



The **REGISTER**

Noteworthy News
from the
Greater Hanover Area Fire Museum



2nd Quarter April - June 2026



HAVFR Presents Donation



Greater Hanover Area
Fire Museum
The **REGISTER**
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The **REGISTER** newsletter is produced by and distributed to all Greater Hanover Area Fire Museum members and supporters as part of their yearly dues payment. Articles may not be reproduced or distributed without permission from GHAFM.

Photos GHAFM or as noted.
Museum news and events may be emailed to the Editor, Ken Buohl at: kb1951@pa.net or
Mail to:
The Register Editor, Ken Buohl
190 East Walnut St, Unit 12
Hanover, PA 17331

Hanover Area Volunteer Fire and Rescue President Jeffrey Spielman and member George Zimmerman presented a check for \$5,000 to the Greater Hanover Area Fire Museum President, Gordy Lillich for assisting with the \$5,875 shipping cost to bring the Hanover Fire Dept. 1970 American LaFrance, 46-2 engine back to our fire museum from Montana. Hanover Fire Dept. donated 46-2 to the Painted Rocks Fire District in 2003 and in 2007 Painted Rocks Fire District donated 46-2 to West Fork Volunteer Fire Dept., both were in Darby, Montana. 46-2 remained in first line service at West Fork Volunteer Fire Dept. until 2025 when it was donated back to the Greater Hanover Area Fire Museum.

The Hanover Area Volunteer Fire and Rescue is a great partner with our fire museum and continuously provides very helpful financial support to keep our Hanover area fire history alive. Thank you HAVFR for your recent contribution.



A Game-Changing 24 Hours

Our big day of giving for the Greater Hanover Area Fire Museum goes live at 7 PM on Thursday, April 30 and continues through Friday, May 1.

Your giving is always appreciated.

* At the FIRE MUSEUM *

Museum Visitors

Tours at the GHAFM were limited due to the fire museum was closed for the train garden tear down.

Apparatus



Our Truck Preservation Committee reports all motorized fire apparatus are positioned in their new locations in the museum engine bays. Hanover Area Fire and Rescue professional firefighters moved our Silsby to it's new location in the fire museum. Thank you Local 2045, thank you for your valuable heavy lifting. Dale and Henry Hartman report they will be performing general maintenance on the motorized fire apparatus in the coming months in preparation for attending future fire musters, parades and other events.



Larry Spangler from Spangler Sign Co. and GHAFM President, Gordy Lillich remove West Fork Vol. Fire Dept. vinyl decals from 46-2 in preparation for attaching GHAFM magnetic signs. Larry cut the magnetic signs to their final size. Thank you Larry!

Building & Grounds

Snow shovels will turn over to brooms and garden shovels in preparation for Spring 2026, the fire museum is officially open full time and our fabulous train garden is put away for another season. Looking forward, YCCS will be coming in to clean and general maintenance will be performed at the museum.



Kevin Adams recently removed and cut several rows of pavers lining our hand drawn fire apparatus row. It was necessary to accommodate backing our motorized fire apparatus into the museum safely.



GHAFM member Dale Geiman attaches a baby changing station paid for by GHAFM member Mandi Smith. It is located in the fire museum rest room.

Above & Beyond



Above - Connie Kopp was presented a Certificate of Appreciation from the GHAFM for her 86 hours of dedicated service to the GHAFM during 2025.

THANK YOU goes out to the following for their GHAFM financial or services support:

Kevin Adams, Jason Kopp, Scott Shorb, Pam & Jerry Poland, Gary & Deb Rickrode, John Gerken, Mandi Smith, Larry Hamm, Andy Alwine, Jim Derstine, Ken Buehl, Western Maryland Model Railroad Society, York County Commissioner, Julie Wheeler, Hanover Borough Mayor, Heidi Hormel, Anita Buie, Clearview Terrace, Randy Angel, HAFR officers and Local 2045, Carolyn Markle, Melvin Starner, Bruce Yealy, Tony Wagaman, Andy Crouse, Jane Mayers, James Young, Dave Sheperd, Jim Roth Chief Joseph Bunty and Larry Spangler.

