



# Golden's Bridge Fire District

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*Part of a series of news and information bulletins published by the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Golden's Bridge Fire District, keeping the community informed.*



The Golden's Bridge Fire District is prepared for alternate planning and procedures if a claims resolution is not reached with the insurance carrier so that reconstruction of the Firehouse can begin without further delay. In the meantime, the Fire Department will be forced to operate in makeshift temporary facilities for a second consecutive winter.



Last year, members of the Golden's Bridge Fire Department (shown here) held a lesson in fire safety and prevention for students at Increase Miller Elementary School as part of Fire Prevention Month. The annual tradition will continue this year on Oct. 21, when Firefighters use fire trucks as classrooms to provide interactive demonstrations and important safety and prevention tips to the students.



## **Fire District Making Progress with Insurance Claims Negotiations, But Still Prepared for Alternate Planning and Procedures if Resolution Not Reached with Insurance Carrier**

In recent news bulletins, it was reported that the Golden's Bridge Fire District's Board of Fire Commissioners has been meeting with consultants, experts and advisors.

These various consultants and experts are helping to strategically formulate appropriate potential courses of action for immediate implementation by the Fire District in the event that the insurance carrier, McNeil and Company, offers a financial settlement on the insurance claim that falls short of the total amount needed for reconstruction of the Golden's Bridge Firehouse, recovery of lost equipment, and recovery of all other fire-related costs.

The Fire District is collaborating with those same consultants and experts to be fully prepared to address all of the specific needs of restoring the building to a fully functioning Firehouse.

With the Feb. 23, 2016 claims settlement deadline just months away, the District wants to be prepared in the event that McNeil and Company does not proceed with all possible alternative resolutions in addressing the insurance claims brought in good faith by the Fire District.

"In other words, we will not allow the insurance claims settlement to go down to the wire. We will have mechanisms in place that are ready to be implemented," said Edward Brancati, Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners.

"The District is fully prepared to exercise appropriate legal and all other options to protect the insurance claim and financial interests of the community, Fire Department and District," Brancati said.

The Fire District has intensified its consultation meetings with legal experts and advisors in insurance recovery litigation and bond financing. More information will be provided in upcoming news bulletins.

## **Golden's Bridge Fire Dept. Announces Series of Community Outreach Events for National Fire Prevention Month**

The Golden's Bridge Fire Department has announced a series of community outreach events for National Fire Prevention Month highlighted by informational tables at the A&P Shopping Center and a visit with students at Increase Miller Elementary School.

The 2015 national fire prevention theme is "Hear the Beep Where You Sleep: Every Bedroom Needs a Working Smoke Alarm."

In keeping with this theme, Golden's Bridge Firefighters will distribute free smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors to local residents at the A&P Shopping Center on consecutive Sundays, October 25 and November 1, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. They will distribute handouts on fire safety and prevention tips and children will receive red fire hats, coloring books, badges and other fun items to remind them about the importance of fire safety. Youngsters will have the opportunity to climb into a fire truck and have their picture taken.

"Education and awareness are important to fire safety and prevention. Being prepared and knowing what to do in a fire emergency can save your life," said Al Melillo, 1st Assistant Chief and Information Officer of the Golden's Bridge Fire Department.

"The 2015 national fire prevention theme calls attention to the fact that a smoke alarm is required in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of your home," Chief Melillo explained.

Fire trucks will become classrooms for students at IMES on Oct. 21st, when Golden's Bridge Firefighters will provide important lessons in fire safety and prevention, along with interactive demonstrations.

In addition to a gift bag with fun activities and items, the students will be given a homework assignment – to discuss fire safety with their parents at the dinner table.

For more information, contact 914-232-4530

## **Oct. 31st Halloween Fun at Golden's Bridge Fire Dept.**

The Golden's Bridge Fire Department is hosting Halloween fun at the temporary firehouse facility and grounds on Route 138 on Saturday, October 31st, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. All families are invited to drop in! There will be candy treats and goodies for children – plus photo opportunities with friendly monsters and ghouls, a raffle drawing (you need not be present when winning tickets are drawn), and a close-up look at the shiny red fire engines. Be sure to come dressed in your Halloween costume! Everything is free. Hope you can join us!