

# Firefighters Parade

Saturday, September 9, 2023

A special section of the  
Sullivan County Democrat  
September 1, 2023

Sullivan County Firefighter's  
Association Parade

Hosted by  
Roscoe-Rockland Fire Department





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This year, we thank **ROSCOE FD** for sponsoring the parade and we offer huge congratulations to **WURTSBORO FD** on their **125th Anniversary!** There's no greater gift than selfless service to humanity. A lot of people forget that firefighters work tirelessly to protect us every day. Your commitment to our communities never ceases, no matter how tired you are, physically or mentally. Thank you for saving lives and property. We hope you know how much we love and appreciate you, especially in this year of your momentous **125th ANNIVERSARY!**

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EDITORIAL

# Training to protect ourselves and others

BY ANTHONY MORGANO

“Is there a fire in you?” The question posed by the Join Sullivan Fire initiative as a means of recruitment and retention has been answered by many throughout history, whether they realized it or not.

At its core, the volunteer fire service is a means of protecting your community. Firefighters volunteer their time to train on ways to provide more effective responses to emergencies.

Departments around the county work together to coordinate their responses to mitigate emergencies. Knowing your neighbor's resources and creating a network of mutual aid adds a layer of comraderie to the fire service that extends beyond one's home department.

The Roscoe-Rockland Fire

Department (RRFD), host of the 2023 SCVFA County Parade, expanded upon this layer of comraderie this year. A joint drill that began in the firehouse between members of the RRFD and Roscoe-Rockland Volunteer Ambulance Corp. caught the attention of other departments around Sullivan County.

The drill that they've gone on the road to demonstrate across the county is a Firefighter Down CPR scenario. The hands-on training simulates getting a firefighter out of their gear rapidly to begin providing life-saving care.

“Firefighters wear heavy turnout gear and work in stressful atmospheres,” Sullivan County Fire Coordinator John Hauschild explained. “Unfortunately once in a while, a firefighter goes down.”

A lot of the training that first

responders attend are necessary, although it is the type of thing you hope you never have to encounter.

“We never want to see one of our own go down,” Hauschild said. “But it is important to know what to do if it happens.”

First responders all over the county have been busy, with the number of calls up from 2021 to 2022. According to the data, there was a 2.6 percent increase in calls from June of 2022 to June of 2023 as well.

For anyone interested in joining a local fire department or learning more about the fire service, John Hauschild's message is simple.

“Come down to the fire

house and meet the members. There's something for everyone to do in the fire service.”



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# Welcome to the 94th Annual Firefighters Parade!

**State Route 17 E/W Exit 94**

**Parade End / Festivities**

**FIRE HOUSE**

**Roscoe**

**Roscoe Diner**

**Parade Lineup Gulf Road**

**Fireman's Field**

**Parade Route**

**Apparatus Judging (Roscoe Central School)**

**Parade Lineup**

**Festivities**

**Parking**

**Who:** The Roscoe-Rockland Fire Department is hosting the 94th Annual Sullivan County Volunteer Firefighters Association parade which recognizes volunteers who dedicate their time and talents to protect their communities.

**What:** The 94th Annual Sullivan County Volunteer Firefighters Association Parade

**When:** Saturday, September 9. Line up at 1pm. Step off 2 p.m.

**Where:** Line up on Gulf Road. Parade ends at Roscoe-Rockland Firehouse (See map at left). After Parade Festivities held at firehouse.

Trophy Presentation at 5:30 p.m.

Friday night festivities include a Mardi Gras Parade, bed races and a bucket brigade.

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*'Roscoe-Rockland to host annual parade on Sept. 9'*

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for District 1 Legislator



Hello Everyone,

I'm running to be Sullivan County Legislator from District 1. I was born and grew up here. I love my home. Like you, I want to make it a better place to live and work.

**Openness, honesty, civility, and cooperation** are the best ways to benefit the most people. I've worked, across the aisle, for Republican Congressman Faso and Democratic Assemblywoman Gunther. I'm running as both a Democrat and an Independent— good ideas are where you find them.

Good government serves all of us. It should be easy to participate and be recognized. Leaders should be welcoming and listen thoughtfully to ideas and comments from everyone. Cooperation and civility should be the standard— good government isn't about competition. Our loyal County employees should be recognized, encouraged, and celebrated. I know we can serve all of Sullivan County better, even when we have our differences.

