

Greater Naples Fire Rescue District

IN THE LINE OF DUTY

July - September, 2015 Volume 1 – Issue 4

SERVING THE CITIZENS OF THE GREATER NAPLES COMMUNITY

Volume 1- Issue 4



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THIS NEWSLETTER IS
WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY
THE GREATER NAPLES FIRE
RESCUE DISTRICT'S NEWS
LETTER COMMITTEE

PROFESSIONALISM ~ INTEGRITY ~ COMPASSION

GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT

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Greater Naples Fire Rescue District

IN THE LINE OF DUTY

July – September, 2015 Volume 1 – Issue 4

- DEDICATED TO OUR COMMUNITY, OUR PROFESSION AND EACH OTHER -

Office of the Fire Chief

By: Kingman Schuldt, Fire Chief



With the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District quickly approaching its inaugural anniversary as a new organization, I am pleased by the efforts demonstrated by everyone. From the expansion of services, acquisition of new apparatus and facilities and many operational enhancements, our successes to date would not have been possible without the contributions of our membership.

With the addition three new apparatus including a 75' Quint, water tender and Class-A engine, the District's long range vehicle replacement program is well underway. By the end of this year the District will also take delivery of a 107' full service aerial and a new air and light unit which will be the first fully self-contained such unit in Collier County.

I am extremely pleased with the continued expansion of the Advanced Life Support (ALS) Program. With 14 Paramedics nearing completion of their ALS credentialing process the District will have 37 paramedics and 42 emergency medical technicians (EMT's) participating in the ALS program. This is one of the District's greatest accomplishments that will continue to provide the community with the highest level of fire based emergency medical services.

The recent retirement of Deputy Chief Nick Biondo was a significant milestone for the District. With more than 26 years of service, I express my sincere thanks to Nick and wish him the very best as he says goodbye to the District and begins the next chapter in his life.

In preparation for this year's legislative session the District has filed three Bills for consideration by the State Legislature. The first Bill will expand District boundaries to formally include the Isles of Capri MSTU Fire District. When adopted the residents of the former Isles of Capri District will realize a 20% reduction in their fire services assessment.

The second Bill will further expand District boundaries to include Collier County District One. Currently, the GNFD responds to approximately 60% of District One, including the Isles of Capri service area with Ochopee responding to approximately 30%. This expansion will result in a millage decrease of 20% to the affected residents and increase District revenues in excess of \$50,000 annually. The GNFD will work cooperatively with the Ochopee Fire District to continue their responses to the same 30% previously covered. With the inclusion of District One into the GNFD, the District will be eligible to collect impact fees for all new construction. Projections vary, but a significant increase in revenue will be realized and support future growth and expansion of the Fire District.

The final Bill relates to a modification to the Commissioner Seat election process. With the continued expansion of the Fire District, the current Board believes it is the best interest of the residents to provide the most equitable election process to ensure equal representation. Staff will be working closely with Representative Passidomo, Local Delegation Chair, and other legislators to work the Bills through the numerous Committee Hearings and legislative staff reviews.

Most recently the management team, along with our partners from IAFF Local 2396 have been working diligently to prepare for the implementation of management responsibilities for the Isles of Capri Fire District. Effective October 1, the eight previous Isles of Capri firefighters joined the GNFD and the management of all assets became the responsibility of GNFD. We look forward to the expansion of services and many opportunities that will result from this most recent service expansion.

Effective October 1 the 2015-2016 Annual Budget was implemented. The total District employment strength totals 179 personnel (including Isles of Capri). At the 2015-2016 adopted 1.5 millage rate, the District is projected to receive \$21,241,258 in ad valorem revenue which is an approximate 10% increase from 2014-2015.

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By: Kingman Schuldt, Fire Chief

(Continued)

This millage rate will generate approximately \$20,179,195 in revenue, accounting for approximately 93% of the District budget as proposed. The remaining 7% of projected revenue sources are generated from various sources including \$648,350 in new construction and \$668,971 in fees collected for services and \$125,282 in prior year taxes as an example.

The total adopted District Budget for 2015-2016 is \$28,396,119 and includes the addition of three (3) firefighters, one (1) full time fire inspector and the expansion of the Information Technology Branch to introduce an intern program with our local colleges.

As the District continues to rapidly expand numerous programs, enhance resource capabilities and develop new relationships with partnering agencies, I suggest our membership stand tall and proud for what we have accomplished as a team. Your reputation in our community as the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District is one of Professionalism, Integrity and Compassion, setting the standard as the premier fire rescue agency in southwest Florida.

Congratulations to you!



