, \$25 call 845-200-1302
- Wed, Aug 13 ● RC Fire Police Assoc, 7:30 PM, at Vol Hose, Suffern, with Pres Doug Mann
- Sat, Aug 16 ● Blauvelt Fire Dept, Drive In Movie, at the Middle School! Showing "The Incredibles", For admission, please bring non-perishable food(cans/boxes) that will be donated to the SOCSO Food Pantry. We will also have fire trucks on display. The movie will be cast on a large LED screen, so we will start before it is completely dark.
- Thur, Aug 21 ● RC Fire Chiefs Assoc, 7:30 PM, at SV, Columbians, with Pres Chris Kear
- Fri, Aug 22 ● Wayne Hose Co, 12 Annual Steaks & Stogies, 7 PM, \$125 per person, Table of 10 \$1250, 4 hr open bar, Steak dinner, cigar gift bag, liquor tasting, raffles, at Haverstraw Elks Club
- Mon, Aug 25 ● SW Johnson, 26th Annual J Harold Hulme Golf Outing, 6:30 AM – 7:30 PM, Philip J Rotella Memorial Golf Course, Cost: \$175/Golfer - includes: Breakfast at Sparky's Diner 6:00am, 8:00am Shotgun Start at Rotella, BBQ immediately after at Kruckers, Giveaways and Door Prizes, Tee/Green Sponsor - \$125, Silver Sponsor - \$300, Gold Sponsor - \$500, Foursome + Tee Sponsor - \$800
- Wed, Aug 27 ● RCVFA Brd of Dir, 7:30 PM, at Nanuet with Chairperson Frank Bifulco
- Fri, Sep 5 ● Deadline for articles for Trumpet
- Fri, Sep 5 ● RCVFA Convention, Nanuet Fire Dept, Nanuet High School, refreshments will be served at the Pearl River Elks Lodge, 2041 Elks Drive, Nanuet, NY 10954 from 9:00 PM to 11:00 PM
- Sat, Sep 6 ● RCVFA Parade, 2 PM,

NO JUL/AUG MEETINGS

RCVFA Ladies Auxiliary

Fire Advisory Board

RC Firefighters Emerald Society, No Meeting, Executive Board Only

NJ&NY VFA

Future Events

Thur, Sep 11

Sat, Sep 20

- Patriots Day, NEVER FORGET!
- Westchester Vol FF Parade, Tarrytown, 3 PM Step off
- Hillburn Ladies Auxiliary Tricky Tray. Doors Open 3pm; calling 4pm. Sloatsburg Senior Center, 8 Liberty Rock Rd, Sloatsburg, \$20 admission-ages 16 and up. Themed baskets, door prizes, 50/50 raffle, etc.
- Thur-Sun, Sep 25-28 ● Congers Fire Dept, Firemen's Carnival, VMA Fiels, Lake Rd Firehouse, 6 PM Thur & Fri, 4 PM Sat & Sun, Fireworks-Sun
- Sat, Sep 27 ● OCVFA Parade, Hosted by Monroe Joint Fire Dist (Mombasha Fire Co), Harriman Fire Eng Co#1 and Lakeside Fire Rescue, held in Monroe
- Vol Hose Co#2, West Haverstraw, Oktoberfest, 12-5 PM, Peck's Pond, West Haverstraw, \$60 adults, \$25 Kids 5+, under 5 free, www.volhose23.com

To view this newsletter on line, please go to the following web site:<http://www.rcvfa.com/trumpet.html>

Thanks to Sheryl Rose and Chuck Larkin

Please email Sheryl Rose with any Fire Department news, dates of events, fundraisers, etc. SherylERose58@gmail.com

RCVFA TRUMPET
PO Box 16
Garnerville, NY 10923

Here's What's
HOT
FROM THE
FIRE COORDINATOR'S OFFICE



Taking Command

Taking command as an Incident Commander is a critical responsibility. Often, the first arriving officer, or even apparatus must quickly size up the situation, establish command and make decisions that can significantly impact the safety of firefighters and the outcome for victims and property.

This role begins with scene size-up: identifying hazards, determining fire behavior and assessing life safety risks. Establishing a clear command presence early- announcing command, identifying the incident and setting up an incident structure is key. Even if just temporary, this structure ensures responding units receive direction and assignments, minimizing chaos.

Prioritization is essential: life safety, incident stabilization and property conservation. Assigning crews to critical tasks like rescue, fire attack, ventilation and water supply must happen quickly and logically. Communication is vital. Keeping clear and calm radio traffic and relaying updates to responding units helps maintain control.

Perhaps most importantly, a good IC remains flexible. As more units and perhaps higher-ranking officers arrive, the command structure evolves. Transferring command after a briefing ensures continuity and avoids confusion.

In short, being the Incident Commander demands calm, clear and decisive action. It is not about doing everything-it is about creating order in chaos, ensuring the very best outcome.