



District Eight

a newsletter of the

Glenville Hill Fire District #8

September 2019

Meet the Assistant Chief



Assistant Chief Rick Manocchi and his family have lived on Ridge Road in Glenville since 2006. Rick has been a volunteer in the County's emergency services since 1990, becoming a New York State Emergency Medical Technician in 1992.

Rick joined the Glenville Hill Fire Department in 2010, where he became an interior firefighter. He began his service as an officer in 2012 becoming a Lieutenant. He then served as Captain and Training Officer from 2014 until becoming Assistant Chief in 2017. Rick became a nationally registered Fire Instructor-1 in 2015.

Assistant Chief Manocchi helps to plan and deliver drills and instruction for our members and continues to improve himself by taking external training courses. As a sign of his dedication to the importance of ongoing training, Rick volunteered to become the Schenectady County Deputy Fire Coordinator for Training in January of 2018. In that role, he works to coordinate and schedule training classes for fire departments and other emergency services, county-wide.

With his assistance, Glenville Hill's computer

infrastructure has been maintained via donations of used equipment which he has refurbished to serve their needs, while keeping expenses to a minimum!

Stop by the Glenville Hill Fire Department any Tuesday evening at 7:00pm and introduce yourself to our Assistant Fire Chief Rick - don't be surprised if he hands you an application for membership! We are all fortunate to have Rick Manocchi as our Assistant Fire Chief.

Retiring Member Honored for Service



The Glenville Hill Fire District #8 Commissioners, its volunteers and extended family joined together last summer to honor retiring volunteer member Bruce W. Bellamy. A lifelong resident of the Glenville Hills for 74 years, Bruce became a member of the Glenville Hill Fire Company in July 1963, remaining an

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FIRE COMMISSIONERS

WILLIAM BENOSKY, CHAIRPERSON
DIRK FRANCOIS, VICE CHAIRPERSON
THOMAS McLAUGHLIN
ARMAND CANESTRARO
JAMES MACFARLAND

Firehouse non-emergency number (518) 377-3002

active member for 55 years, 10 months. The Fire Commissioners, together with several New York State and Federal elected officials on hand, publically honored and acknowledged their appreciation for his volunteer service and presented him with several citations at the August gathering. "Such volunteer service, truly the lifeblood of the community and the state, so often goes unrecognized and unrewarded." said District Fire Commissioner Chairperson Benosky.

Also present to honor Bruce were Congressman Tonko, Senator Tedisco, Assemblywoman Walsh and Glenville Town Supervisor Koetzle.

Fire Company Transfers Vacant Land to District

In our last newsletter, we announced the GHFD Fire Company members agreed to transfer 28 (+/-) acres of vacant land surrounding the existing firehouse and picnic pavilion for \$1 to District residents. The survey and title work are complete and we are awaiting the final transfer paperwork to be finalized combining the Company donation to the existing District parcel. We are hopeful that the process will be completed by this fall.

District Commissioners' Meeting is held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm at the firehouse. All district residents are welcome.

Senator Tedisco Delivers Grant Check



Senator Jim Tedisco visited recently to deliver a grant check in the amount of \$4,500. The Senator discussed the availability of funding sources and reviewed our equipment and building needs. Sharing our vision, he vowed to support and work with us in the development of a future plan.

Calls-Responses

	2018	2019 YTD
Total Calls:	137	90
Fires	11	5
Medical EMS	96	70
False Alarms	11	2
All other Calls*	19	13

*Hazardous conditions, good intent, service calls, basement pump outs, etc.

Assemblywoman Walsh visits District #8



Assemblywoman Mary Beth Walsh recently visited the Glenville Hill Fire District #8 along with Chief Craig Myers, Assistant Chief Rick Manocchi (not pictured), and Fire Commissioners Canestraro, McLaughlin and Slingerland for a very informative tour and discussion. Our local volunteer fire companies do so much for our communities, and are constantly working to stretch every dollar even as costs rise, equipment ages, and mandatory training requirements increase said Assemblywoman Walsh. She is the daughter, daughter-in-law and wife of volunteer firemen who have served their communities, and she always strives to keep their thoughts in mind as she represents volunteer districts in Albany. Assemblywoman Walsh is committed to assisting District #8 in any way possible in the NYS Assembly.

Auxiliary News

The Fire Auxiliary meets on the first Wednesday of every month at 7:00 PM at the firehouse. All are welcome (yes men too!), and we would love to have new members come aboard and support our fire department and community. We also have junior members age 13 and up! For more information, please call Patty Manocchi at (518)346-0271.

