

F M B A BULLETIN

www.njfmbsa.org October 2014



**NJFMBA State Meeting Monday November 17
League of Municipalities Convention
November 18, 19 & 20. See details on page 6.**

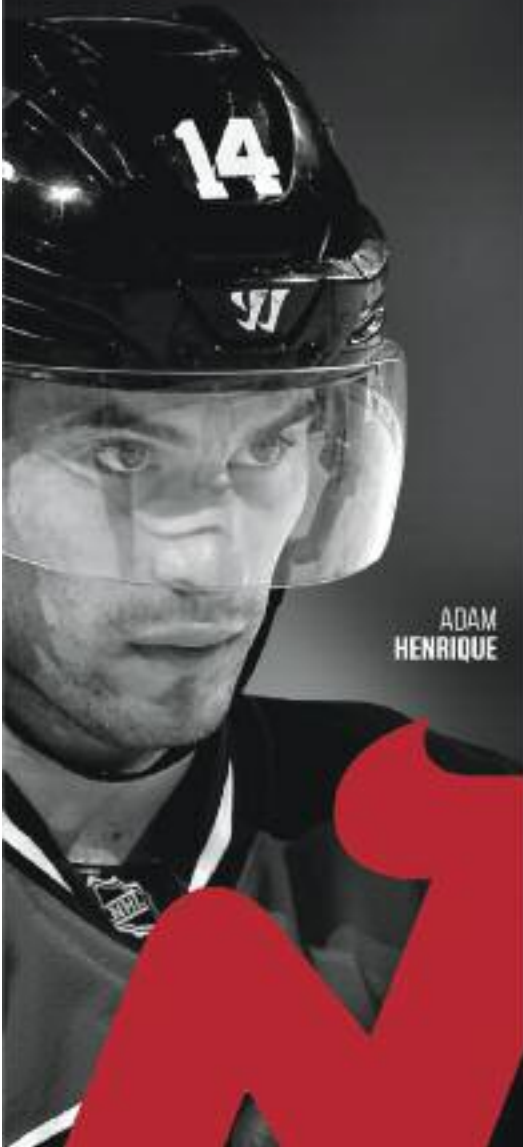
**November FMBA Meeting
Monday November 17, 2014
Golden Nugget Hotel &
Casino in the Showroom**





2014-15 SEASON

WE'RE ALL
DEVILS
INSIDE



ADAM
HENRIQUE

Come Support the NJ FMBA

NIGHT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEVILS

GAME INFORMATION

NEW JERSEY DEVILS VS. NY ISLANDERS

Friday, January 9th @ 7:00 p.m.

GROUP PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- Specially priced group ticket
- Group seating at the game
- Group welcome on the big screen
- Devils group gift

ORDER FORM

GAME DATE	# TICKETS	TICKET INFORMATION	PRICE	TOTAL
01/09		100 Level Attack Twice	\$37.51	
01/09		200 Level	\$37.51	
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED				\$

PAYMENT METHOD: CREDIT CARD, CASH OR CHECK

To purchase tickets, please visit the link below
and use the promo code: **NJFMBA**

www.newjerseydevils.com/njfmba

ORDER DEADLINE: Friday, December 26, 2014

For More information contact Bob Hill or Rich Mikutsky at
732-499-9250

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Next State Meeting

November Meeting
MONDAY Nov. 17th 2014

Golden Nugget Atlantic City

NOTE: This meeting is Monday before the NJ League of Municipalities Convention. Please plan to attend both.

December Meeting
Wednesday Dec 10, 2014
The Deutscher Club



Periodical Postage Paid
at Rahway, NJ

Post Master send address changes to:

FMBA Bulletin
1447 Campbell St
Rahway, NJ 07065-3212

732-499-9250
www.njfmba.org

 @FMBABulletin

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October 2014 ■ Vol. 47 No.10
THE FMBA BULLETIN

(921-960)

The FMBA Bulletin is the official newspaper of the New Jersey Firefighter's Mutual Benevolent Association and is published monthly and distributed to members of the NJ State FMBA
John Hund, Editor, Nutley-44
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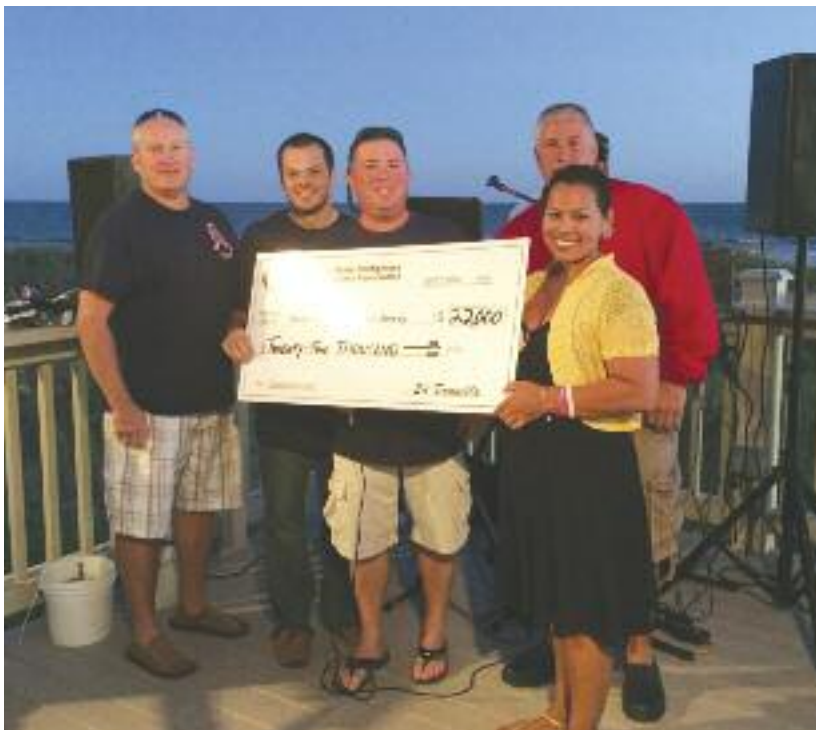


The NJFMBA

I had the privilege of presenting a check for \$22,000 to Susan G Komen at our annual FLASH event. We presented the check to Ana Harper, a breast cancer survivor. Ana and her family shared their story and her strength to our members in attendance. As President, I am so proud to represent an organization comprised of so many giving men and woman. This is what NJFMBA members do. While we are on the front lines protecting our benefits and making sure we are able to perform our duties safely and with adequate staffing, we are out there everyday giving back. In what has proven to be the most difficult times for public safety personnel across the Country, we have never wavered from our mission. We protect the citizens of NJ everyday. We continue to fight for what is just for our members, and we continue to try and make a difference by giving back. That is the NJFMBA and I am proud to be a member!

President's Message

by Edwin Donnelly



Ana Harper, a breast cancer survivor, accepts a check on behalf of the Susan G. Komen Foundation. Presenting the check are FMBA Vice President Rich Mikutsky, FLASH Chairman Bill Brower, President Ed Donnelly, and PBA Vice President Mike Pellegrino.



FMBA Central District Vice President Tim Deutsch enjoyed a week of fishing in support of the Komen Foundation.



FMBA Vice President Rich Mikutsky said the weather was perfect for golf.

The Importance of Voting

Now that the campaign season is entering the final weeks, there will be a huge increase in the TV ads, mail pieces and other campaign activity—all meant to persuade voters to vote one way or another. However you may choose to vote, the most important thing is that you do go vote! Not just because so many men and women have given their lives for that very privilege, but also because at every level of government, votes matter.