Challenge coins are a long standing tradition in many fire rescue agencies as well as the police and military to honor special occasions, such as VIP arrivals, promotions, retirements and anniversaries of landmark dates. In addition, many agencies have found coins to be a valued gift for dignitaries and visitors, as well as an ideal fundraising item. Such a coin is a timeless source of pride for both the firefighters, civilian employees and the unit. Stop by Headquarters to get your Greater Naples Fire Rescue District Inaugural Challenge Coin.

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Operations Section

By: Nolan Sapp, Assistant Chief



Over the past three months the District has experienced some major accomplishments. We have received new apparatus and are expecting two more over the next quarter as we ramp up for the Holidays. Thus far we have managed to avoid a major storm from Mother Nature, but when we had a brush with a potential storm we were ready to respond to the needs of the Community and the Fire District and its employees. Hopefully we will maintain our bubble from Hurricane season.

Ladder 21 has arrived and is in process of getting outfitted by staff following input from the very crews that will be staffing it daily. The new Ladder is a welcome addition to the Fire District and will greatly increase our capabilities in the southern portion of the District. Tower 72 is slated for replacement in the next quarter and will accomplish many of the concerns that Tower 72 couldn't.

The new Ladder 72 will be a smaller chassis single axle straight ladder apparatus, and will allow for more access into our gated communities where it was difficult to operate Tower 72. Ladder 21 brings the latest technology that will allow for a safer operation and it is state of the art with Pierce's Aerial research and development program. The new aerial will enhance our reach capability going to 107ft reach verses Tower 72 which was only 85ft. The new Pierce "Ascendant" was unveiled at this past years FDIC conference in Indianapolis Indiana following two years of R&D.



Engine 75 has also arrived and is a new Pierce Saber pumper that will be assigned at Station 75 to bring that extra level of fire suppression to that zone of the District. This Engine is a shorter wheelbase compared to other Engines in the fleet, but that was by design for the Station it will reside in. It will carry a normal complement of Class 1 Engine equipment as well as the medical equipment we carry on other apparatus. This will be taking Station 75 to a daily staffing level of three personnel as well.

The new Air/Light/Power unit is still in production and is scheduled for late next quarter or early 2016 delivery. This will be staffed by doing a split crew concept at Station 72 where the newly assigned Rescue 72 will be housed and when the Air Truck is dispatched the crew on Rescue 72 will respond with the Air Truck.

In the next few weeks we also will be augmenting our ALS capability by bringing 14 additional Paramedics online. This will continue to enhance our goal of having ALS Engines throughout the District. By our personnel taking the courses and by hiring additional Paramedics we are well under way. Congrats to those who have completed the process and good luck to those personnel going through the training process.



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Operations Section

By: Nolan Sapp, Assistant Chief

(Continued)

Our highest accomplishment I've saved for last. Early in the morning on a typical B-Shift, crews were awoken by the tones for a structure fire. Upon arrival the crew lead by Lt. Robert McGowan, with Driver Engineer David Perez, and Firefighter Stephen Thigpen, discovered something unusual. They heard scared civilians including a small child crying behind a locked entry door. They acted quickly to gain access and began the search where they found the infant and another resident confused and within seconds of becoming overcome by thick smoke. Lt. McGowan, and Firefighter Thigpen searched the residence and rescued the two occupants while Driver Engineer Perez held the fire at bay from the entry way allowing them to exit the structure safely.

While they accomplished this our partners from Collier County Sheriff Office assisted at the rear of the dwelling by assisting with opening a rear door allowing a third resident to escape. The occupants were treated at the scene by Collier EMS while the crews extinguished the fire. All were transported to local Hospitals where they continued their treatment and were released to their grateful family.

This is something that many of us hope to do some day but many will go through their career and not be faced with the same. I explained to the crew that as the young child grows up she may never know the names of her rescuers, but she will tell her friends, family members, and



co-workers that it was Firefighters that saved her life. The crew that morning, as well as all of us, should share in that thought that a life was saved by our team that day.

With that, be safe and be proud of who you are.



GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE FIRE STATIONS

STATION 20

4798 DAVIS BLVD.
NAPLES, FL 34104
239.774.4511

STATION 21

11121 E. TAMIAMI TRAIL
NAPLES, FL 34113
239.774.1700

STATION 22

4375 BAYSHORE DR.
NAPLES, FL 34112
239.774.9342

STATION 23

6055 COLLIER BLVD.
NAPLES, FL 34114
239.793.3332

STATION 24

2795 N. AIRPORT PULLING
RD.
NAPLES, FL 34105
239.263.2266

STATION 70

4741 GOLDEN GATE PKWY
NAPLES, FL 34116
239.348.7547

STATION 71

100 13TH ST. SW
NAPLES, FL 34117
239.348.7550

STATION 72

3820 BECK BLVD.
NAPLES, FL 34112
239.774.9342

STATION 73

14575 COLLIER BLVD.
NAPLES, FL 34119
239.348.7508

STATION 75

4590 SANTA BARBARA BLVD.
NAPLES, FL 34104
239.207.1630

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Administration News

By: Kingman Schuldt, Fire Chief

With Chief Biondo's departure we welcome Deputy Chief Low who joins the management team with more than 25 years in the fire service. Beginning his career with St. Petersburg Fire Rescue, Chief Low worked in Monroe County, Broward County and most recently the Federal Emergency Management Agency at the Center for Domestic Preparedness. Chief Low brings extensive experience in areas including logistics, training and hazardous materials management for example. Chief Low will be heading up the District's Logistics Section, managing fleet, facilities, information technology and logistical needs. I have had the pleasure of working with Chief Low on numerous levels for more than 15 years and couldn't be more happy, to welcome him to the team.

In similar fashion, I have been associated with Director Wayne Martin since 1995 through various professional organizations. Director Martin joins the management team and will serve as the District's Planning Section manager. He is responsible to facilitate several critical programs including strategic and long range planning, policy and procedural development, merger and programs management, employee performance and development, and emergency management. Director Martin previously served as Fire Chief with the East Naples Fire Control & Rescue District as well as the City of Oviedo (FL). Most recently Director Martin served as the Operations Managers with the Isles of Capri fire district. The Planning Section manager is a new position to the GNFD and we are extremely fortunate to have the Director on-board to manage this very important function.

The addition of Director Martin and Chief Low allows the GNFD to staff a fully functional organizational chart in accordance with recommendations provided by the National Incident Management System (NIMS). With such a system in place the District is poised for a successful management process to appropriately support the entire organization and community.



Deputy Chief Rob Low



Deputy Director Wayne Martin



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Healthcare Highlights

By Tara Bishop, Deputy Director

Benefit Information

Open Enrollment for benefits is now complete.

Please be on the lookout in the mail for 3 new insurance cards for medical benefits (United Healthcare), dental coverage (Assurant), and vision benefits (Humana). These should be arriving shortly.

For an overview on the District provided benefits, please visit:

<http://www.brainshark.com/wisdom/vu?pi=zHrzUVmUKz6Mvmz0>

You may also visit each provider's website to create an account where you can view claims information, find claim forms and locate network providers or facilities.

United Healthcare – www.myuhc.com *Highly recommended*

Assurant Dental – www.assurantemployeebenefits.com

Humana Vision- www.humanavision.com

The Standard – www.thestandard.com

In addition there are some apps that may be downloaded on your smartphones to help you on the go.

The Pocketpal – Contains information on all district offered benefits. You can store pictures of all of your insurance cards on this app

Heath4Me – United Healthcare's app

Assurant, Inc. - Dental app

If at any time you need help with any benefit issues, please contact Annette Groeling, Client Relationship Manager at Leading Edge Benefit Advisors. You can reach her at 239-210-3374 or via email at

Annette@LeadingEdgeOnline.com.

Personnel are on the move and have new office assignments

With the adoption of the FY 2015-2016 budget and the associated organizational chart several personnel location changes have taken place at Headquarters. Please stop in for a visit. HR Specialist Debbie Schwarz and Administrative Assistant Michele Packard have relocated to the former training office. Accountant Charlotte Johnson and Finance Specialist Pat Meulenberg have relocated to the Finance wing. Administrative Assistant Susan Morris has moved to the old B/C office and Deputy Director Martin has moved down the hall to the office next to Deputy Director Bishop. All phone extension remain the same.

In addition, we welcome Sarah Pike to Headquarters where she joins the Finance wing as the District's Purchasing Specialist.



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Fire & Life Safety

By Shawn Hanson, Division Chief



Fire & Life Safety (FLS) officially moved all remaining staff into their beautiful new location at 2700 North Horseshoe Drive in August. The additional space provides needed room for daily operations and continuing education. Additionally, the geographic location of the new facility provides for enhanced working relationships for all FLS staff and Collier County staff. In addition to maintaining successful relationships as the Collier County Fire Marshal, it's essential that all FLS staff foster positive communications with the building official, planning and zoning, plans review, building inspectors and business tax licensing.