Glenville Hill Fire District Future

Since the existing firehouse was built in 1955, many NYS and National Fire codes have evolved. Working within the confines of the original footprint of our firehouse, the District has worked to comply with new codes to provide essential life and safety services with limited resources. Unfortunately, there remain several deficiencies in the building that result in safety concerns.

After much discussion and a critical infrastructure review, the Board of Fire Commissioners engaged expert guidance to determine a path towards an up-to-date, compliant, and safe working environment for both the District's equipment and the volunteer firefighters who serve us every day. District Commissioners have been working closely with Delaware Engineering over the past year to develop an approach to address the much needed improvements to advance firefighter safety, provide workable apparatus bays and create an accessible firehouse at a "reasonable-affordable" cost. A comprehensive needs validation assessment was performed to determine the required items in terms of firefighter safety and critical space dimensions for fire apparatus vehicles with either a renovated or new station approach. A conceptual design has been created that meets the performance requirements with consideration of the budget.

As reported in our last newsletter, District Commissioners together with volunteer Company members and with the support of Delaware Engineering are in complete agreement that the District does not need, require or want an expensive replacement brick and mortar firehouse that costs millions of dollars to construct. Our goal is to make the

firehouse safe for our volunteers, secure our expensive fire and rescue apparatus as well as strengthen our connection to the community by providing access to a community room as well as tables and chairs where residents can host community events like birthday parties, baby showers and family reunions.

The ongoing meetings with Delaware Engineering remain focused on the most economical way to address space and safety concerns, especially NYS and FEMA codes. These conversations together with Delaware Engineering's extensive municipal experience has led us to the most cost-effective solution for our situation which is a pre-fabricated building to provide an apparatus bay addition to be attached on the East side of the existing firehouse. As the planning process continues over the next several months, conceptual information will be made available to all District #8 residents in an open format of informational meetings followed by question and answer periods.

As most District #8 residents are aware, the residents elect their Board of Fire Commissioners. At present, the Board is comprised of three resident-firefighters and two non-firefighter residents, each providing years of firefighting and business experience to the process. The five Commissioners continue to work tirelessly addressing safety concerns while keeping the most important item, cost, in check. Additionally, the Commissioners have several community members in our District who will review the initial planning to further insure that need and feasibility are both physically and fiscally addressed. This resident advisory review will provide countless hours of concentrated effort and provide an objective review of the proposed project, having not been involved in the initial planning. District-wide informational meetings will follow shortly after their review is complete and all District residents will be provided plenty of opportunity to review, discuss and weigh in on the project in

early Fall 2019. The Fire Commissioners continue to research grant funding sources, including working with both State and Federal Legislators to help address our concerns for funding assistance. We are excited to work on this much needed project on your behalf and hope you will offer your support of our effort in the coming months.

Is Your House Number Visible?

In case of an emergency, would we be able to find your house? While you know where you live, having your mailbox and your home identified with the assigned house number will save minutes should we be summoned to your home. The Glenville Hill Fire District and its volunteers are working together for the safety of its residents. Can your house number be seen from the road?

The following are a few suggestions to help us find you in case of an emergency:

A number shall be prominently placed at least 4 feet above ground height on the front roadside of every house, mobile home and structure located on the property.



Mailboxes should be marked with a 4-inch reflective house/structure number on both sides.

Most importantly, please be sure that the numbers are visible from the road and are not obstructed by trees or shrubs. If you have questions or would like to review house number sign placement, please call us at the firehouse at (518) 377-3002.

SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES



Smoke alarms give you an early warning of smoke or fire so that you have more time to escape from danger. A working smoke alarm cuts your risk of dying in a fire in half. **Here's how to stay safe:**

Clean your alarms regularly with a hair dryer or with your vacuum's brush attachment. Dust and cobwebs can hinder the alarm's performance.

Press the TEST button on each of your alarms every month to make sure they're working properly.

Install your alarm at least 10 feet away from your stove to reduce the chance of a false alarm.

Install alarms on the ceiling or high up on an interior wall.

Place smoke alarms inside each bedroom and outside each sleeping area and on every level of the house, including the basement.

Replace all of your smoke alarms every 10 years.

DID YOU KNOW?

✓ There are special smoke alarms for people who are deaf or hard of hearing. They use flashing lights or bed shaker pads to alert you.

✓ You can get special smoke alarms that are wired directly into your electrical system. No more worrying about batteries!



Glenville Hill Fire District #8
1086 Church Road
Glenville, NY 12302

