

# The All Hands

It takes all of us working together, to get the job done!

March 2019

Volume 7, Issue 3



## In This Issue:

Fire Chief	1
Adm. Update	2
EMS Division	3
Fire Prevention	4
Battalion Chief	5
Ocean Rescue	5
Training	6
Employee of the Month	12

## Special points of interest:

- Kindness in Leadership
- Empty Your Pantry Food Drive
- New Hires
- Keith Golden Retirement Party
- St. Patrick's Day Parade
- Training Pics

## Fire Chief's Message—Your are that One Person

By Darrel Donatto, Fire Chief



I received a great phone call the other day from a resident who called to express his thanks for the service we provided to him on a medical call. This person suffered a fall. At the time, he did not think that he was injured and he did not want to go to the hospital. Our highly skilled paramedics knew otherwise. They quickly assessed his situation and recognized that he was a significant risk of having a very serious medical problem and that he absolutely needed to go not just to the hospital, but also to the local trauma center. The paramedics pulled out the most effective tool in their kits to get him to go to where he needed to go; they used extreme kindness. They empathized with his situation, they explained what could be, they explained what should be, and they relayed to him that they cared deeply about his well-being and that if he were a member of their family, that they would want him to be seen at the hospital. He soon agreed and was transported as a trauma alert to the hospital where he received the care he needed, was admitted to the ICU, and subsequently made a great recovery. This person called me not to express what great care that he received, but to express how kind our people were to him and his thankfulness for their kindness.

In the fast pace world of today, kindness is a diminishing human quality; but not here at Palm Beach Fire Rescue. We pride ourselves on being kind to others, caring about others, serving others, and striving to make a positive difference in the lives of others. Kindness helps create trust. On the medical call discussed above, trust was what was needed to get the person involved to accept our recommendation that he go to the hospital despite the fact that he really did not want to go to the hospital. That trust was developed through kindness.

Last month, a patient wrote "You were all so kind while taking me to Good Sam," with so kind underlined. Despite her serious medical problem and our great care, what this resident commented on was the kindness of our members. Another letter I received recently talked about the perception of firefighters as being brave men and women who are called to duty to extinguish fires, assist in remediating automobile accidents, and who possess the understanding of how to cope with medical emergencies. The resident when on to say that the firefighters here at Palm Beach Fire Rescue should be also be viewed as good neighbors who are kind, encouraging, and for who going above and beyond seems to be the standard. Yet another recent letter talked about our members as being so courteous, so kind, and so efficient.

I receive so many letters, emails, and phone calls from people in our community who are thankful for the service that our people have provided to them. Almost every one of those calls, emails, or letters say something about how kind or nice our people were. **That really makes my day.**

We are in the service business. We are public servants who are here to serve others. In the fire and emergency medical services, people have an expectation that the service they receive will meet a standard of quality. However, kindness is generally not an expectation of those we serve. What we have dis

*Continued on page 4*

## Administrative Update

By Jimmy Duane

Assistant Chief

In compliance with the National Fire Protection Association standards, Palm Beach Fire Rescue will be conducting the service tests on the apparatus fire pumps. This annual testing will begin in April. Lieutenant Dunnam will be taking the lead again on this project, which will be completed by the end of April. With elimination of the older units, testing is expected to be far easier than years past. Palm Beach Fire Rescue's thoroughness with keeping up on standards and performing all of the required testing is one of the many reasons our department earned and maintains the Insurance Service Office standard (ISO) rating as a Class 1 Department.

The quality of breathing air and maintenance of our self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and equipment used to fill the SCBA equipment is a critical aspect for respiratory protection. Because of its importance, quarterly maintenance and air quality testing is performed. Channel Innovations completed the quarterly maintenance and air quality testing on the departments Air compressor system. The quality of air tested high and the system remains in good working order. Following testing, the unit did experience an issue with PTO drive shaft, however the repair was completed by Palm Beach County Fleet maintenance.



During the recent safety committee meeting, one of the items discussed was the thermal imaging cameras located on the rescues. Two of the three units had cameras, however one of the cameras on Rescue 98 was not working properly. In addition, the camera located on the Battalion vehicle had similar issues that would require repairs. Lieutenant Curtis did some extensive research on replacement cameras for the units. After several weeks of trials with the FLIR K2 and multiple structure burns and drills, he determined this would be the best and most affordable fit for the Rescues. The cameras can be used in a wide variety of applications. The primary use of the camera is searching for victims in darkened or smoke filled environment.