Preparations are well under way for the October 20TH Open House and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. The event will begin outdoors at 2:00 pm with the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and will conclude with the Open House and tours of the facility.

The search has begun for a location for this year's Annual Toy Drive. If anyone knows of a vacant building over 8,000 square feet with ample parking within the Greater Naples Fire Rescue District, please contact Administrative Assistant Dianne McIntyre.

FLS staff remains very busy with inspections, fire flows, fire extinguisher training and investigations. Fire Plan Review staff continues to churn out plans at a rapid pace; an average of about 450 reviews are being completed every month. Each review is responsible for creating a conservative average of three field fire inspections per permit, equaling a minimum of 1,350 inspection requests per month. To assist with the increase in the number fire inspections, Inspector Aaron Stewart is transitioning to new construction. Additionally, the District is also in the process of hiring a full time inspector.

Thank you to the Fire & Life Safety staff for all your hard work and continued efforts.



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Planning Section

By: Wayne J. Martin, MS, EFO

The Planning Section for Greater Naples Fire Rescue is the newest addition to the Command Staff. The Planning Section is responsible for Research and Development, the Strategic Plan, and Emergency Preparedness.

The Research and development Branch looks at new, cost saving innovative technology and processes.

The Strategic Plan Branch implements the strategic plan, guiding it into service. The Branch monitors the accomplishments and results and reports on the progress. Finally it also works towards updating the plan on a regular basis.

The Emergency Preparedness Branch is responsible to create, implement and monitor an All Hazards Emergency Preparedness Plan. The Branch works closely with Collier County Bureau of Emergency Services Management.

In the third quarter of this year the Planning Section was tasked with the transition of Isles of Capri Fire Rescue (ICFD) into GNFD. Effective October 1, 2015 all ICFD employees became employees of Greater Naples Fire Rescue. This brought on six full time Firefighters, Drivers, and Lieutenants. Two other firefighters have been moved into our Firefighter Apprentice program. The transition was fully supported by Collier County Board of County Commissioners and the Greater Naples Fire Rescue Commission.

The planning section completed a new employee handbook for all non-bargaining unit employees.

As the section responsible for the promulgation of Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG's) and Policies, many hours are spent every month in the creation of new SOG's.

The Planning Section took on the responsibility for updating the Collier County Fire Chiefs Association Mutual Aid Agreement.

During Tropical Storm Erika, Planning was tasked with implementation of the District Hurricane Plan. In the future a District All Hazards Plan will be created.

The section created an Incident Action Plan (IAP) for GNFD Station 90 Open House and the Fire and Life Safety Ribbon Cutting and Open House.

Fact finding took place for future needs for Logistics and Training needs of District. A new Fire District Organizational Chart and Chain of Command was submitted and adopted.



Officer Development

Big Data: A Paradigm Shift in Fire Service Decision-Making

BY: MATT TRENT, LIEUTENANT, MPA, FO, GIFIREE



On September 15th, the National Fire Protection Association released its most recent study *Fire Loss in the United States During 2014*. In this comprehensive report, Haynes (2015) states that “U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated 1,298,000 fires in 2014” (p. 2). Other statistical data was released for 2014, documenting 3,275 civilian fire fatalities and an estimated \$11.6 billion in direct property loss. Moreover, firefighter fatalities decreased from 97 in 2013 to 64 in 2014. This is the third lowest documented year with firefighter fatalities since 1977—But 64 firefighter fatalities is 64 too many. Dedicated to eliminating this statistic, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) launched a program titled Everyone Goes Home, embracing the 16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives. Additionally, collaborative efforts between the United States Fire Administration

International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF), and NFPA have been working together to improve safety and survival throughout the U.S. We can all be a part of this change by adopting the 16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives, striving to change culture, improve safety, and adopting key concepts such as “SMART” firefighting. The acronym SMART stands for:

Specific ~ Measurable ~ Attainable ~ Relevant ~ Timely

According to The Fire Protection Research Foundation, “Firefighters are now operating in an ever increasing sensor rich environment that is creating vast amounts of potentially useful data” (NIST, 2014). The term “big data” is now being systematically used, analyzed, and processed, “opening up new possibilities for the fire service to address unwanted fires” (NIST, 2014). With the fire service shifting gears from mechanics to analytics, this new pathway of “data crunching”, mixed with the computational power to compute and communicate that data, and the knowledge-base and algorithms to most effectively process that data can convert it all into a simplistic “knowledge/beneficial decision tool that can be used at any time, especially on the fireground” (p.1) with an undetermined fire location (NIST, 2014). Just think, what if you were dispatched to a fire in a high rise structure on the 10th floor and before you arrived, your computer in your apparatus ran over 1 million fire scenarios based on weather, time-of-day, 1st alarm apparatus travel time, occupancy human behavior, building construction and degradation, fuel contents, fire protection systems, and historical data. This type of technology is very beneficial when applied to hazard analysis and decision-making when determining risk acceptability.

