

# THE FIRE MARK



## BONITA SPRINGS FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT

OCT 2015

### PREVENTION FIRST: SPREADING AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

#### A HISTORY

Fire Prevention Week was established to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire of Oct 1871. This devastating fire changed the way firefighters and public officials thought about fire safety. On the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the fire, the Fire Marshals Association decided that the day should be observed not with festivities, but in a way that would keep the public informed about the importance of fire prevention.

#### OUR PROGRAM

The Bonita Springs Fire Control & Rescue District has expanded this idea to Fire Prevention Month (FPM) every October. BSFCRD Firefighters and Public Education Coordinator Natalie Hughes are currently visiting every elementary and preschool in Bonita Springs to spread the word about fire safety. Students are given an educational safety presentation that will discuss some of the following topics: How and when to dial 9-1-1, Stop, Drop and Roll, Crawl Below the Smoke, Safe Meeting places, Smoke Alarms and much more! These messages may be spread to the kids by a reading from a firefighter, interactive games, or a live puppet show!

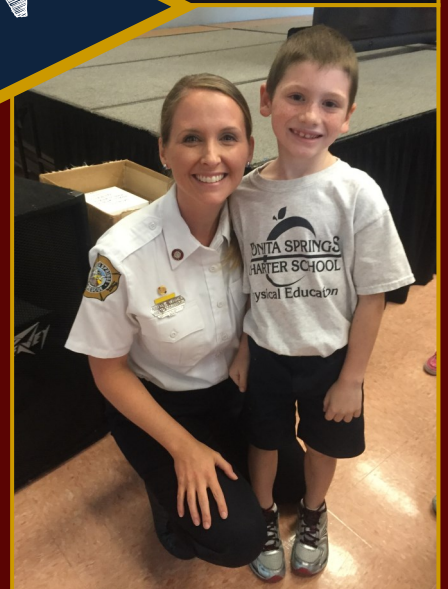


## FIRE PREVENTION MONTH



Firefighter Scholz reading to students at Spring Creek Elementary School

The theme for this year is "Hear the Beep Where You Sleep, Every Bedroom Needs a Working Smoke Alarm!" Did you know that roughly half of home fire deaths result from fires reported at night between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. when most people are asleep? Location does matter when it comes to your smoke alarm!



Public Education Coordinator Hughes with a happy Bonita Springs Charter School student

If your family does not have a smoke alarm due to financial hardship, please contact the Bonita Springs Fire District at 239-949-6200.

#### MILESTONE YEARS OF SERVICE



Fire Inspector  
Worth Anderson  
1 year



Fire Inspector  
John Dahlgren  
10 years



Lieutenant  
Armand Calzadilla  
20 years

#### MISSION STATEMENT

IT IS THE MISSION OF THE BONITA SPRINGS FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT TO PRESERVE LIFE AND PROPERTY AND PROMOTE PUBLIC SAFETY THROUGH STRONG LEADERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, PROFESSIONALISM, AND INTEGRITY.

**STATION ONE AND THE DOWNTOWN IMPROVEMENT PLANS**

Fire Commissioners unanimously voted at the October 12th Board Meeting to donate a portion of Station One’s land to the City of Bonita Springs in order to help sustain the City’s Downtown Improvement plans. The small portion of land is the edge of the corner on Old 41 and Pennsylvania Avenue, plus another small area needed as an electrical site. Fire Commissioners were happy to donate these areas to the City to help keep their project on track and avoid additional time and costs for the workers and taxpayers of Bonita Springs. The District is excited to see the plans completed and the ideas of all involved come to fruition.



**TRAINING**

This past August, the Fire District reported that it had been approved by the State to teach Vehicle and Machinery Rescue on-site. Completion of this training would credential firefighters in the course. As of October, the Bonita Springs Fire Control & Rescue District is now also State-certified to teach and credential our own firefighters in Rope Rescue at the operations level. High and low-angle technical rope rescue skills enable firefighters to perform life-saving rescues from places such as the side of a building. Looking into the upcoming weeks, Driver Engineering will be filling up most of the firefighters’ training time.



**RECENT COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**



October 7 was International Walk to School Day. Assistant Chief DeWitt took part in walking dozens of Bonita Springs Elementary students a mile and a half to school. October 9 welcomed Estero High School’s Leadership Program to a Firefighter for the Day expo at Station Four. Students spent the day learning what it takes to run a fire department and got involved in some hands-on demonstrations!



Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District's  
**PUMPKIN PATCH**

FIRE STATION FOUR @  
27701 BONITA GRANDE DRIVE



From 10AM - Dark Everyday