In addition, they are used for finding victims in the water at night, detecting overheated components such as motors, electrical panels and transformers. The department greatly appreciates the employees input. Thanks to Anthony and those that assisted with this important project.

The department is in great shape as it relates to fleet maintenance. With the elimination of the older units, down time due to repairs is expected to slow down. However, routine maintenance of the aerial ladders will increase due to required inspections. The department is required to perform maintenance and inspections each 25 hours of aerial operations or quarterly, depending on what comes first. This is an inspection of the components of the ladder and unless something is found, no maintenance will be required. There are additional requirements every 50 hours and yearly, which will require the vehicle being removed from service and maintenance performed. This maintenance is extremely important for the safety of the firefighters on the units and anyone working around the apparatus while in operation. The requirements and language is being added to the Operative IQ program so that Driver Engineers can document the hours and report any maintenance needs through Asset Works.



The department was previously utilizing the old Motorola mobile radios when accessing the hospital talkgroups for encoding patient information during transports to the hospital. The information sent is extremely important for our personnel who are able to alert the hospital about critical patient medical information and in turn, giving the hospital the ability to deliver orders for further treatment prior to the arrival to their facility. Citation Communications has been working with the MPSCC and the County to add additional hospital talkgroups to the Open Sky System, similar to what is currently on the Counties P-25 system. After several months, the talkgroups are completed and are being programmed in to all of the department's mobile radios. This will allow our personnel to access all of the hospitals we transport to utilizing our radios.

The OpenSky radio tower high site in West Palm Beach at the One Watermark Place condominium is still in the process. The vendor is expecting the roof to be completed soon so that they are able to install the radio equipment. This will address our coverage concerns for the north end, where we typically lose radio signal strength. The tower will allow for radio high site transmission in downtown West Palm Beach and increased radio coverage to the Town of Palm Beach.

## EMS Division

By Sean Baker

Division Chief

### **Palm Beach Fire Rescue can help you learn the skills you need to save a life.**

According to the American Heart Association, sudden cardiac arrest is one of the leading causes of death in the United States, and more than 350,000 people will suffer from it this year alone. What is extremely frightening about sudden cardiac arrest is that it can happen without warning, in patients who are seemingly healthy. When sudden cardiac arrest is occurring, an automated external defibrillator (AED) is the only effective treatment for restoring a regular heart rhythm. It's no secret that time is of the essence during a cardiac episode, and for each minute defibrillation is delayed, the chance of survival is reduced approximately 10 percent, which is why it's crucial to locate these devices in public places, in case of emergency.

While many people are familiar with cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), and even trained in it, knowledge of AEDs just is not as prevalent.

What is an AED? AED stands for automated external defibrillator. These devices allow the heart rhythm to be reset if a fast and dangerous arrhythmia is present. As the name implies, these devices are automated and provide instruction and feedback. Arrhythmias occur when the electrical system in the heart short circuits. Commonly, patients with life-threatening arrhythmias will lose consciousness, as occurred in Teddy's situation. Often the only way of re-establishing a normal heart rhythm, and saving a victim's life, is to apply an electrical discharge from an AED.

When should you use an AED? AEDs are used in circumstances when a victim is unresponsive and not breathing. An AED is not a substitute for CPR, but rather an adjunct. If a victim is unresponsive, the American Heart Association guidelines recommend initiating CPR first while at the same time activating an emergency response system. If two witnesses are available, one should perform CPR while the other attempts to locate an AED. CPR is then continued until the AED can be activated and used.

Does one have to be trained in order to administer the AED? Training to use an AED is available through CPR classes. It may seem surprising to hear that an AED is an easy tool for most people to operate — even someone with no medical background — but it's true. Using an AED is, by design, simple and easy. In fact, a study performed compared trained sixth graders to EMS providers and found that sixth graders could efficiently and effectively use AEDs. Given the simplicity and impact, AED training should be considered by all.

Most establishments with the capacity to accommodate large masses (such as churches and shopping areas) should have AEDs. However, the presence of AEDs is not universal, and many establishments are still not equipped with this life-saving device. Most often, lack of access is unfortunately due to lack of investment. The presence of AEDs, and responders who know how to use them, help to greatly reduce the risk of sudden cardiac death in our community. Access to AEDs, and their prompt usage, is the key factor in determining the outcome of a cardiac arrest victim.

