# THE FREE MARK

## BONITA SPRINGS FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT NOV 2017

## **TRAINING DIVISION NEW HIRES**

Chief Daigle is pleased to announce that the recent vacancies in our Training Division have been filled by two highly qualified and experienced individuals. Welcome, Captain John Nichols and Captain Kelli Wilson, to the Bonita Springs Fire District! Both new BSFD Training Captains come to us with established instructor experience, a strong leadership approach, and a multitude of technical skills.



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## FROM THE CHIEF'S DESK

Last Sunday, November 19th, Fire Chaplain Jeff Chitwood held a service at Anchor Christian Church to honor and show gratitude to the firefighters in Bonita Springs and across America. Deputy Chief Eric Madden and I each had the pleasure of speaking at the service, and additional BSFD personnel attended. Deputy Chief Madden and I formally honored fallen firefighters across the United States, and provided insight into the daily lives and challenges of firefighters, both on and off-the-job. The Bonita Springs Fire District was honored to be a part of their Thanksgiving service.

## THANKSGIVING WITH BSFD

BSFD firefighters proudly served lunch to students at Spring Creek Elementary for their Thanksgiving lunch on November 16th. The students were thrilled to see their local firefighters again after October's Fire Prevention Month, and to dine with them on a special occasion.

BSFD wishes everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving Day.





Christmas trees can be a serious fire hazard during the holiday season! A small fire that spreads to a dry tree can grow large very quickly. **Keep your Christmas tree watered, or we will have to water it for you!** 

In addition, it's important to:

- Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from a heat source
- Replace broken electrical cords on holiday lights and decorations
- Turn off lights before going to bed or leaving your home

The Bonita Springs Fire District hopes you have a happy and safe holiday season!







Bonita Springs Assistance Office

Once again, the Bonita Springs Fire District and the Bonita Springs Assistance Office are working alongside Toys for Tots to provide holiday gifts for the families in Bonita Springs who need it the most. Through the generosity of our community partners, including businesses, neighborhood communities, special interest clubs, etc., we will be providing toys to over 500 Bonita Springs children this year. Families will come to Fire Station Four to select toys, games, stuffed animals, books, puzzles, and more to bring home to their children for a happy holiday.

If you are a family in need of holiday gifts for your children aged 0-12, please call the Bonita Springs Assistance Office at 992-3034 to find out how to apply.

If you are able to volunteer your time to help distribute gifts to families in need, please contact BSFD volunteer Barb Stull at 949-6205.

Through our partnership with the Bonita Springs Assistance Office, a toiletry and non-perishable food drive box is placed at most locations next to a Toys for Tots donation box. In the aftermath of Hurricane Irma, the Assistance Office is as busy as ever giving a hand up to residents in need of life's basic necessities. Most needed items for the BSAO Emergency Pantry include: cooking oil, granola bars, pasta sauce, boxed pudding, shampoo, toilet paper, jams & jellies and instant oatmeal will be collected.