Our votes will ultimately decide whom we send to Washington to be our voice and look out for our best interests. Some people may think that one vote can't change anything or that your particular vote won't matter. But that's just not true. This year, statewide turnout in the June primary was only 8%! The lowest it has been in decades. Of the 5,462,710 New Jersey residents that are eligible to vote, only 416,065 cast their ballots. If turnout is anywhere near that low on November 4th for the general election, then you can rest assured that every single vote will make an impact.

This is an important election with so much at stake! Whether it's creating jobs, supporting our firefighters, or any number of other federal issues, there are some pretty big differences between the candidates. And the only way

you can change things or make them better is if you vote. Voting doesn't guarantee that you can make a difference. But if you don't vote then you definitely can't make a difference.

Within this edition of the FMBA Bulletin is a list of those congressional candidates that your FMBA leadership feels will be the best voice of the fire service in Washington DC. We do not take our endorsements lightly.

There is so much at stake in this election. It all starts with you. Your vote can make sure we elect a "fire friendly" congress. Your vote can mean the difference between bringing funding and safe working conditions for firefighters versus continuing to be vilified as we have been in Trenton. Your vote can mean the difference between giving firefighters the support we deserve or continuing to allow some to make public employees



public enemy number one.

Respect your right to vote! It's a privilege that many people in the world don't have.

Stay safe and I'll see you around the state.

MYTHS	FACTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The State of New Jersey funds municipal Firefighters, EMTs' and Dispatchers' salaries, pension and benefits. • Pension reform will lower your property taxes. • The Firefighters pension system is broken and does not work. • Firefighters receive a pension and Social Security. • The State funds the entire amount for Firefighters pensions. • Firefighters will not discuss pension reform issues. • Firefighters and public safety personnel are just benefitting from the system. • Firefighters and public safety personnel have not shared in the "No Pain No Gain" strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each individual municipality funds its public safety personnel salaries and benefits. Pensions are funded by the member and the municipality. • Municipal taxes are the smallest part of your property tax bill. Pension reform will not provide meaningful property tax relief for taxpayers in NJ. • The Firefighters pension is sustainable with the mandated contributions from the members and the Municipalities. Our pension would be fully funded if the Municipalities had not skipped payments. • Firefighters don't contribute to Social Security, nor do the municipalities on our behalf. Our pensions were established in place of full social security benefits. • Firefighters contribute 10% of their salaries to their pension and have never missed a payment. • Firefighters have repeatedly offered to discuss meaningful pension and benefit issues. • We are taxpayers. We share in the frustration of containing property taxes. NJ residents need to know the facts on the actual costs to taxpayers for the services we provide. • We already exemplify the "No Pain No Gain" strategy. We have lived up to our end of the pension and benefit reform.



Vice President's Report by Rich Mikutsky



On October 9th, the New Jersey State Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee met to consider a bill, S-264 sponsored by Senator Linda Greenstein. This bill been kicking around the legislature for a number of years, and was actually passed by both houses last year. The bill did not become law because the governor vetoed the bill, and the Senate was unable to muster enough votes to override the veto. The bill is titled "The Thomas P. Canzanella Twenty First Century First Responders Protection Act", Canzanella was a Deputy Chief of the Hackensack Fire Department,

The intention of the bill is to provide for first responders who have become ill as a result of performing the duties of their job. Different incarnations of the bill have been revised and voted on, but none has yet to pass muster with the Governor's office. Many fine lawmakers have supported this bill before and after revisions, and it is the case again in this session. This is a very important bill that will one day become law, and first responders will have some peace of mind that our efforts are recognized.

The committee voted, primarily along party lines, to move the bill out of committee, with amendments, on October 9th, and it is scheduled to be heard by the full Senate on October 23rd.

With this in mind, always wear your PPE and work safely!

Editors note: as we go to press it was reported that S-264 passed in Senate with a vote of 22-12 and has been received in Assembly and referred to the Assembly Labor Committee.

MY VOTE
MY FUTURE

Election Day is Nov. 4th
Vote Now to
Protect Your Future

2014 NJFMBA Endorsements

The NJ FMBA has endorsed the following candidates.

U.S. Senate: Senator Cory Booker

CD-1: Donald W. Norcross

CD-2: Frank A. LoBiondo

CD-3: Aimee Belgard

CD-4: Christopher H. Smith

CD-5: Roy Cho

CD-6: Frank Pallone, Jr.

CD-7: Leonard Lance

CD-8: Albio Sires

CD-9: Bill Pascrell, Jr.

CD-10: Donald Payne, Jr.

CD-11: Rodney Frelinghuysen

CD-12: Bonnie Watson Coleman

In addition to the endorsements above the NJFMBA has endorsed one of our own in Vineland Firefighter and Cumberland County Freeholder: Carlos A. Mercado, Jr.

The legislative committee has also made a recommendation to endorse Bergen County Freeholder James Tedesco for Bergen County Executive. Tedesco, a democrat, is a long time volunteer firefighter, and currently serves as the Paramus Deputy OEM Coordinator. Bergen County Executive race is considered a critical test for the governor, who supports re-electing Kathy Donovan. Bergen County residents are asked to support the Tedesco team and send a message to republican candidates that we do not forget those that have attacked us.

We are now just days away from a very important General Election. The NJFMBA Legislative Committee will continue to work tirelessly to keep you informed on the issues that affect you the most.

We will be asking each and every one of you to get involved. Our endorsed candidates will need your help putting out signs, making calls, knocking on doors and getting voters to the polls. You may be asked to help volunteer in a targeted district that you do not work or live in. Please help support those who support us.

Anyone interested in getting involved in Carlos' Cumberland County Freeholder Campaign on Election Day may contact him at 856-207-2149.



Are you engaged?

The New Jersey Firefighter's Mutual Benevolent Association was created nearly 120 years ago for the simple purpose of mutually benefiting all of our members. Obviously, with the growth of the labor movement in this country, we became a labor organization. The complete Mission Statement of the NJFMBA can be found in the box below.

How does the NJFMBA meet its core mission? Through the hard work and dedication of its members. which leads to the question, "Are you engaged?"

That is a question that each local and each member should be asking itself. How does a local become engaged? Make sure to have a representative at each of the monthly meetings, send a delegation to the conventions, participate in the events of the FMBA. These events include the Cooked and Uncorked event held each winter, the Annual Valor Awards held each April, The Mario Rossi Memorial Picnic held each Summer, the

Fallen Heroes 5K each September, and the FLASH trip. There are many ways to participate, volunteer to help run an event, attend an event, make a financial contribution. Most events have the need for sponsors. These events support various causes of the NJFMBA.

As a member you need to be engaged in a different way, you need to be engaged in your local, and the community in which you work. Consider running for a position within your local, participate in local activities, help top get your local involved in community activities; things like sponsoring a local little league team, PTA boosters, the chamber of commerce are just a few of the things you can do.

The more engaged we are with our communities, the less we appear to be a burden on the taxpayers, and the more we appear to be what we truly are, an asset to the community that we serve.

Finally, your state association is

working hard to represent YOU in a very tumultuous time. If a committee requests information from each local please do your best to respond to that request as quickly as is practically possible.

Remember that the whole is only as good as the sum of its parts, when we are talking about the NJFMBA the parts are you the locals and the members of the NJFMBA. As you have seen in the past and can see in this issue, just look at the next page, the NJFMBA is engaged and working hard for you. The quality is dependent on your support and assistance.



On another note, as I was writing this column I was interrupted by the news of the passing of a true friend to the fire service, Harvey Eisner, Firehouse Magazine Editor In Chief Emeritus. Harvey served as a volunteer firefighter in Tenafly NJ for 39 years, serving 12 years as its chief.

