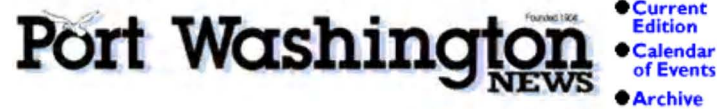




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## News

### Manorhaven Man Dies in Tragic Fire

By Jackie Pierangelo

A fire, which PWFD Chief James Interdonati tersely described as "pretty bad," blazed at a two-family home on Kirkwood Road in Manorhaven at midday on Sunday, Jan. 17. The owner of the house, 66-year-old Daniel "Sonny" Aiello sustained burns over 60 percent of his body, and eventually died at the Nassau County Medical Center Burn Center at 7:45 p.m. on Jan. 24, according to hospital spokesperson Shelley Lotenberg.

According to Chief Interdonati, Fire Marshal Walter Clark discovered Mr. Aiello in the basement by a window, where it appeared that Mr. Aiello was attempting to escape. Mr. Aiello was rescued by the firefighters by pulling him through the cellar window. He was taken to St. Francis Hospital and later transferred to Nassau County Medical Center.

The only other person at home at the time was Mr. Aiello's daughter, Maria, who had moved into the second floor of the house just the night before. Firefighters Scott Wood and Chris Voulo helped her to escape safely. She was unharmed.

Mr. Aiello's wife, Jessi, was at work when the fire started.

Twelve firefighters sustained minor injuries (i.e. exhaustion, back problems, strains and sprains and smoke inhalation). All have been treated and released.

According to Chief Interdonati, the fire was started by a LPG (propane) stove in the basement. He reported that it took about 30 minutes to get the fire under control. He said that other firehouses in the area responded with ambulances and that the Manhasset-Lakeville Fire Department stood by with an aerial ladder.

He noted that there was no structural damage to the house. However, the interior of the house, particularly the basement and first floor, sustained heavy damages and will have to be gutted. The fact that the house is a two-family, with no interior open stairway/entrance to the second floor, helped to prevent the fire from spreading rapidly to the second floor, Chief Interdonati pointed out.

Chief Interdonati noted that Chief Cole operated the line on the first floor to allow the firefighters to get out of the way when the fire "took off" from the basement to the first floor. Overall, the Chief said that the firefighters "did a great job." He then added that "the guys did a great job getting the two victims out."