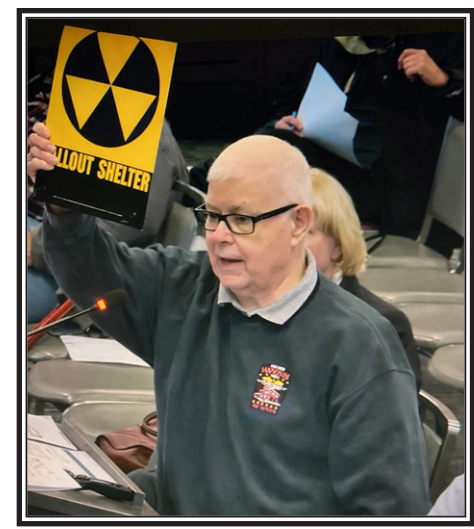


Andy Alwine HAVFR Dive Captain donated this Parkville Fire Co. floor rug to the GHAFM. **THANK YOU**

"Members ON THE ROAD"



Gary Rickrode and Greg Farland had 46-2 out stretching it's legs at the York, PA St. Patrick's Day Parade and Bill Perkins in his Fire Chiefs car ran support for the guys in 46-2. There were 6 vintage fire trucks and 1 chief's car in the parade. York County Vice President Commissioner Scott Burford sporting his kilt joined the guys for a photo opportunity and they also joined the luck of the green merry makers from the West Manchester Twp. Fire Dept. and Old Fire Farts for a photo opportunity. A great time in a great city to celebrate and grab some Luck of the Irish for the GHAFM.



Jim Roth Civil Defense presentation at the Hanover Borough Council.

First quarter of 2026 our GHAFM members were on the road again traveling to the York Saint Patrick's Day Parade, Give York meeting, Warehime Myers Mansion Easter Egg Hunt and Hanover Borough Council Meeting. Thank you Dale and Henry Hartman, Sharon Moore, Gordy Lillich, Rob Holt, Ken Buehl, Gary Rickrode, Bill Perkins, Greg Farland, Jim Derstine, Jody and Jeff Cramer, Jim Roth and Rob Brady. All have been ambassadors for the world of Historical Fire Service and spreading the word about our great fire museum. A special "Thank You" for our members and families, job well done.

Photo Credits: Gary Rickrode, Dale Hartman, Lape Brothers Photography, Ken Buehl, Borough of Hanover.



GHAFM member Jim Derstine's steam calliope in the York St. Patrick's Day parade.

SOUND THE ALARM FOR A THREE ALARM EVENT



YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR MONTANA FIRE TRUCKS WET DOWN CEREMONY

Rob Holt, Ken Buehl and Gordy Lillich were very busy this quarter preparing for the 2026 GHAFM Homecoming Day and the 1937 and 1970 Wet Down Day ceremony, both scheduled for May 2 starting at 11 am at the fire museum. It will be a very special day for enjoying some fire service companionship and celebrating our two wonderful historical Hanover Fire Dept. antique fire trucks return from Montana. Join us and enjoy, we have some very special guests attending this special event.



Hanover, Pennville, Parkville and Grangeville Fire Departments Fantastic Mack Fire Trucks



Pennville / Friendship Fire Co. 48 / Penn Twp. 1954 L Mack, 750 GPM Pump, 500 Gallon Water. Currently in a Syracuse NY Museum.



Pennville / Friendship Fire Co. 48 / Penn Twp. 1970 CF Mack, gas engine, 1,000 GPM Pump, 200 Gallon Water, 85 foot Snorkel.



Pennville / Friendship Fire Co. 48 / Penn Twp. 1965 C Mack, gas engine, 1,000 GPM Pump with high pressure, 500 Gallon Water.



Grangeville / Goodwill Fire Co. 51 / Penn Twp. 1961 B1 MACK, semi open cab, 750 GPM Pump, 500 Gallon Water. Was involved in a vehicle accident at Blooming Grove Rd. and York St. Sold to private owner in Leesburg, VA.



