THE FIRE NARK

BONITA SPRINGS FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT

SEPT 2016



This year marked the 15th anniversary of the terror attacks brought forth against the United States on 9/11/01. The Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District was honored to take part in several Patriot Day events to pay tribute to those that lost their lives during these attacks against America.

The day began with the SWFL Remembrance Ceremony at the Harborside Event Center in Fort Myers, followed by a First Responder Appreciation and Recognition service at First Presbyterian Church in Bonita Springs, and concluded with the Patriot Day Service at Liles Hotel Plaza hosted by the Veterans Advisory Committee, the City of Bonita Springs, the Lee County Sheriff's Office, and the Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District.

The Bonita Springs Fire District was truly honored to take part in such touching ceremonies and vows to *Never Forget* those who sacrificed their life that day, including the 343 firefighters that perished attempting to save the lives of those in danger.

As we look ahead to 2017, the Fire District will continue to work with artist Laurent Dareau on his tribute to the United States of America and commemoration to September 11th in a proposed artwork mural that would be painted on the north-side of Bonita Springs Fire Station One.

Completion date for the mural and transfer of the World Trade Center granite/artifact from the Liles Hotel Plaza to Bonita Springs Fire Station One is proposed before Patriot Day 2017.



Local 9/11 TRIBUTE @ Ace Hardware Bonita

Doug Dehnz, a current Bonita Springs ACE Hardware employee and former volunteer firefighter, developed a touching 9/11 tribute to honor Patriot Day and the Bonita Springs Firefighters.

The remembrance is located at Ace Hardware located at 9100 Bonita Beach Rd SE.

Dehnz said, "Firefighting is in my blood and I wanted to show gratitude to the firefighters that gave their life that day, and to our firefighters that help to keep the public safe in Bonita Springs. I plan to add to the 9/11 display every year."

The District is honored to be included in this year's 9/11 display. <u>*Click here*</u> to see additional pictures.



BSFD Fire Station 26 & 27

Station 26 Update

Assistant Chief Greg DeWitt explained during the September Board Meeting that he expects the permitting process to begin in October or November 2016 for Fire Station 26 located at 16001 Bonita Beach Rd. SE, which will primarily service East Bonita Springs.

The District is expected to bid out for a construction company between November - January 2017 using the Request for Proposal (RFP) process. Additionally, the District has purchased a Pierce 107 ft. Ladder Truck. The apparatus may not be housed at this Fire Station 27 but will most likely be located at another BSFD fire station as determined by



needs of the District and deployment models. The District hopes that Fire Station 26 will have a groundbreaking ceremony between January - March 2017 and construction is expected to be completed by the end of 2017. <u>Click here for full update of Station 26</u>



At the September Board Meeting, the Fire Board <u>unanimously approved the purchase of the apparatus</u> that will respond to emergency calls at Station 27 located on Hickory Blvd. The Ford F-550 can carry a 3-4 person crew, and is equipped with a 400 gallon water tank. The District is awaiting the final builder contract/plans from Anovus Construction for renovations, and looks forward to beginning the permitting process. After permitting is approved, the construction is estimated to take eight weeks. The District is in the process of hiring 6 new firefighters who will fulfill the staffing needs of all stations. The District received 137 applicants for 6 open positions. <u>Click here for full update of Station 27</u>

BE ALARMED: CARBON MONOXIDE

The Fire District has seen two cases of CO poisoning in the recent months that could have been prevented if the homes were equipped with CO detectors. Often called the invisible or silent killer, carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless gas created when fuels (such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil, and methane) burn incompletely. Vehicles or generators running in an attached garage can produce dangerous and fatal levels of carbon monoxide. Much like a smoke alarm, CO alarms should be installed in a central location outside each sleep area and on every level of the home. During the Board Meeting, Deputy Chief Richard Scott highlights that both of the CO poisoning emergencies were due to cars left running in the patients attached garages. Vehicles have become more quiet and efficient and often times families do not realize that they were left running. The results of this mistake can be, and have been, fatal. DC Scott also outlined a recent concern pertaining to charging one's golf carts in the garage. A lead battery from a golf cart can emit hydrogen, which can alert a CO alarm, since the oxygen is displaced. While excess hydrogen is most likely not fatal, the signs and symptoms of CO poisoning can be present. If a CO alarm is sounding, please exit the home to get to a well ventilated area, and then dial 9-1-1. For more on golf cart charging safety, <u>click here</u>

To watch the full Board Meeting presentation by DC Scott on carbon monoxide poisoning, *click here*



NATIONAL CPS WEEK

Car crashes are a leading cause of death for children 1 to 13 years old. Many deaths and injuries can be prevented by proper use of car seats, boosters, and safety belts. On Sept. 22nd, the Bonita Springs Fire District partners with Safe Kids SWFL and Golisano Children's Hospital to support national CPS Week, *Child Passenger Safety Week*, Sept. 18-24th, 2016.

Did you know that Florida law requires that children remain in a child restraint device, car seat, or booster seat until the age of 6? Join BSFD for a <u>FREE car seat check up event</u> on Thursday, Sept. 22nd from 9AM-12PM at BSFD Fire Station #3 located at 25001 S. Tamiami Trail.





Station 27 Update