I'll be in your neighborhood between now and the election to hear your thoughts on good government and whatever else is on your mind. And I'll be back here to tell you about my ideas on other major issues.

Until then,

Matt



**PS: District 1 has changed. Scan here to find out if you're in it.**

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# Healthiest Fire Department Challenge

BY LINDSAY WHEAT, OUTREACH COORDINATOR, SULLIVAN 180

In January, Sullivan 180 kicked off the Healthiest Fire Department Challenge. The intention of the program was to support and serve the firematic community, most of whom are volunteers serving others, sometimes at the cost of their own personal health.

According to the Firefighter Cancer Support Network, from the moment the tones drop, a firefighter's heart rate increases 47 beats per minute. At any time of day or night, in any type of weather conditions, firefighters stop what they are doing and respond to an emergency. They are consistently managing the balance between family, work and community service. Disturbed sleep patterns, typical for firefighters, take an enormous toll. Absorbing the trauma of each call has impacts that are not always immediate or obvious. For these and other reasons, firefighters face significant and unique health challenges. Research shows more than 50 percent of all firefighters have elevated blood pressure, are obese and pre-diabetic. 90 percent or more have poor diet or exercise habits. Firefighters hold the highest suicide rate of any first responder.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Wurtsboro Fire Department earned a Turtle Point for hiking during the Healthiest Fire Department Challenge.



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**A special thank you to all the brave men and women who sacrifice their lives for us each day.**


Nancy Buck  
Sullivan County  
Treasurer

94666

**Thank you Sullivan County Firefighters & Emergency Services**

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Since the challenge launched, 17 departments have engaged in activities (challenges) to enhance the physical and mental health of their members. Departments received credit in the form of "turtle points" for each health focused activity they completed. The challenges were meant to be easy and attainable but impactful.

Activities ranged from serving healthier meals during drill and meeting nights; joining as a department family and hiking or walking local trails; attending health related seminars and becoming trained in suicide prevention. There were even water consumption and weight loss challenges.

"Traditionally, the chosen meal for after departments hold their drill and/or their



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

Members of the Jeffersonville Fire Department walk the Hurleyville Rail Trail.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

monthly meetings, is pizza," said Lindsay Wheat, Sullivan 180 Outreach Coordinator. "We challenged our departments to get creative and choose a healthier meal choice. Several departments joined together in their kitchen and went as far as making homemade pasta and sauce after choosing to take a class on nutrition labels and ingredients. Another department switched out their pizza to a cauliflower crust!"

The Sullivan 180 Healthiest Fire Department will conclude on September 1; with winners being announced at the 94th Annual Sullivan County Volunteer Fireman's Parade on Saturday, September 9, hosted by the Roscoe/Rockland Fire Company. The two departments that earn the most turtle points will be eligible for a grant in the amount of \$15,000 and \$10,000, respectively. These grants are made possible with the generous support from Aileen Gunther. Additional "Turtle Awards" in the amount of \$500 will be given to departments for specific activities.

Lake Huntington Challenge Captain Jenna Sayers said, "After



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS  
Above: Members of the Lake Huntington Fire Department braved the cold to meet up and get outside.

At right: Grahamsville learned about common health issues facing firefighters.



reading the ingredients [in jar pasta sauce] and finding out that it contained ingredients used in making rock salt, we quickly decided it would be healthier to make our own. This challenge has really opened our eyes to what is put into the foods we consume daily."

To date, the Healthiest Fire Department Challenge has encouraged over 1,000 healthier activities completed by our local heroes.

The Parade steps off at 2:00 p.m at the intersection of Gulf Road and Stewart Avenue in Roscoe, ending at Niforatos Field. The award ceremony begins at approximately 5:30 p.m. All are welcome to watch the parade and cheer on the departments.



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Kauneonga Lake firefighters focused on healthier eating to earn a turtle.

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# Roscoe-Rockland Fire Department and Ladies Auxiliary



PHOTOS BY ALEX RAU PHOTOGRAPHY

Members of the Roscoe-Rockland Fire Department and the Ladies' Auxiliary. Back row from left: Paul Meisner, Carter Feeney, Greg Feeney Jr, Greg Feeney Sr, John Poliseno, Max Jara, Fred Portz, Jessica Doyle, Ted Rampe, Chris Bury, Anthony Morgano, Mike Rittendale, Chris Tanis and Mathew Kunze. Middle row from left: Joey Bowers, Paul Stock, Tom Darbee, Pete Passaro, Bill Rajewski, Mike Will, Keith Travers, 2nd Asst Chief Gene DelliPaoli, Chief Guy Baker, 1st Asst Chief Nate Routledge, Steve Hecht Sr, Charlie Rampe, Gary Bury, George Niforatos, and John Bockelmann.