Developing a Research Roadmap for the Smart Fire Fighter of the Future. (2015). Retrieved from <http://www.nfpa.org/research/fire-protection-research-foundation/current-projects/developing-a-research-roadmap-for-the-smart-fire-fighter-of-the-future>

Haynes, H. (2015, September 15). NFPA Journal. Retrieved from <http://www.nfpa.org/newsandpublications/nfpa-journal/2015/september-october-2015/features/2014-fire-loss-report>

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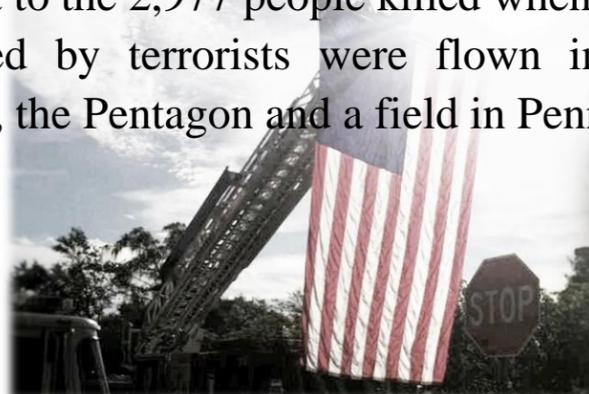
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September 11, 2011 Tribute



Friday September 11, 2015 marked the fourteenth anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attack. The District took part in several events throughout the community to commemorate the day's tragic events and pay respect to the 2,977 people killed when commercial airplanes hijacked by terrorists were flown into the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and a field in Pennsylvania.



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District News



Driver/Engineers Rossi and Bowers at the Humane Society Pet Adoption Event



The District delivered over 200 pairs of new sneakers to area schools



Collier County Emergency Responders escorted the Pink Heals Tour to visit a local 5 year old girl battling cancer



Tower 72 hosed down GG Kiwanis' Run for Fun Participants



Lt. Aaron Fly participated in the World Police & Fire Games in Fairfax, VA

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Employee Awards and Recognition



Lt. Brandon Bunting- 15 year service award



Deputy Chief Nick Biondo- Retirement



Inspector Mike Bays- 10 Years of service



FF Stephen Thigpen, FF David Perez, Lt. Robert McGowan- Life Saving Award (pictured with Cpl Mike Savel, CCSO)

INTERNATIONAL FIRST RESPONDER SEATBELT PLEDGE
BUCKLE UP! SO EVERYONE GOES HOME®

GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT

Has Achieved 100% Participation in the International First Responder Seatbelt Pledge to Ensure that Everyone Goes Home®

JULY 2015

EVERYONE GOES HOME® FIGHTER

Logos: BUCKLE UP! So Everyone Goes Home®, FLORIDA FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION, NATIONAL Fallen Firefighters Foundation, INTERNATIONAL Fire Chiefs Association, NATIONAL VOLUNTEER FIRE EDUCATOR, NFPA, NIOSH.

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EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Name: Bradley Packard

Job Title: Firefighter- Station 21

Hire Date: March 18, 2013

Interests: Nascar and watching Hockey

Hobbies: Fishing and Hunting

Can't Live Without: My Family



Name: Marty "*The Charge*" Good

Job Title: Lieutenant- Station 72

Hire Date: May 11, 1998

Interests: History and exploring new places

Hobbies: Travelling and enjoying the outdoors

Can't Live Without: My Family and friends



OUR NEWEST TEAM MEMBER AT
GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT



Facilities Technician Charlie Heweker

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Employee News

Condolences

Our prayers are with the following families:

John Bigica Family
Aaron Fly Family
James Youngsman Family
Nick Garafalo Family



Just Arrived!

Welcome our newest family members:

Ryan born to Kris & Jennifer Occhipinti on 7/9/15
Matthew Aiden born to Chris & Stephanie Citak on 7/10/15
Peighton Sawyer born to Lucas and Cesli Garcia on 8/26/15



If you would like to serve your fire district, join the Newsletter Team Now! Must be at least 18 years of age, good health and willing to sacrifice your mind to the betterment of your fellow men and women. All interested should contact the local recruiting off at Nchesser@gnfire.org

**IT'S NOT JUST A JOB,
IT'S CAREER!**