



Summer 2015

District Dispatch

Published by the Barrington Countryside Fire Protection District

ABOUT THE BCFPD

Established in 1940, the Barrington Countryside Fire Protection District serves portions of Barrington Hills, South Barrington, Lake Barrington and Inverness; and portions of unincorporated Cook, Lake and McHenry Counties. Its primary mission is to provide Excellence in Service while protecting and saving the lives and property of those living and working in, and visiting, the District. BCFPD services are strengthened through a series of 12 automatic aid agreements with surrounding fire districts and departments.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Board of Trustees meets the third Monday of each month, 6:30 p.m., at the District's Lake Barrington headquarters, 22222 N. Pepper Road. For more information on activities and events, visit www.bcfpd.org or call 224-848-4800.



BCFPD DEPLOYS NEW QUICK RESPONSE PARAMEDIC VEHICLE



Based at South Barrington's Village Hall, the RRV is the latest representation of ongoing BCFPD efforts to improve service.

The BCFPD has deployed a quick response paramedic vehicle that is based at South Barrington's renovated Village Hall and operates throughout the surrounding areas, as part of District officials' commitment to improve delivery of emergency medical services.

The modified Ford Excursion rapid response vehicle (RRV), which previously served as a

command vehicle, now carries the same advanced life support equipment as the District's ambulances. Almost immediately following its deployment, the RRV made a significant impact on BCFPD efforts to reduce response times in the southern sections of the 48-square mile District.

During its first two weeks of operation, District officials reported that the RRV was dispatched to three emergencies, achieving response times of less than 90 seconds for each call.

"The rapid response vehicle provides the same site-based patient care capabilities as our ambulances, although it does not transport patients," Deputy Fire Chief Donald Wenschhof, III, explained. "It allows us to provide faster response to residents in need and improve outcomes. If necessary, we can stabilize patients for transport to area hospitals

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ANTIQUÉ FIRE TRUCK SHOW PROVES 'ROARING' SUCCESS

Nearly 200 guests viewed a vast fleet of vintage fire engines and equipment from the Northern Illinois Fire Museum during our inaugural antique fire truck show this spring.

Thanks to Kooker's Restaurant for providing FREE hot dogs to all our guests, and to LifeSource for hosting a community blood drive at our fire house that day.

Special thanks go to everyone who donated blood. In total, the event collected enough to touch the lives of 78 people.

Top right: Guests gather around a 1948 Chevrolet pumper, which served Wisconsin communities before becoming part of the Northern Illinois Fire Museum's fleet. Bottom right: This 1928 American LaFrance engine was the second engine to serve with the Cary Fire Department.



TRUSTEES RE-ELECT DR. TOM LONG AS BOARD PRESIDENT

Thomas C. Long, M.D., a 20-year member of the BCFPD Board



Dr. Thomas Long

of Trustees, was re-elected Board President at the District's June 15th meeting.

Board members also elected newly-appointed trustee Keith

Hanson to serve as Vice President, and re-elected Marvin Hill and Paul J. Struck as BCFPD Treasurer and Secretary, respectively.

Trustee and former Vice President Paul M. Heinz continues his service on the Board.

BCFPD WELCOMES TRUSTEE KEITH HANSON

Attorney and District resident Keith Hanson was sworn-in as the newest



Keith Hanson

member of the BCFPD Board of Trustees at its June meeting. Trustee Hanson is Managing Partner of the Hanson Law Group, with offices in

Barrington and Madison, WI.

BACKYARD FIRE PITS POSE RISK TO PROPERTY: EMBERS MAY 'SPARK' LARGE STRUCTURE FIRES

BCFPD officials know firsthand how gusty winds and other weather conditions can turn a backyard fire pit or bonfire into a major emergency that causes massive property damage and loss. Even moderate winds can bring hot embers into contact with combustible surfaces – including homes – and “fuel” the start of a rapidly-spreading fire.

“Outdoor recreational fires and bonfires are very popular, but they also pose considerable risk to property owners who don't follow proper safety precautions,” explained Rob Martel, BCFPD Director of Fire Prevention.

To minimize the risk of potentially devastating fire caused by outdoor fire pits, BCFPD officials urge residents to:

- Position fire pits or outdoor fireplaces at least 25 feet way from all structures and combustible surfaces.
- Keep fires to a manageable size. Clear the surrounding area of leaves and other debris.
- Never leave fires unattended.
- Avoid using fire pits on windy days.
- Use cut, natural wood for kindling; do



BCFPD code helps ensure that residents may safely enjoy fire pits and bonfires.

- not burn brush or other landscape waste.
- Never use lighter fluid or other accelerants to start fires or increase their size.
- Completely extinguish the fire with water before going to bed.

BCFPD code requires that recreational fire pits must not exceed 30 inches (2.5 feet) in diameter or be larger than 6.25 square feet. Larger bonfires cannot be larger than four feet in diameter and must occur at least 50 feet away from structures or combustible materials.

For more information about outdoor fire safety, call 224-848-4800.

BCFPD DEPLOYS QUICK RESPONSE PARAMEDIC VEHICLE...From front

while ambulances are en route.”

RRV crews will also perform fire inspection support services, digital mapping of dry hydrant locations, and other public safety duties in the area.

Deployment of the RRV in South Barrington is the result of ongoing efforts by BCFPD leaders to provide the highest levels of fire and emergency medical service in the most cost-effective manner.

SUMMER SAFETY: SUPERVISE YOUNG SWIMMERS, SECURE HOME POOLS



Drowning is the leading cause of injury death among children ages 1 – 4, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Many children who drown in home pools were out of sight for less than five minutes, and in the care of both parents.

BCFPD officials provide the following tips to help ensure kids swim safely this summer:

Supervise Young Swimmers – Children should always swim under the supervision of an adult, such as a parent, family member, or lifeguard.

Secure home pools – Pools should be surrounded by fencing with latching gates. Equip pool drains with anti-entrapment covers, and install covers and underwater alarms to restrict access.

Wear life jackets – Have kids wear life jackets in and around lakes, oceans, and other natural bodies of water. Life jackets are ideal for less-skilled swimmers in public or home pools.

Follow the rules – Children should swim with a friend. Never jump or dive into water unless an adult says it's okay.