



HALESITE F. D. NEWS



Volume 13, Number 1 Hot Line: 427-7250 • Non Emergency Phone: 427-1910 Spring, 2010

FUND DRIVE 2010

The Halesite Fire Department Annual Fund Drive for 2010 has begun. Each year we ask residents to support the volunteers with donations to the Fund Drive. While tax dollars pay for equipment, maintenance, dispatchers' salaries, fire hydrant rental, and other operating expenses, many activities of the department are dependent on residents' donations. Donations pay for athletic teams, insurance, death benefits, refreshments, and community functions like our Blood Drives each January and August, the Fire Prevention Week Open House in October, and the Holiday party for fire district children in December.

We begin the Fund Drive each spring with a mailing to residents and have subsequent mailings later in the year. In October we may conduct a door to door canvas of the district residents. *We never solicit over the telephone.* If you would like to make a donation, please use the enclosed postage paid return envelope.

Thank you for your support.

TAX REDUCTION

While many taxes are rising, the Commissioners of the Halesite Fire District were able to again effect a reduction in your fire tax for 2010.

IS YOUR HOUSE NUMBER VISIBLE?

In a fire or medical emergency, seconds count. To avoid delaying responders, make sure your house number is clearly visible from the street both day and night. Use reflective numbers that are at least 4" high and place them where they are not hidden by foliage, open doors, or vehicles. In addition to a number on your house, a curbside number is also helpful to responders.



43 YEARS OF AMBULANCE SERVICE

2010 marks the 43rd year that the Halesite F.D. has provided ambulance service to the residents and businesses within the Halesite Fire District. Since October 12, 1967, ambulance service has been provided 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The ambulance responded to seven calls in the final 12 weeks of 1967; last year we responded to over 400 ambulance calls. Because of the increase in the number of calls each year, we have two ambulances available to answer your calls for help.

At least one NYS certified Emergency Medical Technician responds in the ambulance for every call; and usually there are more EMTs responding in their own vehicles. We can provide oxygen, defibrillation, and several other basic emergency medical treatments.

In addition to this Basic Life Support service, Advanced Life Support is offered between 6:00AM and 6:00PM on weekdays. This is a joint effort with the Centerport Fire Department, and it is offered during the times many volunteers are at work and unable to respond to emergencies within the district.

If you would like to be part of our emergency medical response team, please call the firehouse at 427-1910.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Halesite Volunteer Fire Department is one of 109 fire departments in Suffolk County; and our department is comprised entirely of volunteers.

Like most departments on Long Island, the Halesite F.D. needs members, especially during the daytime hours, when many members are at work away from the district. You do not have to fight fires; you can join to respond to only emergency medical calls. Whether you choose to help with either fire or medical emergencies, we will provide the training. You need to provide only the time for training and the desire to help your neighbors.

Much of the job is not exciting. It can be tiring, dirty work that will take you away from home, parties, and family gatherings. Occasionally, however, you can experience the thrill of helping to save a home from fire or saving a life with your medical training.

Please call the Halesite firehouse at 427-1910 for details.



HALESITE F.D. WEB SITE

Check out the Halesite Fire Department's new web site:

www.halesitefd.org

There is a wealth of information at this site including department history, current news and upcoming events, recent alarms, fire safety and prevention tips, membership, and a fire department photo gallery. There are also listings of our fire companies and their members, as well as department and district officers. You can sign up for periodic e-mail alerts and you can request information from our chief officers.

HANDS-ONLY CPR



The American Heart association recently released a statement that for those who are not trained to perform it, CPR is more effective when done with the hands only. **Mouth-to-mouth is no longer part of CPR for those who have not been trained.** Studies have found that someone on the street is probably not going to perform mouth-to-mouth on a stranger who has just collapsed. CPR in many cases is not being initiated.

Hands-Only CPR is now recommended for witnessed, out of hospital, sudden cardiac arrest - an adult who is unconscious, not breathing, and has no pulse: Steps are:

1. Call 911
2. Push hard and fast (80 to 100 pushes per minute) in the center of the victim's chest.

Hands-Only CPR is not recommended for unresponsive infants or children, for adults whose arrest is from respiratory causes (like near-drowning or drug OD), or for unwitnessed events.

Conventional CPR is still an important skill to know. Until you are trained, Hands-Only CPR will save lives. More information can be found at:

www.americanheart.org



Halesite Fire Department
Ambulance
427-7250

TRAFFIC LIGHTS ON N.Y. AVENUE

You may not have noticed, but there are red traffic stop lights in front of the firehouse that are activated when equipment is leaving **and returning**.

