



July 20, 2026
Quarter 2

THE BOTTOM LINE

Greater Naples Fire Rescue District

Capt. Inspector Shar Beddow Retires

After an incredible 39-year career dedicated to public safety and fire prevention, we would like to congratulate Captain Inspector Shar Beddow on her retirement from Greater Naples Fire Rescue District.

Shar's commitment to public safety has touched countless lives and helped shape the fire service throughout Southwest Florida. Her knowledge, leadership, and passion for serving others will leave a lasting legacy. Congratulations on your retirement, Shar! We thank you for your years of service and wish you many years of happiness, relaxation, and new adventures ahead.



Driver Engineer Khris Klock Retires



Congratulations to Driver Engineer Khris Klock on his retirement from Greater Naples Fire Rescue District.

Khris has dedicated 20 years of service to our community, demonstrating an unmatched level of commitment, professionalism, and pride in the job. His contributions have made a lasting impact on our department and the citizens we serve.

We wish Khris all the best as he begins this next chapter—enjoy your well-deserved retirement!

Semi-Annual Awards Ceremony - April 2026



- **Fleet Mechanic Derek O'Connell was awarded 2025 Civilian of the Year.**
- **FF Yadiel Enriquez was awarded 2025 Firefighter of the Year.**
- **DE John Delashmet was awarded 2025 Driver Engineer of the Year.**
- **LT Jose Santana was awarded 2025 Lieutenant of the Year.**
- **20 Years of Service- Asst. Chief Shawn Hanson**
- **20 Years of Service- LT Tony McGee**
- **20 Years of Service- DE Khris Klock**
- **10 Years of Service- Insp. Joel Glover**
- **5 Years of Service- Insp. EJ Floyd**
- **Inspectors Brian Morejon and Dustin Vanderploeg were pinned after completing their year of probation.**
- **Administrative Assistant Jonathan King was celebrated for being nominated for Civilian of the Year for two years in a row.**
- **(Not Pictured) 25 Years: LT Robert Campbell. 20 Years: LT Jake Beckman, LT Scott Brewer, LT Acey Edgemon, LT Ray Kilmer, LT Brian Rasmussen, BC Chris Rossi, DE Chris Tomei, Capt Inspector Mike Cruz, Capt Inspector John Bigica. 10 Years: FF Arael Contreras, LT Inspector Kristen King, LT Mike Zmejkoski. 5 Years: FF Briant Cardeso, Inspector II Jared Taylor. Promotion: Capt. Vaughn Palmateer. Stork Awards: FF Devin Prio & FF Dylan Ricard**

Congrats to GNFR's Newest Paramedics!



Congratulations to these firefighters who have successfully completed all the requirements to practice as fully credentialed paramedics under the authority of Greater Naples Fire Rescue's Medical Director, Dr. Scott Dunavant.

DE Aaron Arts-Kottke

DE Shane Barron

FF Jesus Castro

DE Yadiel Enriquez

DE Edward Flores

DE Jason Johnson

DE Nico Pavone

LT Matthew Stoller

FF Jean Quinones

FF Grant Young

Please join us in congratulating these members on this significant milestone. Their commitment to excellence helps ensure our community receives the highest level of care when every second counts.



GNFR Academy Completion Ceremony



We proudly celebrated the graduation of Recruit Classes 26-01 and 26-02 during a combined Recruit Academy completion ceremony. Family, friends, and GNFR Members gathered in the bay at Station 73 to recognize the recruits' hard work, dedication, and commitment to serving our community.



The ceremony marked an important milestone for our newest firefighters and established what we hope will become a lasting Greater Naples Fire Rescue tradition—welcoming each graduating class into the GNFR family with a memorable celebration of their achievements.

Engine 23 Delivers Easter Bunny to Verona Walk



Instead of hopping to Verona Walk's Easter party, the Easter Bunny caught a ride with Engine 23 and made his grand arrival in style.



Rockin' the RED on Fridays



Every Friday, we wear red to Remember Everyone Deployed and show our support for the brave men and women serving our country away from home.

We are thankful to all who serve and sacrifice for our freedom.

U.S. Open Pickleball Championships



We were honored to be recognized at this year's U.S. Open Pickleball Championships alongside our friends at Collier County EMS, Collier County Sheriff's Office, and North Collier Fire Rescue.

Chief Wolfe Graduates Leadership Collier!