Pennville / Friendship Fire Co. 48 / Penn Twp. 1977 CF Mack, gas engine, 1,250 GPM Pump, 1,000 Gallon Water. Sold to Buddy Gray, Fire Apparatus dealer in Alabama.



The in service days of these bulldogs have vanished into private collections, scrapped or destroyed in unfortunate accidents only to be a part of our historical fire service memories. They were faithful servants to the Hanover area and demonstrated a desire by the Hanover area fire service to provide some of the best dependable fire apparatus of it's time.



Pennville / Friendship Fire Co. 48 / Penn Twp. 1970 CF Mack remounted on 1989 Pierce Arrow chassis, 1,000 GPM Pump, 200 Gallon Water, 85 foot Snorkel. Sold to Ozark, MO then to Richmond, MO. Totaled in a rollover accident.



Grangeville / Goodwill Fire Co. 51 / Penn Twp. 1938 EG Type 35 MACK, open cab, 500 GPM Pump. Sold to Phil Braun of Hanover, then Wayne Bollinger, Hanover, then Donny Gantz, Barlow, PA now with Jerry Lady, Heidlersburg, PA.



Hanover Fire Co. No. 1, 46-1 / Hanover, PA. 1935 MACK BX 75 open cab, 750 GPM pump, 100 Gallon Water. Transferred to Clearview Fire Co. No. 3, then to Hanover Borough Landfill, Bill Radish, Shane Graf and now in New England.



Hanover Fire Co. No. 1, 46 / Hanover, PA. 1948 MACK L-85-LS, semi open cab, transferred to Hanover Fire Dept. Eagle Fire Co. No. 2 and Wirt Park Station as reserve engine. Sold to Cal Little, Hummelstown, PA.



Hanover Fire Co. 46-4 / Hanover, PA. 1966 MACK C, semi open cab, automatic transmission. Purchased used from Pikesville Fire Co, Pikesville,MD, originally Bladensburg Fire Co., Bladensburg, MD. then Louis Shaller now with Don Rubin.



Parkville / Parkville Fire Co. 49 / Penn Twp. 1970 CF MACK CF 600, 1,000 GPM Pump, 500 Gallons Water. Sold to Buddy Gray a fire apparatus dealer in Alabama.



“From the Archives”

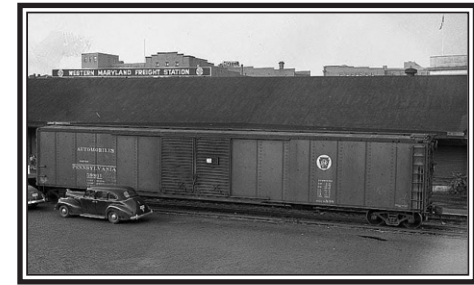
Pennsylvania Rail Road Box Car X30 No. 59861



The Pennsylvania Rail Road built a one of a kind X30 class box car No. 59861 in September of 1931 for the express purpose of shipping fire equipment from the American LaFrance plant in Elmira, N.Y. It was primarily designed to haul their longest, at the time, aerial ladder truck from the plant to any destination on the continent, and it also hauled up to two pumpers if needed. At 74' 6", it featured double 6' Youngstown end doors with a maximum open end width of 8' 8 1/2" and maximum open height of 10' 1/2", with a special ramp for loading. There were 2 slotted rails in the floor for wheel chocks that could be inserted into the rail to hold the vehicles in place. The box car was also used for shipping automobiles when not required by American LaFrance. Although not documented, it is very possible return trips from the west coast brought other fire apparatus back east from Crown, Seagrave, FWD and others. As built, the lettering read "EXPERIMENTAL" but was shortly thereafter changed to "AUTOMOBILES".