### **Town of Palm Beach Neighborhood AED Training Program**

The department understands that it is difficult to attend training sessions at one of your local fire stations, or to attend a class at one of the many businesses on the island. With that in mind, the department has collaborated with the Palm Beach Civic Association to introduce a pilot program that will bring CPR and AED training directly into people's homes. The program has been designed to bring trained Palm Beach Fire Rescue Instructors into neighborhoods throughout the island, in small groups that maximize the hands-on, personalized experience. The first of two scheduled sessions was recently held in the home of an island resident and was attended by 14 people. The group received personalized training on Hands Only CPR, dealing with choking victims, AED use, and the use of tourniquets to stop major bleeding. Attendees stated that they felt better prepared to help in the event of a medical emergency after attending this program. In fact, even members who were previously trained in CPR found the class extremely beneficial. Community partners like the Palm Beach Civic Association have now made it possible for Palm Beach Fire Rescue to extend our Community Education Program into the homes of the residents we serve, all in the pursuit of making the Town of Palm Beach one of the safest communities in the area.

Please contact our Community Education Coordinator at 561-838-5420 for more information.



## Fire Prevention

By Martin DeLoach  
Fire Marshal

The Fire Prevention Division often receives questions regarding pyrotechnics. What are they? When do I need a permit? What is exempt from requiring a permit? What type of inspections are performed?

The answers to these questions, as well as countless others, become technical and often contentious. The full scale fireworks displays from a barge with synchronized music is covered by a pyrotechnic permit inspection. These events require approvals from the United States Coast Guard, The Federal Aviation Association, United States Secret Service, Palm Beach Port Authority and Town of Palm Beach Police and Fire Departments. The proposed site plan, company employees, employee credentials, location for delivery, and special insurance is submitted and reviewed prior to the event.

The contentious questions arise from the smaller scale events that often question our permit cost of \$2,000. Flame dancers, inside displays and table top sparklers are all considered pyrotechnic events. The State Fire Marshal as well as the Town of Palm Beach define pyrotechnics as: Fireworks shall mean and include any combustible or explosive composition or any substance or combination of substances or article prepared for the purpose of producing a visible or an audible effect by combustion, explosion, deflagration or detonation as defined by F.S. ch. 791.

Pyrotechnic materials shall include, but are not limited to, chemical mixtures used in the entertainment industry to produce visible, audible or thermal effects by combustion, deflagration or detonation; flame effects and/or similar devices not limited to batons or torches fueled by liquid, solid or gaseous fuels; flame projectors which produce heat effects and/or flames; flash powders composed of fuels and oxidizers; flares and similar devices.

It is easy to diminish the dangers of fireworks since 47 of the 50 states plus the District of Columbia allow some or all types of consumer fireworks. Our regulation and permitting began after the tragic Station nightclub fire that occurred on Thursday February 20, 2003 in West Warwick Rhode Island. The fire killed 100 people and injured 230 others in a few short minutes. The fire was caused by pyrotechnics that were set off by the tour manager of the evenings headlining band.

According to the most recent Consumer Product Safety Commission report on fireworks from 2014, 11 people died that year and 10,500 people were injured, 7,000 of those injuries happened between June 20 and July 20.

## Fire Chief's (con't)

*From page 1*

covered is unexpected kindness has an extremely powerful impact on people. People never forget kindness.

We work hard to ensure that each member of Palm Beach Fire Rescue is highly skilled and highly proficient at firefighting and emergency medical service. Our members train every day. What we cannot teach our members is kindness; kindness is a part of who someone is or not. Therefore, kindness is something that we hire for; it is something we look for when seeking people to join our team.

We are proud to have some of the best firefighters and paramedics in the world, but we are even prouder to have some of the best people in the world working here at Palm Beach Fire Rescue.

## Battalion Chief

By Joe Sekula  
Battalion Chief

As you know PBFR has recently placed two new apparatus in service. Engine 98 and Truck 99. It's always an exciting time when we get to place new units in service. Our units, being a visual representation of our department, have always served as a point of pride. Our new Engine and Truck not only have increased maneuverability and operability, but they are also filled with numerous safety features. Each unit was built from the ground up to our specifications and customized to best serve our community. All together we have an impressive fleet of apparatus that both keeps the community safe and us safe as well. Traditionally we've always taken great pride in our units and it shows as they are washed and inspected daily, maintained regularly, and treated with the upmost care.