The Roscoe-Rockland Fire Department Ladies' Auxiliary seated, from left are Karen Darbee, Stacey Green, Mary Niforatos, Karrie Jara, Ann Rajewski, Heidi Hesse, Chrissy Routledge, Shannon Feeney, Eileen Mershon, Denise Will and Kendra Harris-Constant.



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# Ex-Chiefs

At right: Current and former Chiefs of the Roscoe-Rockland Fire Department. From left, Charlie Rampe, Pete Passaro, Mike Will, Gary Bury, 2nd Asst Chief Gene DelliPaoli, Chief Guy Baker, 1st Asst Chief Nate Routledge, Keith Travers, Steve Hecht Sr and Bill Rajewski.



# Civil Officers

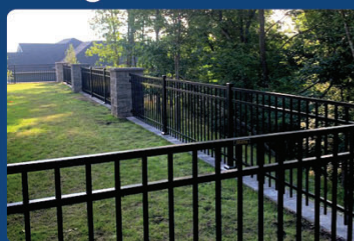
At left: Civil Officers of the Roscoe-Rockland Fire Department, from left are Vice President Anthony Morgano, President Mike Rittendale, Treasurer Mike Will and Secretary John Bockelmann.



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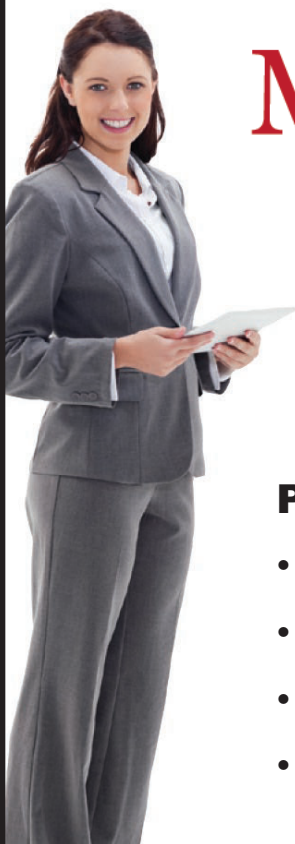




# Line Officers



Line Officers of the Roscoe-Rockland Fire Department from left, Lt Jessica Doyle, Captain Joseph Bowers, 2nd Asst Chief Gene DelliPaoli, Chief Guy Baker, 1st Asst Chief Nate Routledge, Lt Greg Feeney Jr, Fire Police Captain George Niforatos. Missing from photo are Special Ops Captain Dusty Bury and Safety Officer James Austin.



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**Participating Departments in the 2023 Healthiest Fire Department Challenge:**

- Bloomingsburg Fire Department
- Grahamsville Fire Department
- Jeffersonville Fire Department
- Kauneonga Lake Fire Department
- Lake Huntington Fire Department
- Liberty Fire Department
- Lumberland Fire Department
- Monticello Fire Department
- Mountindale Fire Department
- Neversink Fire Department
- Rock Hill Fire Department
- Roscoe Fire Department
- Summitville Fire Department
- White Lake Fire Department
- Wurtsboro Fire Department
- Youngsville Fire Department
- Yulan Fire Department

Congratulations to all who participated. Your commitment to the health of your department and our community is an inspiration.

**Throughout this challenge, departments...**

Completed over 1,000 healthy activities;

Ate over 240 healthy meals;

Participated in over 300 physical challenges;

Trained over 250 firefighters in QPR suicide prevention and Narcan administration;

Watched over 250 presentations on physical and mental health.

Join Sullivan 180, Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther and the Sullivan County Volunteer Firefighters Association at the SCVFA Parade in Roscoe on Saturday, September 9 to hear the live announcement of the winners of the 2023 Healthiest Fire Department Challenge.



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# History of the Roscoe-Rockland Fire Department

If you're traveling through the hamlet of Roscoe, it isn't hard to spot the Roscoe-Rockland Fire Department, as they've been a true pillar in the community for several decades. They're a 100 percent volunteer fire department, currently covering a sizeable district as well as many protection districts. They operate with two Class A pumpers, a 100' Saulsbury Aerial Ladder truck, 3,000 gallon tanker, a mini rescue, and a utility truck/Kubota for ATV accidents and fire police usage.