In addition to his work at



Harvey Eisner

the magazine, which began in 1976 and where he became editor in 1982, he also worked for the Bronx District Attorney's office as a crime scene photographer and videographer.

I was fortunate enough to know Harvey for over 30 years and when I began working as the editor of this publication I sought him out for advice. I am grateful for the advice he gave me over the years and for the friendship we shared. Rest in Peace Chief.

Purpose and Mission of the FMBA

The purpose for which this Corporation is formed is as follows: To educate residents of the State of New Jersey and of each community therein, through local chapters of this State Association, in the prevention, detection and extinguishment of fires; To enhance the safety of all who reside or pass through this State by continuing the training of firefighters and the public in fire safety and by the training of firefighters in the protection of life and property; To promote and encourage the formation of local branches; To aid and assist by the moral support and influence of this State Association all aforementioned qualified members of this State Association, and their widows/widowers and orphan children who may not otherwise be provided for, and to encourage said Locals to educate and assist the public in any manner possible in connection with the area of emergency services, including but not limited to encouraging greater public understanding of fire safety and fire fighting; To instruct the youth of this State in fire safety and prevention and to encourage Locals to sponsor programs and to encourage youth involvement in fire prevention; To provide for the mutual benefit and advancement of the interests and prosperity of all firefighters in the State who are now or hereafter become members of any Local; To protect and defend, as deemed advisable, the rights, benefits and privileges to which any member now or hereafter may become entitled; To collect and compile from time to time the statistics and other information concerning firefighters to better protect the public welfare.



NJFMBA to return to NJSLOM Conference

The NJFMBA will once again be participating in the New Jersey State League of Municipalities Annual Conference as an exhibitor. It has probably been ten years since we had such a presence at the NJSLOM Conference. The last time we were exhibitors, we provided attendees with report cards for the municipalities where we had a presence. These report cards rated the local government on several fire/EMS related issues.

President Donnelly has asked Clifton's Bob De Luca to coordinate the NJFMBA efforts and presence at this year's League of Municipalities vendor booth. DeLuca had this to say about our attendance. "I was involved a number of years back on a similar campaign and, in my opinion, it was a success."

De Luca reported that this year's objective will be three prong, first and foremost we will be advancing the new WWW.NJPROPERTYTAX-FACTS.ORG campaign. Before reading the rest of this column, you can help yourself right now by going to the site and via Facebook or Twitter 'like' the page. This will help our public relations team push our message out there.

Second, we will be using the "Fire Is" video prevention program to educate the public on fire safety. Finally and probably the most important is verbal interaction with public officials, mayors and council members, face to face on the convention floor. This will be done in a most professional and positive manor with the complete focus on pushing our message.

A schedule will be set for those who volunteered to assist in our campaign and I would ask that it be respected. While on the convention floor stop by for a short visit to booth # 1829, see your union at work advocating for you and your family.

In addition to our booth, President

Donnelly made the decision, based on a recommendation from the floor last year, to move the monthly meeting to Monday, so that our members can attend the conference. Below is a list of seminars and presentations that we recommend our members attend. In addition you can visit www.NJSLOM.org to get complete conference information.

NJFMBA recommended NJSLOM Seminars and Sessions

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

9:00 a.m. Registration and Exhibits Open

THE CONSULTING PERIOD ROUND TABLES

Tuesday, November 18, 2014 – 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Hall A of the Convention Center

This is your chance to talk one on one with the experts.

Over 60 state program directors, area experts and grant givers will answer your questions.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

8:30 a.m. Registration and Exhibits Open

9:00 a.m. Session Highlights:

Civil Service Commission Update • Information Technology-Best Practices • Elected Officials and the Police Department

10:45 a.m. Session Highlights:

Salary Ordinances, Are You Properly Paying Your Employees?

VENDOR SOLUTIONS SESSIONS

1:00 – 1:50 Room 316

COLONIAL LIFE – "Increasing Your Bottom Line with Chapter 78 Compliance"

Room 310 FIRST Managed Care Option – "How to Evaluate and Fine Tune your Workers' Compensation Program"

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20

9:00 a.m. Session Highlights:

Affordable Care Act • Interest Arbitration Reform • Safety Resources

10:45 a.m. Session Highlights:

Best Practices-EMS • Shared Services—The True Cost • Legal Implications of Social Media

Other sessions may be added and this will also be reviewed at our meeting on Monday November 17th.

Half-Truths and Lies by Omission

In September, Governor Christie's Pension and health benefit study commission released the Status Report on the State of New Jersey's existing state and health benefit programs. This report was to focus on the pension and health programs that the state is fiscally responsible for.

Unfortunately, this report both left out and glossed over important information that should have clearly been spelled out to the local taxpayer.

A few facts that should have been included so that all taxpayers could fully understand the pension and benefit issue.

1) The state of New Jersey does not pay any pension payments toward any local government employee's pension. The monies for the local government employees pension comes from your municipal tax that is included in your yearly property taxes, more often than not this is the smallest portion of your tax bill.

2) Despite years of skipping contributions to the pension system municipalities have to their credit been making the required payments into the system over the past decade.

3) Due to the employees continued pension payments over the years and municipalities now contributing full

contributions into the system, the local government employee retirement system is currently funded at 75%. (includes all municipal employees) This is considered healthy and puts the local government retirement system amongst the top in the country. There is no doubt that with fiscal discipline by all stakeholders our pension system is sustainable and on the way back to the 100% funded level, as it was fifteen years ago.

The most disappointing aspect of the study was the commission's complete ignorance of the current healthcare situation in New Jersey. There is no justification for doing a study on pension and healthcare reform without including the provisions of chapter 78. By omitting the unprecedented employee contributions toward healthcare premiums, the commission has put itself in the position of being viewed as just another politically appointed commission doing what they are told by the governor's office.

A few facts that should have been included when discussing the healthcare issues.

1) The State of New Jersey does not make any payments toward a local government employee's healthcare.



All healthcare premium payments are shared between the employee and the municipality.

2) The employee average healthcare contribution for an individual plan in the country is approximately (public and private) \$1000.00, the approximate average in the state of New Jersey PFRS System is three times that amount.

3) The employee average healthcare contribution for a family policy in the country is approximately (public and private) \$4600.00, the approximate average in the State of New Jersey PFRS is twice that amount.

As you can see they are distinct healthcare and financial issues that separate local government employees from the state and teacher pension and healthcare systems. The Pension and Health Benefit Study Commission has a duty to honestly address the fiscal health of the local government pension and healthcare system, it is a sustainable system that treats fairly the employee for years of service to the municipality and at the same time provides needed services to the residents of our communities without

See Labor on Page 20.



Labor Report by Wayne Wolk

The following opinion appeared on NJ.com on October 7, 2014

Working closely with our counterparts at the New Jersey Association of Counties, the officers of the League of Municipalities recently submitted a statement to Gov. Christie's Blue Ribbon Pension and Health Benefit Study Commission. In that statement, we urged the commission not to weaken the vitality of the local plans in any way.

The governor, Senate President Sweeney and former Speaker Oliver, as well as other state policy makers, deserve credit for the bipartisan pension and benefit reforms that were enacted in 2010 and 2011. Coupled with the consistent payments made by responsible local governing bodies, these reforms are delivering on the promises made by their advocates. The actuaries who have studied the systems have confirmed these facts.

At the risk of delving too far into the weeds, it is important to note that when analyzing the fiscal health of public employee pension and benefit systems, experts always make a distinction between local commitments for local employees and retirees and state government's responsibility to provide funding for current and retired state employee benefits. In fact, one of the 2011 reforms included the separation of the systems — one for the state and another for the locals.