It was the largest box car owned by the Pennsylvania Rail Road during the 1950s and remained in service for over 30 years into the Penn Central Era. With an empty weight of 71,600 lbs. and maximum loaded weight of 100,000 lbs, nothing on the rails compared to it's functionality. Pennsylvania Rail Road records indicate the car was still offered for service as late as July 1964, The lack of surviving documentation or physical evidence for this box car after the mid-1960s strongly suggests it was scrapped. This was the standard practice for "oddball" or non-standard equipment as the Pennsylvania Rail Road moved toward merger and modernization in the late 1960s.

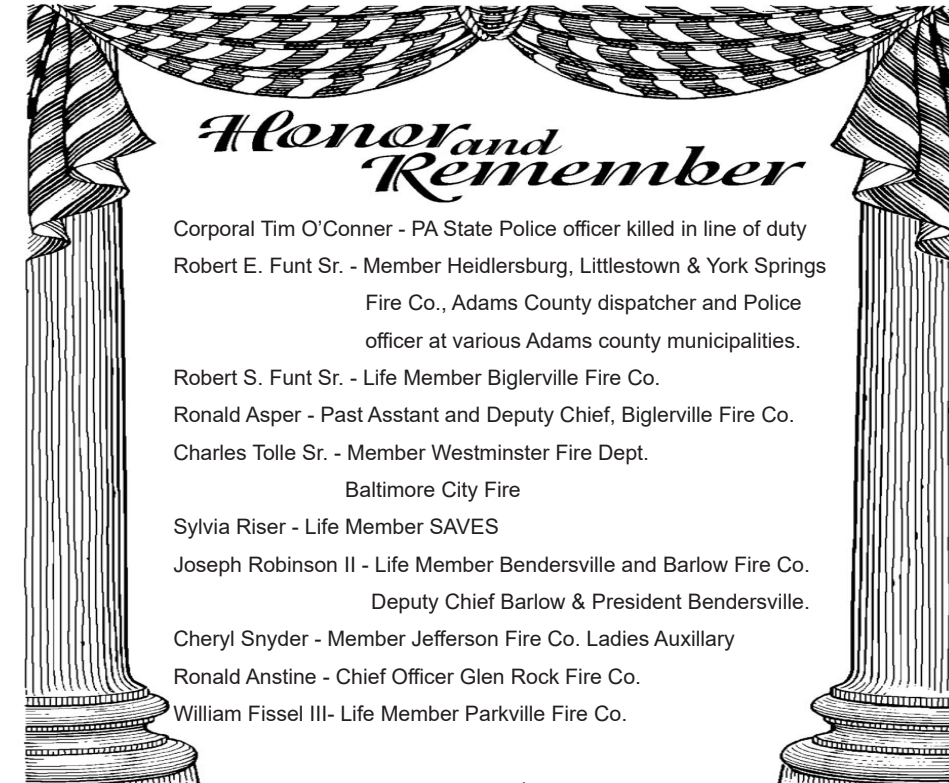
Article Resources & Photo Credits: Wikipedia, pensyrr.com, trains.com, Google AI.



Fire Museum.....Do You Know!

In Remembrance - Last Call

Hand Cart Return



Honor and Remember

Corporal Tim O'Conner - PA State Police officer killed in line of duty
 Robert E. Funt Sr. - Member Heidlersburg, Littlestown & York Springs Fire Co., Adams County dispatcher and Police officer at various Adams county municipalities.
 Robert S. Funt Sr. - Life Member Biglerville Fire Co.
 Ronald Asper - Past Asstant and Deputy Chief, Biglerville Fire Co.
 Charles Tolle Sr. - Member Westminster Fire Dept. Baltimore City Fire
 Sylvia Riser - Life Member SAVES
 Joseph Robinson II - Life Member Bendersville and Barlow Fire Co. Deputy Chief Barlow & President Bendersville.
 Cheryl Snyder - Member Jefferson Fire Co. Ladies Auxillary
 Ronald Anstine - Chief Officer Glen Rock Fire Co.
 William Fissel III- Life Member Parkville Fire Co.

Our sincere condolences to our Hanover Area fire service and police family.



