

IN THE LINE OF DUTY

July - September, 2019 Volume 5 – Issue 20



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Professionalism ~ Integrity ~ Compassion

Greater Naples Fire Rescue District

14575 Collier Boulevard
Naples, Florida 34119
239.348.7540

www.GreaterNaplesFire.Org

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- Dedicated to our Community, Our Profession and Each Other -



Office of the Fire Chief

By: Kingman Schuldt, Fire Chief

Remembering our Fallen Brothers and Sisters

Each year during the months of September and October the fire service comes together to honor our fallen brothers and sisters during several events throughout the Nation. The United States Congress created the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation to lead a nationwide effort to remember America's fallen firefighters.



The Foundation was formed to lead a nationwide effort to honor America's fallen firefighters. Since 1992, the Foundation has developed and expanded programs that fulfill that mandate and remember America's fallen fire heroes. It additionally provides resources to assist families in rebuilding their lives and work within the fire service community to reduce firefighter deaths and injuries.

Each October, the Foundation sponsors the official national tribute to all firefighters who died in the line of duty during the previous year. Thousands attend the weekend activities held at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland. The Weekend features special programs for families and co-workers along with moving public ceremonies. We at Greater Naples are fortunate enough to have two individuals who served as family escorts during this year's events; Deputy Chief Low and Driver/Engineer Gill. This year they honored the 92 who died in the line of duty in 2018.

In 2017, the Foundation created *Light the Night for Fallen Firefighters* to recognize the 25th anniversary of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation and the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend.

During the first week of October, landmarks across the country glow red in respect to the fallen and their families. In 2018, *Light the Night for Fallen Firefighters* expanded to include fire department tributes. This year, the Greater Naples Fire invited the Greater Naples Community to also take part in honoring our fallen brothers and sisters by lighting up their homes and businesses in red anytime between September 29 – October 6. Many thanks to all who participated.

On September 11, 2001, 34-year-old FDNY Firefighter Stephen Gerard Siller Stephen, who was assigned to Brooklyn's Squad 1, had just finished his shift and was on his way to play golf with his brothers when he got word over his scanner of a plane hitting the North Tower of the World Trade Center. Upon hearing the news, Stephen called his wife Sally and asked her to tell his brothers he would catch up with them later. He returned to Squad 1 to get his gear. Stephen drove his truck to the entrance of the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel, but it had already been closed for security purposes. Determined to carry out his duty, he strapped 60 lbs. of gear to his back, and raced on foot through the tunnel to the Twin Towers, where he gave up his life while saving others. *Continued on page 2.*

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Each year, on the last Sunday of September, more than 30,000 runners, walkers and wheelers participate in the New York City ***Tunnel to Towers 5K*** that is now considered one of the top “runs” in America. The event symbolizes Stephen Siller’s final footsteps from the foot of the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel to the Twin Towers Site, and pays homage to the 343 FDNY firefighters, 71 law enforcement officers, and thousands of civilians who lost their lives on September 11, 2001. Proceeds from the event support the Foundation’s programs, including those benefitting first responders, and catastrophically injured service members.

On September 29th I had the privilege and honor to represent fallen FDNY Firefighter John Florio at the New York City event along with many friends and colleagues from not only Florida, but the Nation. It was even more special knowing that Firefighter Florio’s parents live in our Fire District and provided me a prayer card to carry in memory of John. This was without doubt one of the most

significant and moving events of my fire service career. I had attempted to meet John’s son who recently completed the FDNY Fire Academy however, he was working his very first shift on Engine 214, at the same firehouse his father was assigned to; “The Nuthouse”.

I remember vividly what I was doing on Tuesday September 11, 2001; conducting survival training at a vacant strip store in Tamarac, Florida. I will also never forget that tragic day when so many first responders were lost unnecessarily. We must never forget the sacrifices made by those before us, the value of health, safety and training, and the responsibility we have to prepare the next generation of firefighters.

The life and heroic death of our fallen brothers and sisters serve as a reminder to us all to live life to the fullest and to spend our time here on earth doing good.



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Operations Section

By: Nolan Sapp, Assistant Chief



Effective September 25, 2019, after years of planning and countless hours of preparation with the latest in technology, Collier County Public Safety is moving ahead with communication improvements. Following the September 11th terrorist attacks in New York City, the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) determined nationwide public safety communications required extensive updating. The communications issue stemmed from proprietary radio networks failing to communicate across systems. The changes necessary included all systems and frequencies.

Collier County transitioned from a proprietary communications system to a P-25 non-proprietary system. This transition required realignment of existing towers and addition of towers to enhance the system. This extensive overhaul inclusive of Fire, EMS, the Collier County Sheriff's office and County Public Schools (CCPS) being added allows cross communication between the agencies. This adds another layer of networking with our fellow public safety and education agencies

The public, many of whom listen to the radio network to stay abreast of what is happening, still have the capability with some modification to their scanners. There is a noticeable change in personnel voices over the radio. The voices are now digital and may sound odd to most but provide enhancement to the overall system.

Many other enhancements in the process of computer aided dispatch, station alerting, and cellular apps aid in receiving accurate and timely call information. Redundancy is built in almost every area to ensure delivery of the best and rapid service our residents deserve. Collier County and Greater Naples Fire Rescue District remains committed to research and enhancements to deliver exceptional service to our community in a rapid yet safe manner.