According to the latest valuation reports, the local government Public Employees Retirement System (local PERS) and the local Police and Fire Retirement System (local PFRS) are actuarially sound, in large part because

See Opinion on page 20.



One of the most talked about programs that the Health and Safety Committee pushes is the Buscio Physical. Besides hearing about it from us, it is a frequent topic in many firehouses. Whether it is a group of guys arguing over which day they have free to schedule a group appointment, or the thirty-year veteran trying to convince the new guy to go; this is a program we are all very aware of.

Even though the discussions about the program are ubiquitous and everyone knows the importance of the screening, why do we have members who have not gone yet? As someone who has been on the Health and Safety Committee since Tom was appointed Chairman a few years ago, I have been as guilty as many. When I was first assigned to my shift out of training almost eight years ago, I was one of the new guys approached by the veteran and advised of the program, its benefits, and that I should schedule an appointment to get a "baseline". I felt this was very sound advice and truly believed I would follow through. Unfortunately I did not, and I recently went for the first time. I can't answer why I and others have put this off but laziness, fear of the unknown, the "it can't happen to me" mentality, or lack of time are all excuses I have heard and even used.

I scheduled my appointment with Cardio Pulmonary Diagnostic, LLC, which is the northern facility located at Newark Airport. The staff was extremely nice on the phone and even called me a few days before my appoint-

ment asking if I wanted to come a day earlier since they had a large group cancel. Since I was unable to reschedule I was advised that if I arrived before 7:30AM that they would have me out very quickly. I soon found out they were right. I arrived as instructed and was amazed at how streamlined the entire operation was. The longest I sat in the waiting room was to fill out the paperwork which was less than ten minutes. From this point on you will constantly be moving. I was taken in for the blood work right away since they recognize that we have been fasting since the night before. Some people recommended bringing something to eat for after the blood is drawn, but if you do not have anything there is a small area with breakfast bars, crackers, coffee and tea. As an additional note, I was advised there would be pizza delivered for lunch. Before you finish your snack you will be ushered off for more testing. These tests consist of a chest x-ray, blood pressure screening, EKG, an echo-cardiogram, a pulmonary function test, an ABI/PVR which checks the blood pressure and pulse in both arms and both ankles, and a stress test. The stress test will either be the standard treadmill stress test or a nuclear stress test. This is decided on by the doctor on a case-by-case basis.

Once all of the tests are complete you will be asked to schedule a follow-up appointment to receive your results, which will determine if you have a clean bill of health, need to make small lifestyle changes to receive the clean bill on your next screening, or if further testing is needed. At this point I looked at the clock and realized it was not even 10:30. The entire process lasted less than three hours and I was on my way home before lunch even arrived. I would like to note, however, that I only conducted the treadmill stress test. The staff advised that those who will be doing the nuclear stress test will be there approximately an hour longer.

I can honestly say that I wish I had



gone when I was first told about this program. When talking with the staff you can see that they truly believe in this program and wish more of us would attend. One way to do this is when our departments have new recruits. We should send them as one of their training days. This will get these young members on the right track to a long and healthy career. For the rest of us: we need to police ourselves and push one another to go.

Whether we make it a part of our physical fitness policies or annual health screenings is up to the individual department, but the bottom line is that we make a commitment to our health.

Editors Note: A production error caused the end of this column to not be printed last month, so we are running the entire column again this month.

**See Page 19 for
more information
on the "Gift from
Captain Buscio"
Program**

At the September Convention President Donnelly presented our new Public Relations Campaign titled "Get the Property Tax Facts." At the state meeting held on October 8th, he announced that the FMBA will be having a booth at the Convention Center for the League of Municipalities Convention which will be Tuesday November 18-20 in Atlantic City. The Chairman is Bob DeLuca, President of Clifton. Bob is no stranger to the Convention as he helped years back when the FMBA did a report card study on manning, equipment etc. and made a report card of all FMBA Locals. We had very good success as Mayors and BAs would stop and question why their town received such a poor grade. This time the info contains facts as to how "little" paid departments cost the taxpayers. This info is vital to the public because the average person has no clue as to how little it is out of their tax bill. I encourage all who attend the Convention to attend the seminars but stop by the booth for some great information. It will be open Tuesday 9-5, Wednesday 8:30 – 5pm and Thursday 8:30-1PM. The State Meeting will be on Monday November 17 at 10AM, Golden Nugget Hotel/Casino in the Show Room.

I would like to thank Jim Stelman

and Bud Heymann for running the meeting in my absence. Welcome to newcomers to the Board Tom Dries and Rich Meier. Congratulations to both. Also a great deal of thanks to Rich Silvia and Carl Paczkowski for the years of service they gave Local 500.

President Donnelly announced that FOX and FOX will be dissolving as of December 1, 2014. If anyone has any files, wills, deeds etc. at Fox and Fox you need to contact them and retrieve them before Dec. 1.

President Donnelly asked for a motion to have Craig Gumpel be our chief counsel for 2014-2015. Motion made by Clifton and second by Linden. No discussion on the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Larry Lukenda spoke about the FMBA Scholarship Program. It is open to Local 500 Grandchildren also. Applications will be online middle of December with a closing date of February 28, 2015. The FMBA gives out \$1,000 per year. Each district and Local 500 gets one. Please encourage your children/grandchildren to apply. There is also a Seton Hall Scholarship available, \$2,000 per year provided you attend Seton Hall.

Bob Hill reported that the 5K race had 600 runners on one of the

hottest days of the summer. Proceeds are going to the Wounded Warrior Program. He announced that the Jackson Local will be chairing the race next year. The date for next year's race is September 12, 2015 at Bar-A Lake Como.

Some dates to remember:

League of Municipalities Convention, November 17-20.

Local 500 General Membership Meeting Wednesday December 3, starting at Noon, Luciano's Restaurant, 1579 Main St., Rahway. There will be buffet lunch, cost \$10 and a cash bar. One of our Guest Speakers is President Ed Donnelly who will update us many pending issues in that state, some the many effect Local 500. The Governor's report on the Pension System should be out by then. Please plan to attend we will also recognize David Fox.

Friday January 17, 2015 will be FMBA Night with the NJ Devils. Tickets are 37.51 for Level 100 and Level 200. Please contact the FMBA office for more information.

The February Convention will take place in Atlantic City at the Golden Nugget Feb. 3-5. More information to follow.

The Cooked and Uncorked Event will be Monday February 23, 6-9PM at the Pines Manor. Check the Bulletin for more details.

In closing please keep Mark Virag in your thoughts and prayers as he is still receiving treatments and fights the battle.

Finally a special thank you to Tom Tevlin for filling in for me and writing last month's column.

Until next month, be well, be safe and be informed.

