

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.

NEW “44-13”

I would like to congratulate Andrew Schlissel on being appointed on Tuesday, Aug 5 by the legislature as our new Deputy Fire Coordinator. Andy will

represent Ramapo Township. As an Ex-Chief and longtime member of the Monsey Fire Department, Andy is widely respected and will represent the Deputy Coordinators with poise, confidence, and professionalism. Chris Kear

CARTOONS BY PETE CARNEY



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

53

AL MAGNATTA STREET DEDICATION



Article in the Aug issue but no picture.

BEFO-IFO SUMMER CLASS**RCVFA 25 & 50 YR MEMBERS****25 Years**

Drew Burke, Hillcrest Fire Co #1

Lisa Castaldo, SW Johnson

Matthew Centofanti, Alert Hook, Ladder & Engine Co #1.

AJ Knapp, Nanuet Fire Engine Co #1.

John Schaber, Hugh Gassner Fire Company

Michael Shields, Alert Hook, Ladder & Engine Co #1.

50 Years

Robert B. Arena, Suffern Hook & Ladder Co

Charles J. Caselli, Alert Hook, Ladder & Engine Co #1

Kevin J. Gannon, Sloatsburg Fire Dept.

Steven M. Gottsch, New City Fire Engine Co

Simon N. Hader, Brewer Fire Engine Co #1

John P. Kapral, Columbian Engine Co #1

Joseph M. Kapral, Columbian Engine Co #1

John Long, Sloatsburg Fire Dept.

Walter A. Morris, Brewer Fire Engine Co #1

Stephen R. Ong, Nanuet Fire Engine Co #1

Robert H. Sullivan, Lady Warren Hose Co #5

James J. Swift Jr, Rescue Hook & Ladder Co

Paul D. Wanamaker, Empire Hook & Ladder

County of Rockland's September 11th Memorial Ceremony



DATE: Thursday, September 11th

TIME: 8:30 AM (attendees should arrive by 8:15 AM)

PLACE: Haverstraw Bay County Park
21 Gagan Rd, Haverstraw, NY

County officials will join with family members, clergy, first responders & others to mark the 24th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

**FF LODD MEMORIAL AUG 4, 2025****50 YEARS OF SERVICE**

The Officers and members of the Columbian Engine Co. #1 would like to congratulate John "Leroy" Conjura Sr on reaching 50 years of service. At the monthly meeting Aug 6) Leroy received his 50 years of service plaque. Leroy has been a dedicated member from the moment he joined the Columbians. Your dedication, hard work, and sacrifices have truly

not gone unnoticed, and are greatly appreciated. Leroy embodies everything it means to truly be a Columbian. Thank you for all you have done.

WORKING FIRES



At 21:12 hours Aug 9, we responded to a reported structure fire inside Letchworth Village. Upon arrival, we had heavy fire through the roof of a 2-story vacant commercial structure. 26-command advised all incoming units that this was a defensive operation. Engines from Hillcrest, New City, Suffern, West Haverstraw, Spring Valley, and Monsey responded to the scene to assist with the water shuttle.

Haverstraw FD provided an engine to stand by our firehouse during operations on the scene. FD crews operated on the scene for approximately 3 hours. 1 member was transported to a local hospital due to heat exhaustion.

We would like to thank all mutual aid companies, fire coordinators, ems agencies, Haverstraw PD, Monsey's RAC unit, and our very own ladies auxillary for assisting us during this incident. The scene was turned over to the Rockland County Sherrifs Arson Investigations Unit.

2026 CONVENTION AND PARADE

S.W. Johnson has begun preparations to host the 2026 Rockland County Volunteer Firefighters Association Convention and Parade the weekend of October 2 & 3, 2026. This is in conjunction with our company's 150th Anniversary. Only 200 tickets will be sold. If all tickets are sold within 6 months, we will consider having a 2nd raffle!!! Checks can be mailed to:

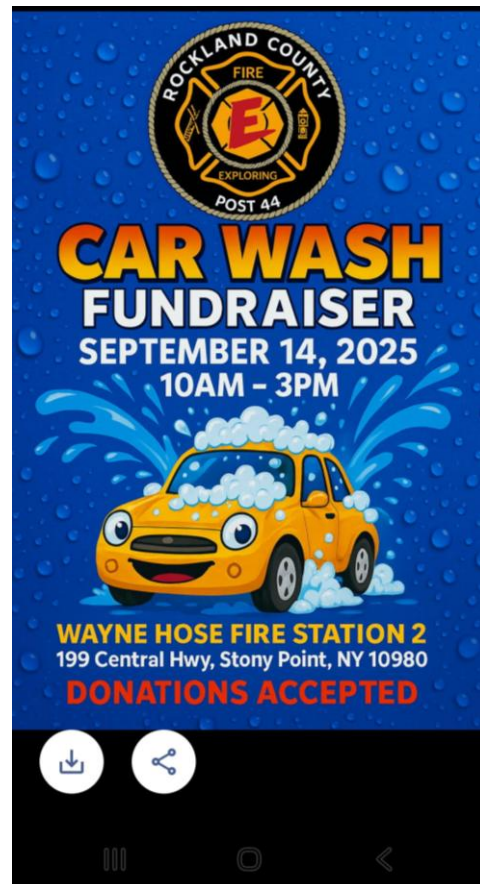
S.W. Johnson SUPER RAFFLE

37 Bridge St.

Garnerville, NY 10923

Payment can also be paid via VENMO: Troy Spong ,ZELLE: 845-721-7879

***Please give 3 number choices and we will attempt to accommodate your choice - if not you will be given a random number!!!



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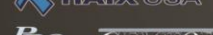
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THE DEDICATION OF A VOLUNTEER FIRE CHIEF

Being a volunteer Fire Chief is not just a title-it is a commitment to serve, lead and protect. Unlike career or paid positions, volunteer Fire Chiefs often balance full time jobs, family responsibilities and personal lives while still responding to calls at all hours and also managing the overall operations of his/her fire department. This level of dedication reflects a rare kind of selflessness that our communities deeply depend on.

Volunteer Fire Chiefs are responsible for far more than just firefighting operations. They have a responsibility to make sure that their members are well trained, have the best and most up to date equipment possible, oversee emergency response plans and departmental procedures and ensure their members are prepared for everything from a structure fire to an automatic fire alarm to an extrication. Leadership in these high-stress environments require not only technical skills but also a calm demeanor, resilience and the ability to make extremely important decisions in a split second. Decisions that can impact that specific incident and the safety of your members.

Their role is needed now more than ever. In many suburban areas, volunteer fire departments are the only line of defense against emergencies. With the public and politicians watching budgets and our limited staffing at times, the Fire Chiefs ability to lead a dedicated team of volunteers is often what keeps the community safe.

The dedication of the volunteer Fire Chiefs is the heartbeat of local emergency response. Their sacrifices may go unnoticed, but their impact is felt every day in the safety and security of the communities they serve.

Chris Kear, Fire Coordinator 44-1

If you would prefer to receive your copy of "The Trumpet" in an electronic version rather than the paper version, please send us your e-mail address. We will add you to our e-mail list and remove you from the snail mail list. Please contact Sheryl Rose at SherylERose58@gmail.com



HIT TRAINING

The Rockland County Fire Instructor Association proudly presents "Engine Company High Intensity Training Day" (HIT). Sunday October 12th, 2025 at the Rockland County Fire Training Center. Limited to 80 students, sign up fast!

This full day training is fast-paced and packed with Engine Company knowledge brought to you by street experienced Instructors. Prepare yourself for a class based on what puts fires out, and not just what's in your textbook! All proceeds from the event will support the Lt. Andy Fredericks Scholarship Fund.

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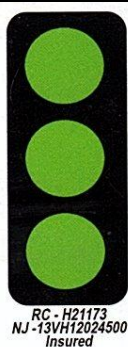
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CALENDAR**LISTINGS ARE FREE****845-364-8800****Deadline for Next Issue Last Wed. 9/24/2025**