But like every department, there's a storied history, and what is currently one was once two departments. The Roscoe Hose Company was formed in 1892, and two years later, the Rockland Hose Co. was organized. Rockland charged 10 cents a month dues, Roscoe is unknown at this time. In order to raise money back then, they'd have oyster suppers. The oysters arrived the morning of the fundraiser on an O & W train, and were served up that night. Both fire companies had their mettle tested in the horrific fire of November 1916, when a fire destroyed 23 buildings in Roscoe. The canvas hose burned off the fire hydrant and the heat was so intense that the hydrant couldn't be turned off. The men had to resort to bucket brigades and hand pumping water from the river.

The Spring of 1927

The Roscoe Fire Laddies were burned out of their home, a loss of around \$25,000. A big fire started in a garage next to the fire station and spread to the fire station occupied by the fire department...the Roscoe firemen were able to save their apparatus. Also that year, Roscoe floated a merger idea to Rockland. On May 26, 1927 Rockland rejected Roscoe's plans for a joint fire district. Their reasoning: 'We can take care of our own town. Rockland now has its own company and equipment and has always been able to take care of its own fires with the exception of the Methodist Church which burned several years ago. The Rockland



DEMOCRAT FILE PHOTO

water main does not carry enough water for two pumpers to work at the scene.'

The Rockland Fire Hall is large, having a seating capacity for 200, a stage and a fine dancing floor."

Both companies began to fund raise in earnest with pancake suppers and dances held at the respective fire halls. Finally, in 1929, the new Roscoe Fire House was built, "at a cost of \$27,000." This building is now owned by Prohibition Distillery.

Hotel fires were always a problem...

In 1932, the Lakewood Inn burned to the ground despite the best efforts of both Roscoe and Rockland Hose Companies. Eventually both departments merged to form the Roscoe-Rockland Fire Department in 1996!

Some general fire history

So why did the members volunteer? The ultimate goal was to protect homes and property. It was only open to men at the time, but later, women formed an auxiliary to provide sandwiches and coffee to exhausted men during and after a fire.

As far as equipment, they had hose carts only to start with. These were canvas hoses coiled around two big wheels and pulled by hand or by a horse. There were no light trucks, no turn-out gear, no air

bottles, and most importantly, no radios to call for more manpower. Huge iron rings stood outside of the fire station and were struck with a hammer to summon the volunteers, usually at night and from a warm bed. Horses were saddled, lanterns were lit, (there was no electricity and certainly no flashlights!) and the men banded together to fight a common enemy... the fire. Firefighting originally involved squads of men roving through city streets seeking fires. The squads were sometimes called the 'Rattle Watch' because they 'rattled the alarm'.

Other groups sounded a bell and then organized a bucket brigade; everyone was expected to help. Pretty much all of the groups later formed clubs or mutual fire societies, hence the fire companies or 'a company of men'.

Ben Franklin is thought to be the first fire chief because in 1735 he formed a fire brigade called the Union Fire Company. They met monthly to discuss firefighting techniques... sound familiar? Even George Washington was a volunteer and later purchased and donated a new fire engine. Years ago, fire departments often became powerful political machines, too.

The Civil War era saw entire fire companies joining up together and that's where the current rank sys-

tem came about. The army soldiers received a rank, i.e.; captain, lieutenant, sergeant, and continued to use that title when they came home to their local fire brigade. Now after the Civil War, fire companies were either government established or private.

The government run fire companies became the paid departments of today. However, some of the private groups were owned by fire insurance companies! Those companies then put symbols or 'fire marks' on buildings to show that the burning building received money from the insurance company! In Roscoe, the Sanborn Insurance Company carried this idea a step farther and started mapping towns while identifying fire risks. It is because of this map that we know where the Roscoe Hose Cart was located in 1904, coincidentally, on the site of the later 1929 firehouse.

Mr. Maus had a livery stable next door and would allow the firemen to use one of his horses if needed in a fire. Unfortunately, Sanborn didn't map out Rockland as that was considered a residential area. The failed fish hatchery building became the first firehouse in 1975.

According to their history, there was a garage built in 1946, a meeting room added in 1958, and when the old fish hatchery building was torn down, a new building was constructed around the old in 1975.