2014-2015 Local 500 Officers

- President, George Royston 908-456-3132
- Executive Vice President, Jim Stelman 201-602-5193
- Secretary Bud Heymann, 551-497-2034
- Treasurer Bob Hill, 732-850-0367
- Executive Delegate Tony De Berto, 973-207-5773
- Alternate Delegate Rich Meier, 908-276-1370
- Sgt At Arms Mark Virag, 732-259-2308
- Northern District Trustee Mike Downs, 570-242-6388
- Central District Trustee Joe De Niscia, 908-419-0946
- Southern District Gene Dannenfelser, 610-675-8623
- Trustee Chairman Frank Isoldi, 908-337-2245
- Trustee Rich Tremitedi 201-600-4269
- Trustee Lee Fuller, 908-578-3449
- Trustee Tom Dries, 908-244-5567
- President Emeritus Tom Tevlin. 973-762-6936



Local 500 Report by George Royston



**NJ FMBA PAC Fund
Donations**

1/1/2014 - 10/20/2014



Blue & Gold Club

(\$500 and up)

- Bloomfield Local 19
- Montclair Local 20
- Hillside Local 35
- Linden Local 34
- Maplewood Local 25
- Teaneck FO Local 242
- Teaneck Local 42
- Paterson FO Local 202
- Union Local 46
- Union FO Local 246
- NJ FMBA Local 500

Presidents Club

(\$200 - \$499)

- Bloomfield FO Local 219
- Hillside FO Local 235
- New Brunswick FO Local 217
- New Brunswick Local 17
- Ridgewood Local 47
- Linden FO Local 234
- John Hund
- Alan Ballester
- James Carey
- Patrick Wirkus
- Arthur Murray
- Dennis Sheehan

Friends of the FMBA

(\$100 - \$199)

- Clifton Local 21
- Brian Cosentino
- Robert DeLuca
- Michael Ferraro
- Daniel Ginty
- Charles Griffin
- Robert Hill
- Charles Lamb
- Michael Mackey
- Joseph McCarthy
- John McQuade
- Troy Powell
- Robert Thomsen
- Richard Tremitedi
- Louis Venezia
- A.W. Sivil Tax Service
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- Elizabeth FO Local 209
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- Louise Donnelly
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NJFMBA endorses Booker and Pascrell



On Thursday October 9, 2014 members of the fire service attended an endorsement event for US Senator Cory Booker and US Congressman Bill Pascrell, at Paterson's Fire Headquarters, hosted by FMBA Locals 2 and 202. .

The endorsements came from the

NJFMBA, the Newark Firefighters, NJ Career Fire Chiefs, and PFANJ.

Pascrell has a proven track record in Congress, and is the author and champion of the FIRE ACT, which has provided money for equipment and manpower across the country.

Booker has a strong record of support in his first year as a US Senator.

The NJFMBA urges every member to vote for all of our endorsed candidates.



Congressman Bill Pascrell.



Senator Cory Booker



Vice President Mikutsky, Northern District Vice President Kyle Hughes, and President Donnelly with Congressman Pascrell after the announcement.



President Donnelly announcing the endorsement of Senator Booker



Mixed-use occupancy issues

The concerns do not get any easier when the once residential area is used for something else, usually storage for the business. In the case above a thrift store (or what we might call...a junk store) has been sealed on the top floors. In this photo above as in the forthcoming pictures, renovations make the fire (and floor) load heavier, the collapse profile more significant, and the ability to operate on the upper floors more dangerous. Here, it will be necessary to get the coverings off the windows before any upper floor operations take place. This may cause the loss of



Photo by Anthony Avillo

control of the fire, but are there any other alternatives here? Personnel working up there have no second way out. We have to really be careful that we do not employ residential two-story wood frame tactics when operating in those buildings that are changing the rules of the game. More often than not, we will get ourselves in a big dose of trouble.



Photo by Anthony Avillo

These buildings have been completely covered up with false fronts. The buildings on the extreme right (Star Discounts) and extreme left are two story structures with the second floor covered. The Children's place is a three story structure with two floors covered. These were all historically mixed-use with residential units above the store. You

can even see the shaft if you look toward the rear of the three story building. Windows can be intact, bricked-up, or present any combination of barriers. Spaces exist between the



false front and building as well and are additional areas for fire spread concerns. This can also create fire destruction of whatever is being utilized to hold the false wall to the building. Heavy smoke from behind these fronts must cause Command to seriously consider the feasibility of allowing personnel to operate in these areas. Check the rear and sides to see if access (and egress) can be gained from there. This



Photo by Ron Jeffers

should be a very pessimistic operation. It is tough to get a barrier-laden building to behave. Keep good control over personnel, put Chief Officers in areas of concern as Division Supervisors, and request and evaluate reports from these areas to assist in strategic decision-making.

This was a multiple alarm fire in Jersey City. Note the date on top of the structure at the cornice. It says 1895. This is structure eventually collapsed in a very complete fashion as buildings with heavy fire involvement often do. This was once a mixed residential / commercial occupancy. The top floors have used as part of the business and have been sealed over with what looks like corrugated steel panels. You can see the outline of the windows in the front wall. There is obviously a major fire spread threat to the upper floors here. Several concerns occur here:

- Access to upper floors for secondary egress is non-existent

See Avillo on page 20.

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Court reaffirms employer's right to look beyond Civil service rankings in promotions

The Appellate Court was recently given an opportunity to rule on an appeal of a bypass for promotion to the position of Fire Chief from a candidate who had ranked second on the Civil Service promotional list and was bypassed in favor of the third ranked eligible.

In an unpublished decision dated August 8, 2014 App. Div. Docket No. A-0241-12T1, the second ranked eligible argued that (a) the examination was improperly opened to employees serving as fire captain; (b) he was wrongfully denied disclosure of the selected eligible's personnel record and other qualifications, which were important to enable him to challenge the City's decision; and (c) the City failed to adequately state its reasons for bypassing him.

On the issue of eligibility to take the exam, the Civil Service Commission held that the appeal was untimely in that appeals from an Agency decision are to be made within twenty days of notice. The appellant failed to file within the twenty day time period. Additionally, the Commission concluded that it was authorized under its rules to expand the title scope to avoid having an incomplete list of candidates. The Commission noted that if fire captains were not eligible, there was only one deputy chief eligible who could have been the only possible candidate for promotion.

Five candidates took the examination. The City, as part of its promotional process, decided to interview the top three candidates to provide

"insight as to what the candidate's thoughts were for the future of the Department, the manner in which they would handle difficult situations, and their overall work ethic." The City also reviewed the individuals' personnel files to evaluate their disciplinary and employment history.

On November 11, 2011, the City promoted the third ranked eligible and he began serving as Fire Chief on November 14, 2011. An appeal was filed on November 28, 2011.

On January 24, 2012, the City provided a statement of reasons for bypassing the first and second ranked candidates. The City stated, in part, as follows: "After evaluating each of the top three candidates under the appropriate title specifications, Captain [] was determined to be the best candidate to fill the vacant Fire Chief position based upon his positive disciplinary record in more than twenty-one years as an employee... ; the fact that he has demonstrated good judgment, initiative, and the ability to manage administrative functions in his performance as Fire Captain; and by virtue of his exceptional performance during his oral interview."

In its August 2, 2012 Decision, the Commission denied the appeal, finding the City's statement of reasons to be sufficient. Further, the Commission also denied the discovery request as unnecessary and in violation of the selected eligible's privacy.

In the appeal, the Court found that the Commission did not err in denying the appellant's access to the selected

eligible's personnel file. It noted that individual personnel records are "not public records and shall not be released other than to the subject employee, an authorized representative of the employee, or governmental representatives in connection with their official duties," citing to N.J.A.C. 4A:1-2.2(b). Furthermore, the Commission found that disclosure of the personnel file was unnecessary because the selected eligible's positive disciplinary record was undisputed. Moreover, the City did not rely on the selected eligible's personnel file other than to establish a lack of disciplinary history. Finally, since the City's primary reason for selecting the candidate for the position of Fire Chief was his "superior performance in an interview" and not any undisclosed material in his personnel file, there was no prima facie showing that the personnel file was germane to the City's decision. The Court also noted that the appellant, due to his position as Deputy Fire Chief, was in a position to have personal knowledge of any pertinent facts that might be in selected eligible's personnel file. The appellant failed to provide any factual basis for disclosure.