- Sep 3, 1777
Fri, Sep 5
- The first day the American Flag was flown
 - 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
Thur, Sep 11
- RCVFA Parade, 2 PM,
 - Patriots Day, NEVER FORGET!
 - Museum Board, 7:30 PM, @FTC, with Chairperson Lisa Castaldo-Gessner
- Sun, Sep 14
- Post 44 Explorers Post, Car Wash, 12 AM-3 PM, at Wayne Hose Fire Station 2, 199 Central Hwy, Stony Point, NY
- Wed, Sep 17
- RC Vol Safety Officers Assoc, BOD 6:30 PM. Mtg 7:30 PM, at East Spring Valley, with Pres Vincent Pacella
- Thur, Sep 18
- RCVFA Ladies Auxiliary, 7:30 PM, at Sloatsburg, with Pres Eleanor DeGraw
 - RC Fire Chiefs Assoc, 7:30 PM, at Pearl River Hool & Ladder, with Pres Chris Kear, Past Presidents Night
- Fri, Sep 19
- National POW/ MIA Recognition Day, this day is set aside to honor the sacrifices made by American POW's and those who are still missing in action, as well as their families. The American Legion is committed to achieving a full accounting of all POW/MIAs from the Gulf War, Vietnam War, Cold War, Korean War, and WW II.
- Sat, Sep 20
- 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.
- Tue, Sep 23
Wed, Sep 24
- Association of Fire Districts, 7:30PM, at Orangeburg, with Pres Vincent Pacella
 - RCVFA Brd of Dir, 7:30 PM, at Nanuet, with Chairperson **Frank Bifulco**
- Thur, Sep 25
- Deadline for articles for Trumpet
 - Fire Advisory Board, 7:30 PM, @FTC, with Chairman Frank Bifulco
 - OCVFA Regular Meeting, Refreshments/Dinner 6:45 PM, Meeting 7:30 PM, at Mombasha Fire Co Convention Meeting
- Thur-Sun, Sep 25-28
- Congers Fire Dept, Firemen's Carnival VMA Fields, Lake Rd Firehouse, 6 PM Thur & Fri, 4 PM Sat & Sun, Fireworks-Sun
- Fri, Sep 26
- NJ&NY VFA, 8:00 PM, at River Edge Fire Company # 1, 695 Kinderkamack Rd, River Edge, NJ 07661, with Pres Anthony Chiodo
- 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
- Sep 27-Oct 4
- Light the Night for Fallen Firefighters, The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation invites individuals, communities, organizations, landmarks, and fire departments to join them for this Annual Nationwide Tribute. During this tribute, landmarks, fire departments, and homes are lit in red during the week of the National Tribute For Fallen Firefighters.
- Sat, Oct 4
- SW Johnson, RCVFA Line of Duty Death memorial Fundraiser, 4-8 PM, Entree Choices: 1. Chicken Parmigiana w/ Pasta 2. Beef Wellington W/ Potato & Vegetable 3. Broiled Salmon Choice of Mango Salsa or Creamy Dill Sauce W/ Rice & Vegetable
Children's Menu available!!! All Dinners come with Soup, Salad Bar & Dessert, Cost: \$35.00 in advance, \$40.00 at the door, \$20.00 for Children's Menu, Venmo: @Troy-Spong, Zelle: 845-721-7879, Please include Dinner choices!! Takeout is available!!!
Call: 845-947-2550, Phones open at 2:00pm
- Sun-Sat, Oct 5-11
Wed, Oct 8
Fri, Oct 10
- Fire Prevention Week, "Charge into Fire Safety: Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home"
 - RC Firefighters Emerald Society, 1930, at Rockland Lake, with Pres Matt DeGennaro
 - RCVFA Next Meeting 7:30 PM at Vol Hose Co#2, West Haverstraw, with Pres Evan Humphrey, Bring a Buddy or Future New Member

Future Events

- Sun, Oct 12
- Suffern Vol Hose, Football Fundraiser, 8 AM, 9:30 Kickoff, \$20 per person, potatoes, corned beef hash, Cash Bar, 35 Washington Ave, Suffern

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



9/11 Never Forget Mobile Exhibit

The County of Rockland is extremely fortunate to announce that the traveling **9/11 Never Forget Mobile Exhibit** will be hosted in the Village of Nyack this October. The following are the details:

Location: Memorial Park in the Village of Nyack

Public Viewing Dates: Friday, October 10th & Saturday, October 11th

Time: 12pm to 9pm

Admission: Free

The 9/11 NEVER FORGET Mobile Exhibit is a tribute to all who lost their lives on September 11, 2001, including the 343 members of the New York City Fire Department (FDNY) who made the ultimate sacrifice, and all who continue to lose their lives to 9/11-related illnesses. This high-tech, 83-foot tractor-trailer, which transforms into an 1,100 square foot exhibit, is a tool to further educate people across the country about the events of that tragic day.

Thank you to the Towers To Tunnels Foundation for this tremendous opportunity.