Firefighting has come a long way since 1892. The equipment is modern, ladders higher, the very best turn-out gear, helmets, boots, and let's not forget better communication!

But the level of dedication remains the same! The fire whistle sounds and volunteers rush towards a fire with the same determination, bravery and courage as those hardy souls in 1892!

Special thanks to Town of Rockland Historian and Roscoe Free Library Director Dr. Joyce Conroy for providing information for this article.



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106168



# 94th Annual SCVFA County Parade Line-up



DEMOCRAT FILE PHOTO

First responders from throughout Sullivan County and beyond gather each year for the SCVFA County Parade. Spectators flock to the host department to support the local firefighters, EMS personnel and police that keep our communities safe.



DEMOCRAT FILE PHOTOS

Above: The SCVFA County Parade always draws a large crowd of marchers and spectators.

Below: The Sullivan County Sheriff's Office Color Guard will be in Roscoe for the 94th Annual SCVFA County Parade.



## DIVISION ONE

NYSP Honor Guard  
 Grand Marshal Ex Chief D.Bury  
 Broome County Celtic Pipe and Drums  
 Monticello Fire Department  
 Monticello FD Ladies Auxiliary  
 Monticello FD Apparatus  
 Fallsburg Fire Department  
 Fallsburg Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Port Jervis Fire Department  
 Port Jervis Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Highland Lake Fire Department  
 Highland Lake Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Swan Lake Fire Department  
 Swan Lake Fire Dept. Apparatus

White Sulphur Springs Fire Dept.  
 White Sulphur Springs Fire Dept. Ladies Auxiliary  
 White Sulphur Springs Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Summitville Fire Department  
 Summitville Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Callicoon Fire Department  
 Callicoon Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Lumberland Fire Department  
 Lumberland Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Liberty Fire Department  
 Liberty Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Woodridge Fire Department  
 Woodridge Fire Dept. Apparatus

## DIVISION TWO

Sullivan County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard  
 Grand Marshal's Ex Chief G.Bury  
 and Ex Chief M.Will  
 Chets Brass Ensemble  
 Rock Hill Fire Dept.  
 Rock Hill Fire Dept. Ladies Auxiliary  
 Rock Hill Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Rock Hill EMS  
 Youngsville Fire Department  
 Youngsville Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Cooks Falls Fire Department  
 Cooks Falls Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Woodbourne Fire Department

Woodbourne Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Loch Sheldrake Fire Dept.  
 Loch Sheldrake Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 North Branch Fire Dept.  
 North Branch Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Hankins Fire Department  
 Hankins Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Downsville Fire Department  
 Downsville Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Mountandale Fire Dept.  
 Mountandale Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Forestburgh Fire Dept.  
 Forestburgh Fire Dept. Apparatus

## DIVISION THREE

Delaware County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard  
 Grand Marshal's Ex Chief K.Travers  
 and Ex Chief C.Rampe  
 Mechanicstown Fire Dept. Mechanical Band  
 Mechanicstown Fire Dept.  
 Mechanicstown Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 White Lake Fire Dept.  
 White Lake Fire Dept. Ladies Auxiliary  
 White Lake Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Hurleyville Fire Dept.  
 Hurleyville Fire Dept. Ladies Auxiliary  
 Hurleyville Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Wurtsboro Fire Department  
 Wurtsboro Fire Dept. Ladies Auxiliary  
 Wurtsboro Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Tusten EMS  
 Hortonville Fire Department

Hortonville Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Grahamsville Fire Dept.  
 Grahamsville Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Kauneonga Lake Fire Dept.  
 Kauneonga Lake Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Neversink Fire Dept.  
 Neversink Fire Dept. Ladies Auxiliary  
 Neversink FD Apparatus  
 East Branch Fire Dept.  
 East Branch Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Smallwood Fire Dept.  
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 SCVFA President Craig Burkle  
 SCVFA Banner and Executive Officers  
 Orange County Firefighters Pipe and Drums  
 Grand Marshal Guy Baker  
 - Chief Roscoe Rockland Fire Dept  
 Roscoe Rockland Fire Department  
 Grand Marshals Ex Chief Steve Hecht  
 and Ex Chief Pete Passaro  
 Roscoe Rockland Fire Dept. Ladies Auxiliary  
 Roscoe Rockland Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Bethpage Fire Department  
 Bethpage Fire Dept. Apparatus.  
 Beaverkill Valley Fire Department  
 Beaverkill Valley Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Livingston Manor Fire Dept.