Please be sure to stop when these solid red lights are on. Police have increased enforcement of these signals.

Other laws you should know:

- Parking is not permitted within 15' of a fire hydrant.
- Parking is not permitted within 20' of the entrance to a firehouse.
- Vehicles must stay no closer than 200' behind fire apparatus.
- No driver shall enter a block or operate within 1000' where a fire apparatus is working in answer to a fire alarm.
- Vehicles must pull over to the right when an emergency vehicle approaches from either direction.
- No vehicle shall drive over any unprotected fire hose.

43 percent of home fire deaths occur in homes without smoke alarms.

Most residential fires occur during the winter months.

Alcohol use contributes to an estimated 40% of residential fire deaths.

100 YEARS AGO

Despite the efforts of several local fire departments, including the Halesite Fire Department, the Huntington Opera House was destroyed by fire in the early morning of March 15, 1910. The Long-Islander reported that

"...the Halesite Hose Company, whose little red hose wagon, drawn by one fleet horse, was on the scene as soon as any....Too much cannot be said in praise of the local fire departments and the work they did in holding the furious blaze to the building it started in....It made one of the hottest and most dangerous fires this village ever knew."

HOME SAFETY CHECKLIST

	Yes	No
Do you have a smoke detector on every floor and in each bedroom?		
Do you have a Carbon Monoxide alarm on each floor?		
Do you check the batteries every time we switch from and to Daylight Savings Time?		
Do you have a properly inspected and charged fire extinguisher on each floor?		
Do you have an exit plan including at least two ways to exit your home in the event of a fire?		
Have all family members practiced the fire exit plan?		
Do you have emergency escape ladders for upstairs rooms?		
Is your hot water heater set for 120 degrees or less to prevent scalding?		
Do you have your heating system, chimney, and flue checked annually?		
Are emergency contact numbers near each phone?		
Is your house number visible from the street?		
Do glass doors have decorative stickers on them to prevent people from walking through them?		
Are stairs and walkways clear of tripping hazards?		
Do you have at least one telephone that will operate during power outages?		
Are drapes and other combustibles away from stoves and other heat sources?		

MEMBERS OF THE HALESITE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Department Officers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Years of Service</u>
Chief Andy Magerle	O'Hara Pl.	18
1st Assistant Chief Dan McConnell	Winchester La.	20
2nd Assistant Chief Greg Colonna	Afton La.	14

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Years of Service</u>
John Newell, Jr.	Glenview Pl.	74	William Mitchell	Longview Dr.	20
Walter Lockwood	Fort Hill Rd.	72	Joseph DeSimone	Van Buren Dr.	19
Harry Hyne, Jr.	Bay Ave.	61	David Willis	Halesite	18
Dennis Magerle	Bay Ave.	50	Robert Wenk	Cornehlson Dr.	18
Donald Pope	Bay Ave.	50	William Peer	Grist Mill La.	16
Walter Sammis	Ketewomoke Dr.	47	Mike Colonna	Old Town La.	15
Frank Grasso	Homestead Path	42	Tom Waller	Fort Hill Rd.	14
Roger Ketcham	East Shore Rd.	42	Jamie Magerle	Woodhull Rd.	14
Robert Wilbur	Everett Pl.	41	Jamie Spear	Johnson St.	14
Dennis Troup	Bayview Dr.	40	Robert Pavelka	Old Town La.	9
John Newell, III	McKay Rd.	39	Hugh O'Brien	Bay Drive East	9
Jerry Conway	Fort Hill Rd.	39	Jennifer Pavelka	Old Town La.	9
John Blanda	Courtyard Circle	35	Ryan Sammis	Cliftwood Dr.	8
Donald Danko	Fort Hill Rd.	34	Jesse Sammis	Bantry Ct	7
Peter Wilbur	Maple Hill Rd.	34	Robert Kocis	Hildreth Ave.	7
Kurt Martin	Mohawk St.	33	William Eletto	L'ecluse La.	7
Peter Magerle	Bass Ct.	31	Dominic Spada	Highview Dr.	6
Mark Blanda	Courtyard Circle	28	Peter Fredriksen	Bayview Dr.	5
John Cannon	Bay Rd.	28	Eric Weber	Platt Pl.	5
Craig Lanigan	Bialla Pl.	26	Kevin Malone	Compass Ct.	4
Douglas Anthonson	Huntington Bay Rd.	25	Keith Freda	Crest Rd.	3
Paul T. Holly	Warrenton Ct.	25	Michael Waring	Grist Mill La.	2
Mike Magerle	Afton La.	24	Zack Conlon	West Shore Rd.	2
Jeff Schondebare	Halesite	23	Vincent Capobianco	Merrill Pl.	2
Gerry Conlon	West Shore Rd.	23	Alex Pavelka	Old Town La.	2
John Solano	Cliftwood Dr.	23	Frank Stalzer	Huntington Bay Rd.	1
Nick Berghela	Walden Pl.	21	Donald Tesoriero	Huntington Bay Rd.	1
Mike Mitchell	Lake Dr.	21	Joseph Grant	Woodhull Rd.	9 mo.
Larry Northcote	Glades Way	21	John Hardiman	Huntington Bay Rd.	9 mo.
Neil Nugent	Bay Drive West	21	Sheila Ewers	East Shore Rd.	9 mo.
Chris Chiusano	Oakwood Rd.	21	Kate Kuntz	Youngs Hill Rd.	8 mo.
Bob Waring	Grist Mill La.	20	Kyle Conlon	Hawxhurst Rd.	8 mo.

