

REGION 3 – CAPITOL REGION & SOUTHERN NY

ARMONK INDEPENDENT FIRE COMPANY, Westchester County, has contracted with Westchester EMS to provide the department with 1 EMT weekdays to ensure ambulance coverage. This appears to be under a short term contract with a request for proposals (RFP) for a long term contract to follow. Armonk operates at the BLS level and is part of North Castle Fire District #2 and provided EMS coverage for the Villages of Armonk and Banksville. Annual EMS call volume is about 500, which is 50% of department responses. Westchester EMS, a hospital based not-for-profit, already covers northeast Westchester with 45 medics. Westchester EMS is a member of the Stellaris Health Network and the member hospitals are Lawrence Hospital Center, Northern Westchester Hospital, Phelps Memorial Hospital Center and White Plains Hospital.

GREENE COUNTY legislature approved a 1 year contract in October with Greene County Emergency Medical Systems based in Cairo to continue offering paramedic services to 13 local towns. Previously, a 5 year contract was signed in 2007 and a 3 year contract was in place since 2012. Under the new contract, the county would pay Greene County EMS \$1,043,120 for services in 2015. The payments would be made quarterly, regardless of whether any towns cease to contract with Greene County EMS for advanced life support, according to the contract. A \$40,000 increase from 2014 was absorbed by the county to keep the present coalition of towns together while a county task force finishes its work and submits a final report and recommendations. Only the Town of Halcott is outside the coalition and contracts with an ALS provider from Delaware County. Greene County EMS operates 6 1st responder vehicles at the EMT-P level from 4 stations 24/7/365.

RENSSELAER VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE, Rensselaer County, joined with the 2014 Rensselaer Fest Committee to revive the city's annual festival. Expenses for the 3 day event are between \$6,000 and \$7,000 to cover the cost of fireworks, \$359.64 for insurance, \$1,000 for security/police, \$356 for portable toilets and incidental expenses. The VAC provided free medical staff for the festival and contributed \$3,500 towards the event. The Boys and Girls Club stopped organizing the annual festival in 2004 due to financial constraints and lack of support. Current city support was an issue as there were comments in the media that the preferred location was Riverfront Park but issues with the city prompted a venue change and the mayor was too busy to speak to the committee as he is so busy worrying about bringing a casino to Rensselaer that he's pushing other things to the side. The Common Council was also reported to be a roadblock with concerns about police overtime.