On the issue of the reasons for bypassing appellant, the Court acknowledged that under the Rule of Three, an appointing authority has flexibility in selecting a candidate for employment or promotion. The Rule permits an appointing authority to choose not to select the highest

See Legal Report on Page 27.



118th Annual NJFMBA Convention



President Ed Donnelly welcomes everyone to the 118th Annual NJFMBA Convention.



Vice President Rich Mikutsky gave an update on issues effecting our members.



Carlos Mercado gave an update on legislative matters in Trenton.



Bob Allen introduced a list of candidates for endorsement.



Assemblywoman Annette Quijano spoke about her Homeland Security committee activities.



Senator Paul Sarlo spoke about the importance of working together to protect our rights.



Assemblywoman Bonnie Watson Coleman was on hand to discuss her US Senate candidacy.



Central District Vice President John Murphy discussed issues effecting our southern locals



MBI Gluckshaw's Rudy Garcia gave an overview of the work they are doing on our behalf.



118th Annual NJF



Veterans Committee chair Bob Clark spoke about the benefits available to veterans.



Dan Campbell gave an update on programs available at Deborah Hospital.



David Fox, General Counsel to the FMBA for 26 years, announced that the law firm Fox and Fox would be dissolving in the coming months.



Monsignor O'Donnell gave the invocation to start the convention.



Trustee Chair Bill Pellettiere gave an update on activities of the trustees.



Local 500 VP Jim Stelman filled in for President Royston and announced the results of Local 500 elections



PANJ President Dwight Covaleskie spoke about working with our organization on common issues.



Treasurer Troy Powell gave the annual financial report.



Central District VP Tim Deutsch updated everyone on issues in the district.



FMBA Convention



Gail DellaFave of St Joseph's Hospital spoke about the calcium scoring program.



Chris Konkus of St Joseph's explained how simple the test was.



Our host at the Golden Nugget, Donna Ward, thanked the FMBA for continuing to support the Golden Nugget



Professor Kevin Malley (FDNY ret.) gave a presentation on NJCU fire programs



Labor Counsel Craig Gumpel updated us on pending litigation.



Acting State Fire Marshall Bill Kramer gave a report on statewide fire issues.



Patrick Wildrige of Paul Davis Restoration introduced his corporate partners at PDR.



Paul Davis Restoration's Darryl Melton spoke about PDR as a corporate citizen.



Paul Davis Restoration's Brian Woodward spoke about ICS training for PDR staff to help them understand the role they play on fire scenes.



Above left, Memorial Service Honor Guard. Above right, Active Member Death of Roselle Battalion Chief John Lynn commemorated with his wife Anna Mae, daughter Deanna, and nephew Russell placing a flower on the memorial cross. Left, The Pipes and Drums perform during the memorial service. Below The 2014 NJFMB A Life Members joined President Donnelly and Secretary Lukenda on stage.



The 2014 NJFMB A Life Members. Michael McCurrie, Kearny Local 18; John Donovan, Kearny Local 18; Scott Wentworth, Belleville Local 229; Richard Cavanagh, Belleville Local 229; Anthony Palermo, Belleville Local 229; Brian Salmon, Belleville Local 29; Frank McDonnell, Jackson Local 86; Richard LoMonte, Montclair Local 20; James Patterson, Harrison Local 22; Jeff Albrecht, Hillside Local 35; Jayson Smuro, Long Branch Local 68; Randall Peterson, Rahway Local 33; Joseph M. Paolo, Plumstead Local 89; Joseph Iorio, Nutley Local 44; Richard Bornstad, Linden Local 234.



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"A Gift From Captain Buscio"

"A Gift from Captain Buscio", a program started by Donna Buscio in honor of her husband Captain Dom Buscio.

The program has already directly saved the lives a several firefighters. There are two locations that NJ firefighters can go for the testing.

In the North a facility is located at Newark Liberty International Airport. 340 Airis Drive off of Brewster Road 2nd Floor Room 203 Newark, 07114. The phone number to schedule an appointment is 201-216-3055.

In the Southern part of the state fire-fighters can go to our long time partner the Deborah Heart and Lung Center in Browns Mills.

Tom Campbell advises that you can call the general information number 800-555-1990 for the Buscio program or to inquire about any of the other great services that they provide.

Donna Buscio reminds everyone that the program is not a one time visit, but that every firefighter should be screened annually.

This program provides a valuable and potentially life saving service that we should all take advantage of.



Donna Buscio and Dr. Edwin Garcia at the Annual NJFMBA Conventon



Labor

Continued from page 7

putting a tremendous burden on taxpayers in the form of municipal taxes.

In politics sometimes you find yourself unexpectedly, in agreement with people or institutions on certain issues, when that happens you join together to fight for what is right for both the taxpayer residents and the taxpayer local public employees. I believe the following letter illustrates how two fundamentally different groups can have the same view on a very important issue.

Stay Safe,Wayne

Aville

Continued from page 12

- Visibility will be zero
- Disorientation of fire personnel is a very real likelihood
- Ventilation opportunities are near zero

A solid risk vs. gain assessment must be made here...and quickly. The first floor fire appears to be difficult to tame so the conditions upstairs are getting worse. Additionally, attached exposures with the possibility of open cocklofts make this an even more challenge for Command and the operating companies. This was a tough job.

As I said last month, always be prepared. Get out into the street, evaluate, and assess these structures so that you are better educated when there is fire and smoke issuing from them at 0300 hours. It is too late then.

Keep safe out there. Wear your gear ALL THE TIME!! Questions, comments, column suggestions, kudos, or criticism – email is deputy1@optonline.net

Tune in with me and Chief Jim Duffy from Wallingford, CT to Fire Engineering Blog Talk radio for Fireground Strategies and Other Stuff from the Street. Our next show is December 1st at 7:30 EST. Call-ins encouraged. Quote of the month: **You are only a leader if someone if someone is following you.**

Opinion

Continued from page 7

municipalities and counties have made full employer contributions as required under the law for more than a decade. The local PERS is currently funded (comparing assets to liabilities) at 73.9 percent and the local PFRS is currently funded at 76.9 percent. The state PERS, on the other hand, is currently funded at 48.1 percent and the state PFRS is a little better, at 50.8 percent.

These numbers matter, because they are used to determine the annual responsibility of the municipality or county – the amount that each unit of government is expected to pay into the system.

We recognize and appreciate the underlying state's funding crisis, and we commend the governor and the commission for their attention to these issues. Our concern, however, is that the commission may propose solutions for the state system that could result in new problems – and higher costs – for the local property taxpayer. That is an unintended consequence that no one wants and should be avoided.

If anyone can appreciate the challenges faced by state budget decision makers, it is local elected officials. We recognize and appreciate the challenges faced by state decision makers, as well the challenges that lie ahead.

Over the past six years, local officials deserve credit for making the tough decisions in tough times. We have pruned budgets, pursued savings, engaged in tough negotiations, reduced the workforce, shared services, cut spending, applied best practices, emptied reserve accounts and

deferred investments. We did this as property values declined, tax appeals increased, development and economic activity stalled, employment slumped and property-tax relief funding was diverted to the state budget.

Through all that, and an unprecedented series of natural disasters, local governments have continued to balance their budgets and deliver essential services, while funding numerous state-mandated responsibilities and meeting all their public employee pension funding obligations.

With this in mind, the League of Municipalities respectfully requests that the New Jersey Pension and Health Benefit Study Commission recognize that the local pension systems are healthy and that municipalities and counties have met their obligations as employers.

We are committed to advocating for legislation, regulations and policy directives that empower local governments to operate more effectively and efficiently. The League remains dedicated to advancing innovative programs and initiatives that enhance the level of service provided and save valuable taxpayer dollars.