The Halesite Volunteer Fire Department has been serving the residents of Halesite since 1901.

Our members respond to calls for help at any time of day or night.

We are all volunteers; none of us is ever paid for responding to an alarm

The Halesite Volunteer Fire Department is in need of more members. The hours can be long, the work can be dirty and occasionally dangerous, and the pay is nil. But if you want the satisfaction of coming to the aid of your neighbors and sometimes even saving lives, stop by the firehouse for information about membership.

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS, ONE FOR EVERY HOME

Every home should have at least one fire extinguisher - preferably one for each floor. Different extinguishers put out different types of fires:

- (A) A-rated extinguishers are for wood, paper, trash, and plastic.
- (B) B-rated are for gasoline and grease fires.
- (C) C-rated are for electrical fires.



For best protection, have a multi-purpose ABC-rated extinguisher on each floor of your home. And don't wait until you have a fire to learn how to use it. Know where it is and how it works before you need it.

Remember: A fire extinguisher is no substitute for the fire department. Always call the fire department first, no matter how small you believe the fire to be.

BLOOD DRIVE SET FOR AUGUST 20

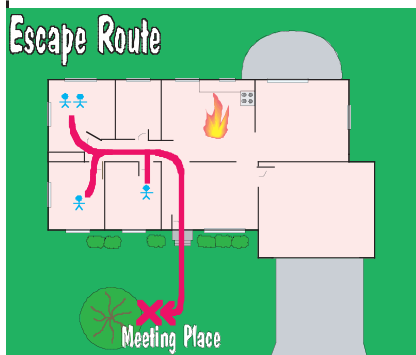


Summer in Halesite. We all plan countless activities - BBQs, picnics, sports, and vacations. Unfortunately, giving blood is not high on many activity lists, even though blood supplies become dangerously low in summer. This is why the Halesite Fire Department will conduct its annual blood drive at the firehouse on Friday, August 20, from 3:30PM to 8:30PM. It takes only about one hour, and steak dinners will be served. Give the gift of life this summer.

"The relative risk for people in homes without smoke detectors is 10.4 times that for people in homes with smoke detectors"
- Fire Engineering, May, 2000

EXIT DRILLS IN THE HOME

Smoke Detectors and Fire Extinguishers are important parts of a Fire Safety Plan for your home. So is E.D.I.T.H. - Exit Drills In The Home. Every family member should know how to get out of the house in the event of a fire. Also plan a secondary escape route and make sure everyone knows where to meet once they are out - some place a safe distance from the house like a tree, mailbox, or fire hydrant. Notify the fire department from a neighbor's house and don't allow anyone to re-enter the building until the fire chief says it is safe to do so.



Exit drills can save your life and the lives of your loved ones. Plan your escape and practice it often. It is also a good idea to

make yourself aware of the nearest fire exit when you are in a store, restaurant, hotel, or other public building.

If you have any questions about E.D.I.T.H., call the firehouse. A fire department officer will contact you.

BEE STING CARE

Bee stings can be either a mild annoyance or a life-threatening event, depending on whether or not the victim is allergic to the insect venom. The first action is to get the victim away from the bee before other bees arrive. If you know that the victim is allergic to bee stings, call for emergency medical assistance immediately. Do not wait for symptoms to appear.

The stinger should be removed as quickly as possible. The longer the stinger remains in the body, the more severe the reaction will be. Simply pull the stinger out with your fingers.

Common bee sting symptoms include itching, redness, swelling, and mild pain. Ice packs can reduce swelling and pain.

