

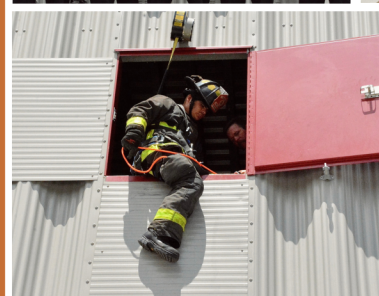
PALM BAY FIRE RESCUE NEWSLETTER

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TOP (L-R): FF Skelly - FF Raymond - FF DaSilva -
FF Albright - FF Nestor - FF Booth - FF Weymouth
BOTTOM (L-R): FF Abston - FF Carbonell - FF
Hengehold - FF Rouse - FF Ferrara



On June 14, 2024, we gathered to congratulate our 12 new firefighters on their completion of their 8-week new hire academy. Joined by family and friends, the Palm Bay Fire Rescue Command Staff, and members from city management, we officially graduated these 12 individuals to mark the completion of this giant task, on their way to starting their careers with Palm Bay Fire Rescue. These 12 firefighters were brought on board to address current staffing needs and prepare for future station expansion. Despite facing intense Florida heat and severe drought conditions, they remained dedicated to their training. Collectively, the group invested over 300 hours in guided sessions, completed 12 hours of physical training in full gear, participated in 20 live-fire drills, spent 147 hours on air, deployed nearly 9 miles of hose, executed 5900 feet of ladder raises/extensions, and successfully forced open 396 doors. The establishment of our new stand-alone training division significantly contributed to the success of this new hire cohort. (Cont. pg. 2)

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New Hires (Cont.) In conclusion, on graduation day, we also heard remarks from the Fire Chief, Deputy Mayor, and Assistant Chief of Training. After that, families got to watch their firefighters show off what they learned during their training. Families could also tour the training facility, meet the crews, and even join in on some of the training exercises, all before enjoying a BBQ. A heartfelt Thank you to DE Worthington for all the food prep so this day would end with smiling faces and full bellies. We are most appreciative to those who helped make this day a massive success!



RETIREMENT NOTICE

We recently bid farewell and congratulated two long-time Palm Bay Fire Rescue heroes, Driver Engineer Keith Williams and Firefighter Dan Elward, who have retired after 33 and 28 years of dedicated service to the city. The lasting impact these gentlemen have left on our department will be felt for years to come. We extend our best wishes to them in retirement and thank them both for their invaluable contributions to the fire service and our city. Enjoy your retirement!



WORLD'S LARGEST SWIMMING LESSON

On June 20th, Palm Bay Fire Rescue took part in the World's Largest Swimming Lesson at our own Palm Bay Aquatics Center. Since its inception, over 383,000 children and adults across 53 countries on 6 continents have participated in WLSL. This year, Palm Bay joined this global initiative for water and swim safety. PBFR firefighters joined COPB lifeguards, aquatics center supervisor Katherine Steward, and local swim safety advocate Brooke Mitchell to educate the community on water safety. Our efforts were supported by the mayor, city officials, and local vendors, making this day a resounding success.



OTHER DEPARTMENT NEWS AND UPDATES

We are pleased to announce the arrival of new Dräger gas monitors for all our apparatus and battalion vehicles citywide. These monitors replace outdated devices, ensuring our crews can

safely assess atmospheric conditions in potentially hazardous environments. Following department-wide training, the rollout begins this week!

Palm Bay Fire Rescue extends our warmest wishes to all the dads out there, hoping you had a wonderful Father's Day. We recognize and appreciate the dedication of those who were working, or have worked, on this special day, understanding the sacrifices made to serve our community while being away from family. Your commitment and sacrifice do not go unnoticed, and we are grateful for everything you do to keep our community safe. Thank you for your unwavering dedication and service.

