

MEDFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT **Early, Formative Years (c. 1922 – 1949)**

Some pivotal moments and prominent news items, showing the early, formative years of the Department

“Medford Firemen Form A Unified Department; To Organize District”

The Patchogue advance., January 29, 1932, Page 1

<https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn86071739/1932-01-29/ed-1/seq-1/>

Observes and chronicles the merger of the Medford Fire Department (organized, according to the article, ca. 1922) and the Independent Hose Company (organized, according to the article, ca. 1928), as well as the intention to establish a new fire district. After the merger, the two companies were named Company No. 1 and Company No. 2, respectively.

“Combined Fire Companies Meet And Elect Kerney Chief”

The Patchogue advance., February 05, 1932, Page 15

<https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn86071739/1932-02-05/ed-1/seq-15/>

Notes that, after the new fire district is established, plans will be made to continue with the already-underway (since the previous summer) construction of a firehouse at the corner of Oregon Avenue and Peconic Avenue.

“Medford Fire Department Auxiliary Formed, Mrs. Mistler Elected Head”

The Mid-island mail., August 12, 1936, Pages 1, 10

<https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn95071326/1936-08-12/ed-1/seq-1/>

<https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn95071326/1936-08-12/ed-1/seq-10/>

“Medford Fire Dept., Inc. To Build A Firehouse”

The Mid-island mail., August 25, 1937, Page 1

<https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn95071326/1937-08-25/ed-1/seq-1/>

An announcement of the intention to build a firehouse, a two-story structure, measuring 28 feet by 36 feet, at the corner of Oregon Avenue and Peconic Avenue.

“George Mistler Elected Chief - Medford Fire Department, Inc.”

The Mid-island mail., April 06, 1938, Page 16

<https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn95071326/1938-04-06/ed-1/seq-16/>

It is noted here that work on the new firehouse is progressing rapidly.

“F.D. Officials”

The Mid-island mail., May 28, 1941, Page 3

<https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn95071326/1941-05-28/ed-1/seq-3/>

A photograph of some of the past and present officers of the Department, on the occasion of the retirement, in 1941, of Chief George S. Mistler.

“Petitioners Seek Medford Fire Dist.”

The Patchogue advance., June 10, 1948, Page 4

<https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn86071739/1948-06-10/ed-1/seq-4/>

Notes the two rival fire departments that have been operating, up until this point, in Medford - the Medford Fire Department and the Independent Fire Department of Medford, Inc.

“Five-Man Board, Treasurer Named For Medford FD”

The Patchogue advance., February 24, 1949, Page 1

<https://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/lccn/sn86071739/1949-02-24/ed-1/seq-1/>

Notes the appointment of a board of five commissioners and a treasurer to serve the newly and successfully authorized Medford Fire District, and notes that the two rival departments (the Medford Fire Department and the Independent Fire Department of Medford, Inc.) are expected to become companies of one department.

Over the years, many newspaper items have been published reporting the fires that the Department has attended to, and reporting the various activities of, and pivotal moments in, the Department. For more, visit the Celia M. Hastings Local History Room’s website, under *Firefighting History & Medford Fire Department -*

<https://history.pmlib.org/patchoguemedfordareahistory/medford>