If the victim experiences difficulty breathing, call for emergency medical assistance. This can be a life-threatening condition that requires immediate attention. If the victim is allergic to bee stings, he or she might be carrying an epinephrine auto-injector (EpiPen). If so, help the victim use the EpiPen. Antihistamines (Benedryl) can slow the reaction, but will not stop it.

If you have any doubt about a bee sting victim's reaction to the sting, call for emergency medical assistance immediately.



JELLYFISH STINGS

If you are stung by a jellyfish:

Remove tentacles using sand or a towel. Do not use bare hands.

Rinse Sting Area with salt water, not fresh water.

Jellyfish can cause more than pain; they can cause severe allergic reaction. If you experience a rash, itching, swelling, and shortness of breath, seek immediate medical attention.

PLEASE USE THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE TO MAKE YOUR DONATION

FIRST AID FOR BURNS

Extrême heat, such as flames, hot liquids, hot metal, flash explosions, and the sun's radiation can cause burn injuries. Chemicals, such as acid lye and bleach, can also burn

WHAT TO DO WHEN A BURN OCCURS

1. **Stop the Burning Process.** Remove the victim from the heat source. Stop, drop, and roll to smother clothing fires.
2. Quickly remove any clothing that could hold in the heat and cause the skin to keep burning. **Do not remove clothing that is sticking to the skin.**
3. If the burn is small, cool it with tap water. Do not use ice - it can cause further skin damage. **Do not apply butter, Vaseline® or other ointments that may hold in the heat.**
4. For burns to the head, hands, and feet, call trained medical help immediately.
5. For large burns, cover the victim with a clean, dry cloth to reduce shock and conserve body heat. Keep the victim calm while waiting for medical help to arrive.



SPRAINS & STRAINS

Sprains and Strains are common ailments, and proper treatment can help reduce their severity. When dealing with either, remember **RICE**:

REST the affected area. Avoid using the injured part.

ICE - Apply ice to the injured area for the first 24 to 48 hours to reduce swelling.

COMPRESSION - Wrap an elastic bandage around the injured area to secure the ice in place. As long as there is swelling, continue to apply ice 3-4 times a day. After swelling has gone, the application of warm, moist heat will promote healing

ELEVATE the injured area above the level of the heart to slow the blood-flow - and swelling - to the injury.

Caution: The signs of a sprain are very similar to the signs of a break. If you have any doubt, seek immediate medical assistance.

DIABETES - A GROWING EPIDEMIC

Diabetes means your blood sugar (glucose) is too high. It is a serious disease that can cause heart disease, stroke, blindness, kidney failure, loss of limbs, vision loss, and nervous system neuropathy. It is the seventh leading cause of death in the U.S. Nearly 8% of the population have diabetes and over 23% of adults age 60 and older have diabetes. There has been such an increase in diabetes that the Centers for Disease Control has termed the increase in diabetes an epidemic.

Most cases of diabetes fall into the following categories:

Type 1: traditionally called "juvenile diabetes" because it represents a majority of the diabetes cases in children. It results from the body's failure to produce insulin. This has also been called "insulin dependent" diabetes.

Type 2: results from insulin resistance and is the most common form of diabetes. Risk of Type 2 diabetes increases with age and can often be treated with changes to lifestyle.

Gestational: resembles Type 2 diabetes and it occurs in 2-5% of all pregnancies. While it is usually transient, many women with gestational diabetes develop Type 2 diabetes later in life.

Pre-Diabetes: this is a condition that occurs when blood glucose levels are above normal, but not high enough to be termed Type 2.

There are many risk factors associated with diabetes including genetics, diet, weight, high blood pressure, exercise, and smoking. Many diabetics must rely on oral medications or insulin injections.

If you experience symptoms of severe increased thirst, frequent urination, unexplained weight loss, increased hunger, or tingling of your hands or feet, consult your doctor, who can order a blood glucose test.

CARBON MONOXIDE - THE SILENT KILLER

Every year we read about people being found dead, victims of carbon monoxide poisoning. Carbon monoxide is the most commonly encountered and pervasive poison in our environment and is responsible for more deaths in the U.S. than any other poison. Most of these deaths are preventable. CO can be created by gas stoves, ovens, clothes dryers, portable generators, car engines, as well as heating systems and hot water heaters. All appliances should be professionally installed and maintained.

CO poisoning can also occur outdoors. Children have been overcome by CO after holding onto a swim platform or swimming near the stern of a boat when the boat's engine is running. This "Teak Surfing" claims lives every year

CO is extremely dangerous because it is odorless, colorless, and tasteless; and early symptoms of poisoning, which are similar to those of the flu, may not be noticed. Symptoms can include dizziness, headache, nausea, mental confusion and can be misdiagnosed as migraine headache, stroke, or food poisoning.