We understand the state's budget problems and we are anxious to help in any way we can. But we cannot help in any way that shifts new burdens to our property taxpayers and our dedicated public servants.

Suzanne M. Walters is mayor of Stone Harbor, Gerald J. Tarantolo is mayor of Eatontown. Joseph Tempesta Jr. is mayor of West Caldwell and Brian C. Wahler is mayor of Piscataway. They are, respectively: president, 1st vice president, 2nd vice president and 3rd vice president of the New Jersey State League of Municipalities.

Notice: The November State Meeting will be held on MONDAY November 17th at the Golden Nugget. The NJ League of Municipalities Convention will be held in Atlantic City on November 18-20. The NJFMBA will have a booth at the convention to spread the word about our "Know Your Taxes" campaign. Members are needed to man the booth. If you are interested in helping call the office 732-499-9250.

The NJFMBA urges each local to send representatives to the convention to see and hear what management is hearing.



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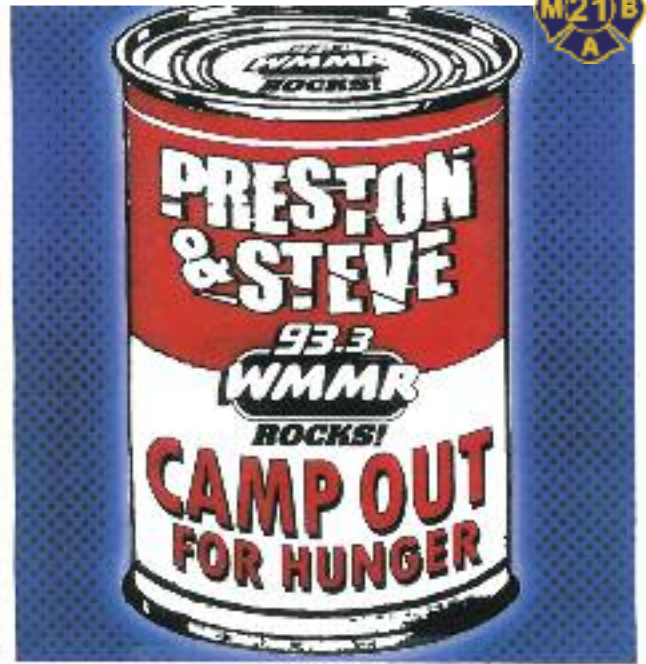
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- Fire Chief Exam #1
- Fire Engineering magazine author
- *Retired February 2014

Chris Barkalow

Captain Asbury Park Fire F.D.
barky1230@aol.com
732 904 3174

- Captain Exam #1
- USAR Team member
- Hazmat Tech



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The FMBA reserves the right to reject any submission it deems to be adverse to its mission and goals, inflammatory, or derogatory. Please note the policy for all letters is that they must contain a name and contact info for verification.

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NJFMBA Position on Members Serving as Volunteer Firefighters

The following position was outlined at the November 2008 State FMBA meeting. It was the result of a discussion from the floor. The position is a result of a combination of factors, including, the fiscal crisis we face as a nation along with the attacks our locals are facing in this economic climate.

--- NJ FMBA members should not serve as volunteers in any jurisdiction where career firefighters are employed.

--- NJ FMBA members should not respond as volunteers into any jurisdiction where career firefighters are employed.

The NJFMBA recognizes the valuable role that volunteers serve in many communities. this policy only relates to the communities that employ career firefighters.

Save the Date Calendar



November 17, 2014 State FMBA meeting at Golden Nugget in Atlantic City. NOTE: Date Change to Monday.

November 18-20, 2014 NJ League of Municipalities Conference in Atlantic City.

November 26, 2014 NHanover Township Beefsteak see page 26 for details.

December 10, 2014 State FMBA Meeting at the Deutscher Club, Clark.

January 9, 2015 FMBA Night at the Devils. Devils vs Islanders at Prudential Center, see inside front cover for details.

January 17, 2015 Safety Seminar, Saint Barnabas Medical Center.

February 23, 2015 Cooked and Uncorked event, Pines Manor.

February 27, 2015 Firefighter Ski Race at Mountain Creek.

April 25, 2015 NJFMBA Valor Banquet, Pines Manor.

In an effort to keep you informed of all of the events and to help reduce conflicting events, the BULLETIN will publish a monthly Save the Date Calendar.

Locals are asked to submit items to the BULLETIN as soon as the dates are set, complete event information can be sent at a later date. Information should be emailed to FMBA@optonline.net.

FMBA Plates Show Your Pride In Being a Member

NJ FMBA License Plates are available through the State Office. The cost is \$50. Plate applications should be available through your local president or delegate or call the office at 732-499-9250.

Please Note transferring plates now cost \$20 payable to NJ FMBA call the office for details.



Note: Special number requests not available.



9th Annual Hanover Township

BEEFSTEAK

Saturday November 15, 2014

Starts at 8:30pm

**American Legion Post 155
13-23 Legion Place
Whippany, NJ 07981**

Tickets are STILL \$40.00

To Purchase Tickets Contact

Josh at 973-703-7754 or email: jMokowski@whippanyfire.com

Paul at 973-703-4371 or email: PPerello@whippanyfire.com

Event Catered by Chef's Cafe's, Inc.
Served 15:15pm on French bread, Ziti, Salad, French fries, Cheese,
Soft Drink, Ice and more.

Now in its 21 Year & Older Phase!
All proceeds to benefit Firefighters Local 109 & Children.

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Program features include:

- Available to first-time and repeat homebuyers
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New PFRS Rate

Effective Aug. 15, 2014

3.53%

(3.6515% APR)

Christine Tower is the Wells Fargo Preferred Lender of the NJ FMBA

1. Volunteer fire fighters or retired police or fire fighters are not eligible for the PFRS mortgage loan program
2. This is the current interest rate for the loan product described above for a single-family primary residence and is effective from August 14, 2014 – February 15, 2015, 2014 at which time it will be reset by the program administrator. Information is accurate as of date of printing and is subject to change without notice.

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14th Annual Pub Night

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2014
7:30 p.m. Until 12:00 a.m.

Honorees:

Joseph Burke & Karen Taylor-Burke

KENILWORTH VETERANS CENTER
55 South 21st Street, Kenilworth, NJ 07033

Entertainment by **BLOODY CALLAN** and the
Union County Police & Fire Pipes and Drums

BEER & MUSIC

Information: Eddie Donnelly 908-295-5797
Dennis Connor 908-250-7084



All Active NJFMBA Members can receive a 15% off eligible service plans. Retired members who are receiving a pension from the State of New Jersey can receive an 8 % discount off eligible plans.

(PLEASE NOTE THE ACCOUNT MUST BE IN THE FIRE-FIGHTERS NAME)

Anyone that falls into the above categories can sign up on the Verizon wireless website at www.verizonwireless.com/get-discounts

You will then follow the steps to sign up via that portal, where the employee or retiree will have to submit proof of eligibility. The active member will have to submit a copy of work ID and the retiree a copy of the pay stub that they receive, blocking out and vital information, but leaving their name and the NJ retiree pension info and entering the address the pension check has stamped on it.

Once they submit the proof of eligibility (name badge) or retiree status, the discount should appear in 1 to 2 billing cycles.

Legal Report

Continued from Page 14

ranked candidate and provides discretion to consider “other merit criteria”.