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Training



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Administration and Finance Section

By: Tara Bishop, Director



Avoid the rush, plan ahead and be prepared! Real ID required by October 2020.

The REAL ID Act is a U.S. Department of Homeland Security effort to apply consistent security measures and issuance standards across all state-issued credentials as a vital component of the country's national security framework.

While REAL ID has been enforced in states, after October 1, 2020, customers will experience a very real impact as the federal government will no longer accept a driver license or ID card without the gold star as the sole source of identification. The star is located on the upper right-hand corner of your driver license or ID card. It's the sign that your credential is REAL ID compliant. Remember, after October 1, 2020 – if you don't comply, YOU WON'T FLY!

Florida is a nationwide leader in the effort toward REAL ID compliance and was one of the first states to begin issuing REAL ID compliant credentials. Since January 1, 2010, any new credential issued at an office in Florida has the gold star.

To become REAL ID compliant, visit an office of the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (also known as DMV) and bring original documents which validate your identity, Social Security Number and residential address. Once you provide the required identification documents, you will only need to become REAL ID compliant by renewing online.

Check to see which documents you need to bring into an office to become REAL ID compliant at www.FLHSMV.gov/whattobring.

If you do not have the gold star, take action today. Avoid the rush, plan ahead and be prepared!



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Planning and Growth Management Section

By: Wayne Martin, Assistant Chief



For most of us, Fall's arrival brings an increased number of commitments and activities – some out of passion, safety, commitment, and some are of remembrance. In the fire service, the month of October honors the fallen firefighters, with a Memorial Day of Observance along with Fire Prevention Week as well as joining in to support the fight for Breast Cancer Awareness.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness month and the Greater Naples Fire District and the Greater Naples Fire Foundation (GNFF) have partnered together to help raise awareness and support programs that reduce the effects of this disease. The GNFF is selling t-shirts with a portion of the proceeds being donated to a local organization, Bosom Buddies Breast Cancer Support, Inc. that supports women in our own community battling this disease.

If you would like to join the cause, you can purchase a t-shirt at GNFD headquarters at 14575 Collier Blvd. Naples, Florida 34114 or call 239.348.7540.



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Awards & Recognition



Captain Rusty Godette
20 Years of Service



FF James Farley
1 Year of Service



Lt. Scott MacQuarrie
Promotion to Lieutenant



DC Kevin Nelmes
Promotion to EMS Division Chief



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Chaplain's Corner

Decorating the Truth

By: Jack Strom, District Chaplain



My wife Barb and I have been married 58 plus years, and we are still working on getting it right. One of my biggest challenges is the intimacy issue of our marriage. I'm not thinking of the physical aspect of that word but rather my part of transparency in our communication with each other. I'm getting better at it but even still I sometimes *decorate the truth* in what I say as I explain what is going on in my mind or when I'm telling a story the way *I remember it* and even at times what I've been doing.

Usually when Barb detects what I just told her was not the true or complete story, Barb will quietly say, "Jack are you stopping by the Boyce's again?" I suppose you are wondering what "stopping by the Boyce's" means? So, let me tell you what she means when she asks me that question.

It is about a story from my life as a kid growing up. She has heard me tell it many times over the years in the many opportunities where I have been called on to help troubled teenagers.

You see, my Mom and Dad were "old school" and quite concerned where I would be and what I would do after school was out each day. I had to be home within 10 minutes of the closing bell. But I had a little girl friend that I wanted to walk home to her house. Whenever I would do that, I knew that I had to have a reason why I was late getting home.

However, there was one place I could be that would cover my being late. I would run by the Boyce's, a family in the church where my Dad pastored. I would knock on the door and when Mrs. Boyce would answer, I would quickly say, "Hi Mrs. Boyce, I just stopped by to get a cookie." And then I would run for home and when my Dad wanted to know why I was late, I would tell him... "I was over at the Boyce's!"

So when Barb inquires... "Jack are you stopping by the Boyce's?" she is reminding me to "be careful to not decorate the truth." For the firefighters, whether on duty, at home with family, in the marketplace or out on the town on a date for dinner, it is important to be integral in all your conversation and activity. In fact, the bottom line should be for all of the GNFD family to live up to our Mission and Values statement.

Honesty in little things is not a little thing at all. I suppose that is why I like the simple equation that my wife found early in our marriage:

$$\text{HONESTY} + \text{CONSISTENCY} \times \text{TIME} = \text{TRUST}$$

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Employee News

Condolences

Our prayers are with the following families:

Tracey Caparrelli Family



Employee Spotlight

Deputy Chief Shawn Hanson was awarded the Technology Innovation Award during the Special Districts Summit/Southeast held in Orlando, Florida on August 1, 2019. Chief Hanson was recognized for her leadership in the development and implementation of a countywide security access program. The Knox KeySecure Program allows all county first responders quick and secure emergency access to homes and businesses in the event of an emergency.



Deputy Chief Shawn Hanson was awarded the Southeastern Association of Fire Chiefs' H.D. Crossnine Award during the 91st Annual Leadership Conference held in Murfreesboro, TN. The award commemorates the contributions of retired Memphis, TN Fire Marshal Deputy Chief Herbert D. Crossnine who contributed greatly to the Association's efforts to develop fire safety standards in line with fire service values and the needs of communities. Deputy Chief Hanson was selected because of her exceptional performance in fire safety initiatives and community involvement.



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In the Community