Congratulations to Fire Chief Chris Wolfe for graduating from Leadership Collier Foundation's 2026 Leadership Collier!

His dedication to leadership, service, and community engagement continues to make a positive impact on Greater Naples Fire Rescue District and throughout Collier County. Congratulations to all of this year's graduates – we look forward to the difference they will continue to make in our community!



Folds of Honor Golf Tournament



We were honored to have four of our firefighters participate in the Folds of Honor golf tournament at Treviso Bay today. It was an incredible event supporting an amazing cause and helping raise money for those who have sacrificed so much for our country and communities.

Despite the Florida heat, our team finished the day at -12, just behind the winning team's -14 score. We had a great time representing Greater Naples Fire Rescue and are already looking forward to hopefully giving it another shot next year.

The auction and overall community support were outstanding, and it was great to see so much money raised for such a worthy cause.

CCSO Fallen Officer Memorial Ceremony

Fire Chief Wolfe and Engine 25 crew attended the Collier County Sheriff's Office Fallen Officer Memorial Ceremony at South Regional Library.

It was a beautiful and moving ceremony honoring the lives of the law enforcement officers who made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. We stand alongside our law enforcement partners in remembering their courage, dedication, and service to our community.



Naples Take a Soldier Fishing Event



Our firefighters were honored to participate in the Naples Take a Soldier Fishing Event at The Quarry, spending a memorable day on the water with a local service member. Teams competed to reel in the biggest catch while sharing stories, laughter, and camaraderie throughout the day.

GNFR Duo Places First in Great Canoe Races of Naples



Congratulations to LT John Richard and DE Cory Neilsen for taking 1st place in the First Responders heat at the recent The Great Canoe Races of Naples! That's two years in a row bringing home the win, and we couldn't be more proud of their teamwork, determination, and impressive paddling skills. Safe to say these two really know how to "paddle" under pressure!



GNFR Basketball Team News



The Greater Naples Fire Rescue District is proud to field a basketball team for the 2027 First Responder Games. Our firefighters have been training together, building teamwork, fitness, and camaraderie both on and off the court as they prepare to compete against fellow first responders from across the region.

The First Responder Games celebrate the dedication, athleticism, and spirit of those who serve their communities. We wish our team the best of luck as they represent Greater Naples Fire Rescue with professionalism, determination, and pride. Go GNFR!

“All First Responders Matter” Breakfast



Thank you to 1-800 Board Up for hosting a free breakfast for first responders (active or retired) on the first Friday of each month at Perkins (Pine Ridge & I-75). It's a great way to connect, build camaraderie, and support mental wellness.



Rifle Range Road Fire



Dog Rescued from House Fire



Engine 23 responded to a residential structure fire on Cherry Tree Lane. Crews arrived on scene just four minutes after being dispatched and were able to achieve a very quick fire knockdown. Neighbors alerted crews that a dog was still inside the home. Without hesitation, LT David Borowski entered the flame-filled house and rescued Bear.



Additional crews from EN 22, EN 25, EN 70, LA 21, SQ21, and SQ 70 all responded to assist with fire attack, search efforts, and overhaul operations. Collier EMS and Collier County Sheriff's Office were also on scene assisting crews. The homeowner was transported to the hospital for treatment of smoke inhalation. Thankfully, Bear is safe and is being cared for by a trusted neighbor down the street.

A Tiny Rescue with a Big Happy Ending!



Station 70 Crew came to the aid of one of our smallest residents—a tiny kitten weighing only about a pound that had taken refuge under the passenger-side rear wheel of a vehicle.



With plenty of patience and a gentle touch, firefighters safely rescued the little furball, who was completely unharmed. The kitten was then adopted by a detective with the Collier County Sheriff's Office, who arranged a same-day veterinary visit to make sure their new furry friend was in purr-fect health.

First Responder Night at FC Naples



We were proud to attend FC Naples First Responder Night, joining fellow first responders for an evening of community, camaraderie, and soccer. In addition to enjoying an exciting match, our firefighters had the opportunity to take the field and participate in a friendly competition against other first responder agencies. Most importantly, the event gave us the chance to connect with residents, meet supporters from across the community, and celebrate the partnerships that make Collier County such a special place. Thank you to FC Naples for recognizing the dedication of first responders and hosting such a memorable evening.

Fire Scene Photos





Truck Shows & Spray Downs