In reviewing the statement of reasons provided by the City, the Court reaffirmed that “other merit criteria” could include “preference for an advanced degree..., the performance of the applicant at the give-and-take of an interview, or character and employment references...” Here, the City provided specific reasons for its decision to bypass the appellant. In addition to noting the individual’s positive disciplinary record, the City also cited to the selected eligible’s “exceptional performance in an oral interview, noting he best articulated a management style consistent with the City’s approach to developing and managing the operations of the Department, building a consensus, and offering a positive public face to the Department.” In denying the appeal, the Court found that the City’s decision was “not made for discriminatory or invalid reasons.”

Finally, on the issue of the fire captains’ exam eligibility, the Appellate Court agreed with the Commission’s decision that appellant’s appeal as to that issue was barred as untimely.

Thus, it is important to note that public employers are given wide latitude in making promotions and exercising their right under the Rule of Three especially when it comes to “other merit criteria”. There is no standard that an employer must follow in terms of weighing certain factors over others. While a key factor still remains ranking within the top three on a promotional list to fill a vacancy, public employers may give substantial weight to other merit and fitness factors as determined by each employer. As stated by the Court, the “possibilities are endless.”

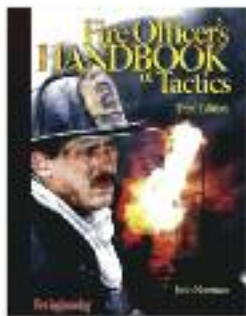
Fireground Tactics Seminar

House Fires and Store (Strip Mall and Taxpayer) Fires
Saturday February 28th, 2015
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Vanity Fare
1600 Route 70 East,
Lakewood, NJ 08701

Presented by:

John Norman
Deputy Assistant Chief (Ret.)
New York City Fire Department



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Visit www.lakewoodfmba80.org to register.



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Exclusive Member Benefits

State FMBA Meetings

Every month except July the NJ FMBA holds a meeting of the Executive Delegates. All members in good standing are welcome at these meetings. See the 411 section for meeting locations.

FMBA Conventions

Attend FMBA Conventions and take advantage of different health clinics and vendors.

State FMBA Picnic

Members can attend the Mario Rossi Memorial Picnic each June.

FMBA License Plates

Every member may purchase FMBA license plates for any vehicle owned or registered to the member or member's spouse. There is a \$50 fee.

FMBA Shields

Every member is eligible to purchase up to two shields to be displayed in the member's vehicles. The Shields remain property of the NJ FMBA and may be revoked.

Valor Awards Banquet

NJ FMBA Honors the Bravest of the Brave at our annual Valor Awards banquet, open to all members.

Keeping the Members Informed

The NJ FMBA is the only firefighter union in NJ to provide a monthly publication to its members to keep them informed of events and happenings that effect our membership.

Layoff Relief Fund

The NJ FMBA is the only public employee union in NJ to maintain a layoff relief fund to protector our members.

Access to Pension Trustees

Members have monthly access to our PFRS trustees at the state meetings.

SCHOLARSHIPS

FMBA members children and grandchildren are eligible to apply for the FMBA/Earnest Ousley Scholarships and the FMBA/Seton Hall University Scholarships.

Union PLUS Benefits

Affiliation with NAGE/SEIU provides access to the many benefits they offer, including Union PLUS benefits.

Assistance Program

The FMBA maintains an assistance program for our members and their families for alcohol and drug dependency or any other mental or health issues.

Local Officer Training

Training is provided for new local officers at the state office and at seminars at various conventions.

FMBA Store

FMBA members may purchase FMBA logo apparel and other items on-line, at the office and at meetings and conventions.

NJ Manufacturers Insurance

FMBA members are eligible to discount auto and home insurance through New Jersey Manufacturers Insurance Company. Members can call the state office to obtain membership number.

Member Discount Opportunities

Verizon Wireless discounts on equipment and services.

Discounts at Great Wolf Lodge, New York Sports Clubs, Cove Haven Pocono Palace, and Great Adventure, Dorney Park and Wildwater Kingdom. Call the office for these offers.

California Casualty

Special auto and home insurance program for FMBA members.





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Trinity is proud to support the NJ Firefighter's Mutual Benevolent Association. We are making donations for every appointment generated through the FMBA. Together, we can build a stronger, more sustainable tomorrow—get started TODAY!

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- For any system that is installed by an NJ FMBA member:
 - \$1,000 will be donated to the NJ FMBA
- For any system that is installed by a referred friend or family of an NJ FMBA member:
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NJFMBA Decal 2
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Prev Next

New NJFMBA On-line Store Now Open

Ways and Means Committee Chairman Sam Infante introduced the NJFMBA on-line store at the Annual Convention. The store can be found on the NJFMBA website located at www.NJFMBA.org click on the NJFMBA Store button to go to the store page. Infante explained that all sales are handled directly from the vendor and shipped to the address of your choice.

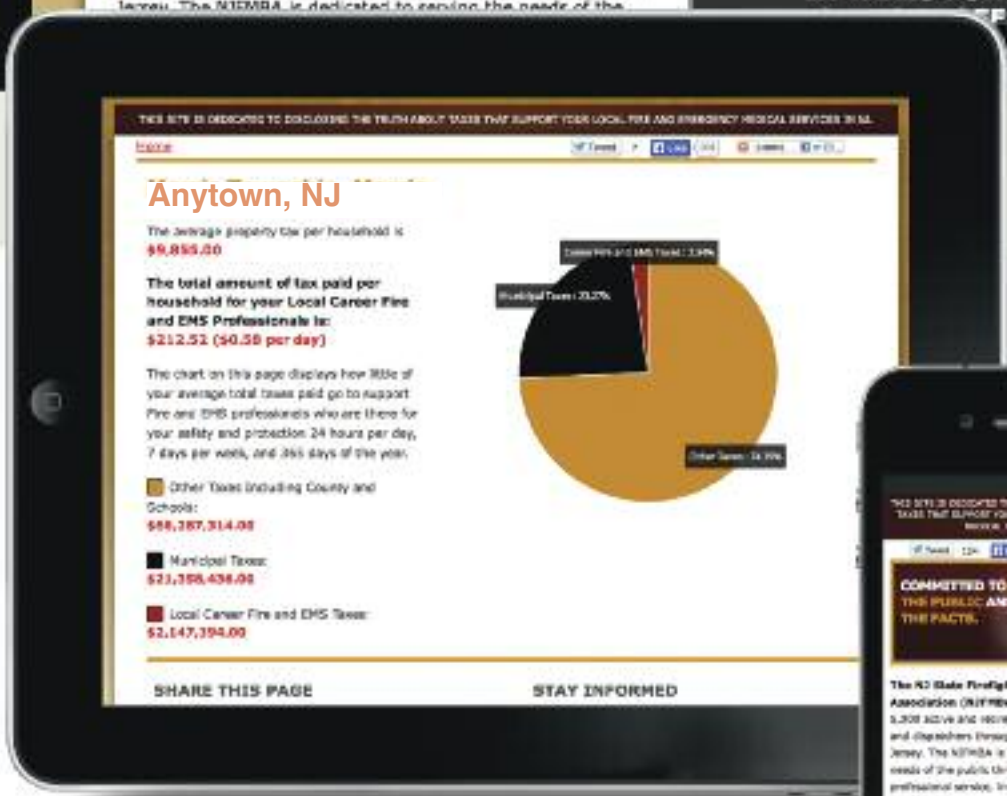
Some of the items offered for sale include:

- Window decals \$3.00 each
- T-Shirts \$10.00
- Long Sleeve Shirts
- Golf Shirts \$40.00
- Sweatshirts \$30.00
- Jackets \$55.00
- Hats \$28.00

Infante also reported that items can be customized to meet individual local needs. Visa, MasterCard and PayPal are accepted on the site.



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