Every home should have at least one CO detector. Install it near the bedroom or other room where people spend much of their time and where the alarm can be heard.

If it activates, call us.

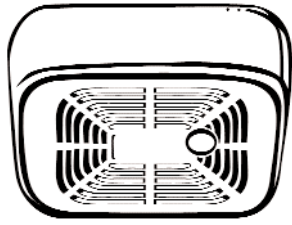


AMANDA'S LAW

Effective February 22, 2010, Amanda's Law mandates the installation of carbon monoxide (CO) detectors in all homes in New York State, regardless of when the home was built, "where the dwelling unit has appliances, devices, or systems that may emit CO or has an attached garage."

For details of this new law, go to:

www.dos.state.ny.us/code/COAlarm.htm



SMOKE DETECTORS SAVE LIVES

Smoke detectors save lives, yet thousands of people die each year in homes without smoke detectors. Install smoke detectors in your home - at least one on each floor, and preferably one outside each bedroom. Don't forget to install one in your garage, especially if it is attached to your house. Since smoke and deadly gasses rise, detectors should be placed on the ceiling at least 4" from the nearest wall. This 4" minimum is to keep detectors out of possible "dead air" spaces. Do not install it near a window since smoke might be detoured out the window instead of into a detector. For greatest protection, use detectors that combine ion and photo sensing. Check the unit each month and replace the battery annually. Replace detectors every ten years to assure maximum protection. *Nearly 25% of homes equipped with smoke alarms have alarms that do not work!* Smoke detectors can work, but they need your help.

If you hear a smoke alarm:

- Leave immediately, *closing doors behind you!*
- Call the Fire Department from a neighbor's house or cell phone.
- Go to your predetermined meeting place outside your home.
- Do not go back inside until a fire officer says it is OK.



KNOW THE SOUND DETECTORS MAKE

Everyone in your home and place of work should know what sound your smoke and CO detectors make. If the sound is heard, everyone should evacuate; and then the fire department should be contacted.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL INFORMATION LIST

In the event of a medical emergency, responding medical personnel need to know as much as possible about the patient's medical history, including:

- allergies to medications
- current medications
- past medical history (respiratory or heart problems, diabetes, etc.)
- family to be contacted
- blood type

This information should be readily available at the time of the emergency.

One way to accomplish this is with a medical alert necklace or bracelet. Emergency medical personnel are trained to look for these medical alert tags.

You can also carry this information in your wallet or purse where you can have it available to give to EMTs or hospital personnel.

This medical information can also be attached to the refrigerator in your kitchen, where first responders can easily spot it.

Plan ahead and have this information available before you need it, and remember to keep it up to date.



FIRE SAFETY SITES

- www.nfpa.org
- www.safekids.org
- www.firesafety.gov
- www.usfa.dhs.gov
- www.sparky.org
- www.nyc.gov/fdny

INSURANCE CODES

Because of its membership, training, equipment, and record keeping, The Halesite Fire District receives a high rating from New York State Fire Underwriters. This means low fire insurance rates for district residents. Make sure that the **Halesite Fire District** is the district of record on your insurance policy.

WHEN YOU TRAVEL

You should practice fire safety even when you are not in your home. When you travel, follow these basic safety tips:

- Locate fire exits, stairways, and fire extinguishers.
- Keep your room key near your bed, where you can get it quickly, if there is a fire. If you cannot make it to a fire exit, you will need the key to get back into your room.
- If your door is hot, stay in your room. Phone for help, fill the tub and place wet towels to seal the cracks around the door.
- Do not use an elevator. It may take you to the floor that is on fire.
- Pack a small flashlight to use in an emergency.

FIRE FACTS

- Fires started by lighted tobacco products, principally cigarettes, constitute the leading cause of residential fire deaths.
- Cooking equipment, most often a range or stovetop, is the leading cause of reported home fires and home fire injuries in the United States.
- Between 1997 and 2006, an average of 3,090 civilians lost their lives and another 15,340 were injured annually as the result of residential structure fires.
- Most victims of fires die from smoke inhalation and not from burns.

TO CONTACT THE HALESITE FIRE
DEPARTMENT IN A FIRE OR
MEDICAL EMERGENCY
DIAL

427-7250,

AND GIVE THE DISPATCHER YOUR
NAME, ADDRESS, AND NATURE
OF THE EMERGENCY.
BE AS PRECISE AS POSSIBLE.