



Media Opportunity from **BONITA SPRINGS FIRE CONTROL & RESCUE DISTRICT**

February 5, 2018

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GRAND OPENING OF BONITA SPRINGS' NEWEST FIRE STATION

On Saturday, January 13, Station 26 was open for service, staffed by a crew of four firefighters under the command of Lt. Paul Canning, a longtime resident of Bonita Springs. At 7:00AM, Lt. Canning and his crew raised their American flag for the first time in the crisp morning air to begin their day in their new fire station. The crew completed their morning tasks by checking their equipment and drugs, starting their daily report requirements, and prepping their station for the day...whatever it may bring.

Located next to the gated-community of VillageWalk at 16001 Bonita Beach Road SE, Station 26 is an updated version of two current Bonita Springs Fire Stations, designed for reduced maintenance and hurricane resistance. With polished concrete floors, and LED lighting throughout, dual underground LP gas tanks power its backup generator, and dedicated professional firefighters service its residents.

The Station's apparatus, Ladder 26, was built by Pierce in Wisconsin and has a 107-foot aerial ladder, a 2000 GPM pump, 4 pre-connected attack lines, 480 gallons of water, and 20 gallons of foam concentrate. Similar to all Bonita Springs' rescue apparatus, Ladder 26 carries a full complement of fire, medical, and special operations rescue, extrication, and forcible entry tools, advanced life support equipment, cardiac monitor/defibrillator, and drugs to handle any emergency. The multi-purpose vehicle is also among the first in SW Florida to include an on-board vehicle radio repeater, which amplifies 2-way public safety communications in areas with marginal radio coverage.

At the Grand Opening on Wednesday, upon the blessing of our Fire Chaplain Jeff Chitwood, the Chairman of the Fire Board Steve Lohan and the Fire Chief Joseph Daigle will greet the public and local dignitaries with information on the new fire station and ladder truck. The community will be asked to participate in a ceremonious fire engine push-in of the new truck in an effort to honor and pay homage to our past and to display unity among our firefighters and the community.

MEDIA OPPORTUNITY:

WHERE: 16001 Bonita Beach Road SE, Bonita Springs, FL 34135

WHEN: Wednesday, February 7th at 3PM

WHAT: Speeches by Fire Chief Joseph Daigle, Chairman Steve Lohan, self-guided tours, and a traditional ceremonious Fire Engine "Push-in."

HELP YOURSELF TO: Plenty of interviews and photo opportunities (as well as some food, popcorn, cookies, and coffee!)

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