GHAFM member Bruce Yealy returned a 1833 Wirt & Knox hand drawn hose reel to the Westminster MD Fire Dept. Historical Museum recently after being in his fire apparatus collection and displayed in the Greater Hanover Area Fire Museum. This cart was the first of five hose reels purchased by the Westminster Fire Dept. and in 1922 they sold it to the newly formed Parkville Fire Co. in Hanover, PA. It is currently displayed with their 1897 Wirt & Knox hose reel, 1898 Halloway hose carriage, 1924 American LaFrance city service ladder truck and 1933 American LaFrance 300 Series fire engine displayed in their Historical Museum at 28 John St. in Westminster, MD.

Parkville Fire House Demolished

In February of 1922 a group of 46 concerned families in the Parkville area of Hanover organized the Parkville Fire Company. In March of 1922 officers were elected and in September of 1922 a plot of land was purchased at 889 Baltimore St. Plans for a 32' x 54' fire house for a cost of \$2,000 were started in June of 1923 with members assisting with the construction. A bell was donated by Edwin Reichart in January 1923 and placed in the bell tower when the fire house was completed. This building was occupied until January 1966, then sold for \$7,800 after they moved to their new fire house at 955 Baltimore St.

The current owner, the Hanover Bible Baptist Church with Mason Dixon Chapter for the Youth for Christ, a religious youth outreach organization, having outgrown the Parkville Fire House, built a new facility on their property requiring a new driveway and the removal of the fire house.

The church graciously donated a few items from the fire house to the GHAFM for adding to our fire museum acquisitions. GHAFM Treasurer, John Lucabaugh and past member of Parkville Fire Co. was instrumental in acquiring and identifying various items acquired. We are very thankful they shared these items to the GHAFM for keeping their memories alive.





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 hanoverfiremuseum.com



“Where our Greater Hanover Area Fire Service History Thrives “

HUMOR ON THE TAILBOARD



But Chief - It was in the shop yesterday.

Dates and Times for Events are subject to change. Please check with the appropriate members for new dates and times or check the calendar in the Fire Museum or contact HAVFR or HAFRC.

Fire Museum & Other Events - Save A Date

Wednesday Museum Open: 9 am to 3 pm.
Saturday Museum Open: First and Third Saturday 9 am to 3pm.
 Work Days to be announced as needed.
 Other Visits by appointment. Call 717-637-6674 and leave a message.

Events at the Greater Hanover Area Fire Museum

- May 2 - Homecoming Day and 1937 & 1970 American LaFrance truck wet down. 11am at GHAFM
- May 7 - Fire Museum Membership Meeting at the Fire Museum 7 pm.
- June 4 - Fire Museum Membership Meeting at the Fire Museum 7 pm.
- July 2 - Fire Museum Membership Meeting at the Fire Museum 7 pm.
- Aug 6 - Fire Museum Membership Meeting at the Fire Museum 7 pm.

Future Special Interest 2026 Events

- May 3 - Bells Across America for fallen firefighters in 2025. Nationwide event. 10 am bells ring.
- May 9 - 50th Anniversary Steam day at Maryland Fire Museum, Timonium, MD
- May 15 - 16 - Lancaster County Fireman's Association Fire Expo. Harrisburg, PA Farm Show Building
- June 6 - Chesapeake Antique Fire Apparatus Association Spring Muster, Pleasant Valley, MD
- July 11 - 50th Annual PPP Muster, Riverfront Park, Harrisburg, PA (*Last Muster at Riverfront Park*)
- August 22 - Pleasant Hill VFC 5th Annual Fire Muster & Flea Market, Pleasant Hill, PA

Visit <http://www.cafaa.net/anita/anita.html> for addition fire service related events.

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What's Happening at the HAVFR & HAFRC

- HAVFR Monthly Company Meeting:** 2nd Thursday of each month, 7:00 pm. Use Clover Lane Fire Station building rear basement door and ring door bell, someone will assist you.
- HAFRC Monthly Meeting:** 3rd Thursday of each month, 5:30 pm. Use Clover Lane Fire Station building rear basement door and ring door bell, someone will assist you.