Livingston Manor Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Livingston Manor Fire Dept. Ladies Auxiliary  
 Callicoon Center Fire Dept.  
 Callicoon Center Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Jeffersonville Fire Dept.  
 Jeffersonville Fire Dept. Apparatus  
 Hancock Fire Department  
 Hancock Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary  
 Hancock Fire Department Apparatus  
 Narrowsburg Fire Department  
 Narrowsburg Fire Department Apparatus  
 Lava Fire Department  
 Lava Fire Department Apparatus  
 Bloomingburg Fire Department  
 Bloomingburg Fire Dept. Apparatus



# Grand Marshals

## 94th Annual Sullivan County Volunteer Firefighter's Parade September 9th, 2023



**Guy Baker**  
Chief



**Gary Bury**  
Ex-Chief



**Dusty Bury**  
Ex-Chief



**Keith Travers**  
Ex-Chief



**Steve Hecht**  
Ex-Chief



**Charlie Rampe**  
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**Mike Will**  
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**Pete Passaro**  
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# SCVFA Officers

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from Narrowsburg Fire Dept.

**Robert Trotti** *1st Vice President*

from Livingston Manor Fire Dept.

**Shane Cunningham** *2nd Vice president*

from White Lake Fire Dept.

**Al Dumas** *3rd Vice President*

from Monticello Fire Dept.

**Lauren O'Conner** *Secretary*

from Livingston Manor Fire Dept.

**Joe Mallan** *Treasurer*

from Highland Fire Dept.

**Don Sherwood** *Trustee*

from Swan Lake Fire Dept.

**William Lothrop** *Trustee*

from Wurtsboro Fire Dept.

**Michael Hoyt** *Trustee*

from Rock Hill Fire Dept.

**Mark Meddaugh** *Chaplin*

from Rock Hill Fire Dept.

**George ( Shorty ) Strumpfier**

*Sergeant At Arms* from Lava Fire Dept.

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### ON THE COVER:

Former Roscoe-Rockland Fire Dept. Chief and 2018 Grand Marshal George Kinne stands proudly on an antique fire truck as former chief Mike Will drives during the parade.

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DEMOCRAT FILE PHOTO  
The Roscoe-Rockland Volunteer Ambulance Corps will be rolling through town during the 94th Annual SCVFA County Parade.

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DEMOCRAT FILE PHOTO  
 The Fightin' 29 will have their Aerial Ladder out during the parade on Saturday, September 9.



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DEMOCRAT FILE PHOTO  
Ex Chief Charlie  
Rampe was the  
29-41 wheelman  
in White Lake at  
last year's pa-  
rade.



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Sullivan County First Responders and their families for their time,  
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DEMOCRAT FILE PHOTO

Ex Chief Steve Hecht Sr marches along the parade route during the 93rd Annual SCVFA County Parade hosted by the White Lake Fire Company.



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DEMOCRAT FILE PHOTO  
 The Roscoe-Rockland Ladies Auxiliary marched through White Lake last year, but will be marching through their home town on September 9.

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DEMOCRAT FILE PHOTO

Supporters flock to the SCVFA County Parade to thank the various first responders for their service to their local communities.

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# 125 years of tradition in Wurtsboro

STORY AND PHOTO  
BY DEREK KIRK

On October 20, 1898, a group of community-minded Wurtsboro residents gathered together to form the Wurtsboro Hose Company. Fast forward 125 years to today, that same fire company still stands strong, protecting the surrounding area as the Wurtsboro Fire Department.

Despite a number of company mergers and name changes, the dedication to protect people, preserve property and prevent fire stands as a staple in the community. Over the past two decades, the department has seen remarkable changes in numerous ways and has settled into the present.

This year, the fire department is expecting to reach nearly 300 answered calls to duty, with roughly 70 members currently active. 15 of



Fire Chief Dustin Graham's vehicle sits proudly outside of the Wurtsboro Fire House, waiting and ready for the next call out to a fire scene or to help someone in need. Although the department is now 125 years old, the current firehouse was recently built in December of 2020.

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those local heroes are lifetime members of the company who continue to remain active in the defense of their community.

Wurtsboro Fire Chief Dustin Graham has been with the department for 30 years.

The fire apparatus located at the department backs up the statement, as it is noted to be some of the most modern in the tri-county area with state-of-the-art equipment and updated fire fighting techniques. On top of that, the fire department moved into a new home just three years ago.

In December of 2020, the new firehouse was opened and became the new home for the Wurtsboro Fire Department.

"Our Board of Fire Commissioners has worked diligently and within the fiscal parameters of the tax base to achieve this goal. Our Officers and Commissioners continue to work, hand in hand, in a team effort for the betterment of the fire district, department and community," said the fire district's

Chairman Bill Lothrop.

He indicates that the district looks forward to ... "We look forward to the next one hundred and twenty-five years of continued prosperity and growth in our community and our fire district," they said.

For the complete in-depth history of the Fire Department and fire district as it triumphed over various struggles, including World War I and II and numerous construction projects, fighting countless fires, reach out to Fire Commissioners Chairman Bill Lothrop.



**Line Officers**

- Fire Chief Dustin Graham
- 1st Asst. Chief Russell Russo
- 2nd Asst. Chief Franklin Roosa II
- Captain William Barclay
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DEMOCRAT FILE PHOTO  
The lineup for this year's SCVFA County Parade features first responders from Sullivan, Delaware, Orange and other counties.


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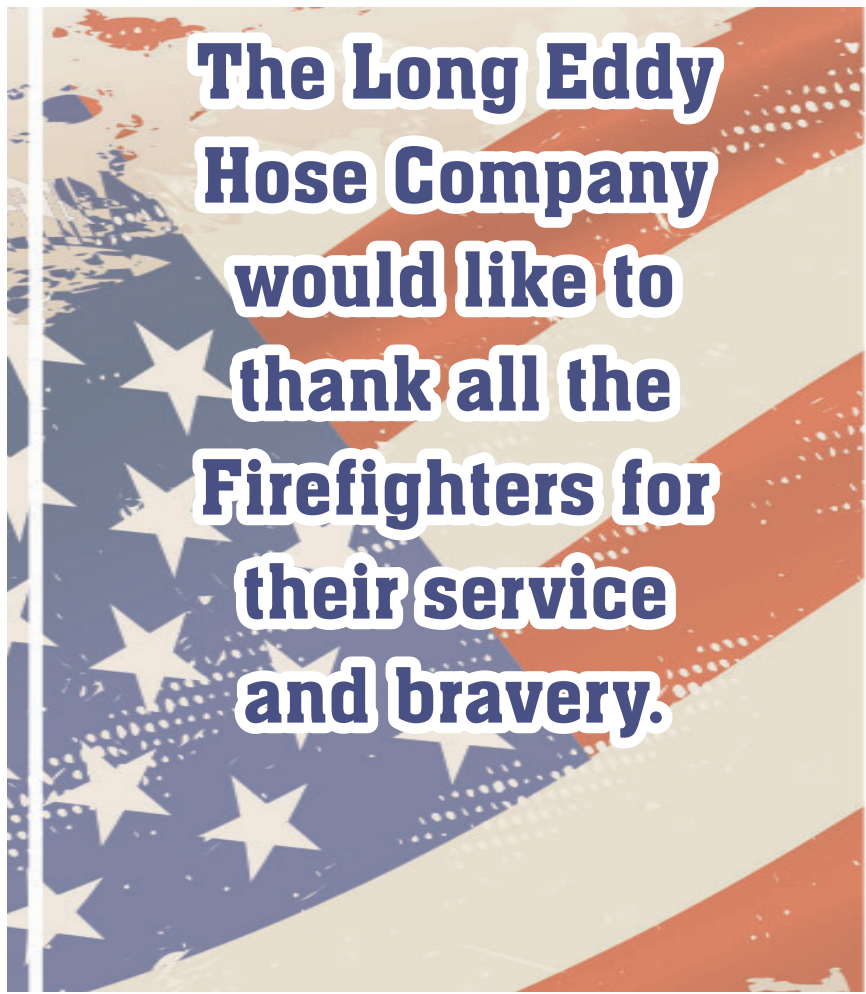
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DEMOCRAT FILE PHOTO  
 The Hurleyville Fire Department will be at this year's County Parade. They wore full dress uniforms in 2022 at the SCVFA County Parade in White Lake.

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DEMOCRAT FILE PHOTO

Fire Police Captain George Niforatos rolls through White Lake in 2022.

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DEMOCRAT FILE PHOTO  
 Roscoe-Rockland Fire Chief Guy Baker, Ex Chiefs Steve Hecht Sr and Keith Travers and Lt Jessica Doyle marched through White Lake during the 2022 parade.



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