What we need to be engaged in now is making sure that we are training on our new apparatus and getting to know their capabilities and limitations. I cannot stress the importance of this enough. The in-service training that is provided with new apparatus should not be the extent of our knowledge. It is up to us to push all the buttons, pull all of the levers, and to go through all the motions hands on. We must invest the time in training and learning each piece of our apparatus as they are all uniquely different. Each unit was built and placed in its respective station by design to best protect our community. It's not enough to just be comfortable with our own respective unit. We must be comfortable with all of our units as swaps, overtime, and other factors could lead to being assigned to a different unit at any given time. Our profession is a dangerous one that carries an inherent risk. While we can't control some of this risk, we can control our level of proficiency with our units and equipment.

## Ocean Rescue

By Craig Pollock, Supervisor

The month of March was very busy both Town of Palm Beach public beaches. Lifeguards have stayed busy warning spring break crowds of rip currents. Spring is typically a windy period along the beaches and rip currents risk tend to be high at this time of year. Rip currents account for more than 80% of rescues performed by ocean lifeguards. Rip Currents are powerful, channeled currents of water flowing away from the shore out to sea. They typically extend from the shoreline, through the surf zone, and past the line of breaking waves. The best way to stay safe is to recognize the danger of rip currents and always swim at beaches with lifeguards. When caught in a rip current it is imperative that you stay calm and don't try to swim directly towards shore. Instead swim parallel to the shoreline until the current begins to lose strength and then swim back to shore. For daily beach conditions at Mid-Town Municipal Beach, please call 561-835-4693

To bring the point home on the importance of training and knowing the capabilities of the units, below is a link to a NIOSH report where unfamiliarity with the controls of a new Aerial Platform were cited as a key factor in the death of 2 Texas firefighters during a training exercise. The training exercise was to familiarize the firefighters with a new 95 foot mid mount Aerial Platform. According to the report there were 4 firefighters in the platform that was raised to the roof of an eight story dormitory building. The platform then became stuck on the concrete parapet wall on the top of the building. During the attempts to free the platform, the top edge of the parapet wall broke away and the Aerial Ladder sprang back violently whipping back and forth causing two of the four firefighters in the platform to be ejected by the motion. Other key factors were identified including the failure to use fall restraints while training. Please take the time to follow the link below to read the full report.



For those who are not familiar with NIOSH reports: The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Fire-fighter Fatality Investigation and Prevention Program conducts investigations of firefighter line-of-duty deaths to formulate recommendations for preventing future deaths and injuries. The program does not seek to determine fault or place blame on fire departments or individual firefighters, but to learn from these tragic events and prevent future similar events. NIOSH is a unit of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200906.html>

## Training

**By Marc Bortot**  
Division Chief

This March was Palm Beach Fire Rescue's Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) recertification month, this Credential is recertified every 2 years. The process involves updating the crews on the latest recommendations from the American Heart Association and has testing components to assess each employee of the process. The training aims to prepare the responders for common encountered emergencies in the field like myocardial infarctions (heart attacks) and strokes, to less frequently emergencies like cardiac dysthymias and electrolyte imbalances. The crews are required to pass both written and practical scenario tests to become certified. This training provides a great environment for crews to work together in a non-emergency setting and practice skills. As the department uses a "pit crew" strategy when handling these emergencies it gives the crews the opportunity to rotate through roles and learn and practice the skills required for each position.



March also saw the start of two new firefighters here at Palm Beach Fire Rescue., with that comes weeks of intensive, onboarding, and training. Some of the skills practiced by the new hires are vehicle extrication, hose management, aerial operations and emergency medical skills. This training is performed by the department's Field Training Officers (FTO) under the direction of the Training Division. This is a great opportunity for the department to show the new hires how we operate, to evaluate their skills and test their abilities. With the recent arrival of 2 new apparatus at the department, crews have been busy getting out and training with their newly assigned apparatus. The drivers have been out with their officers around Town practicing spotting the aerial. This process involves the driver having to make a decision of where to park the apparatus to make a rescue from a building, since this decision will be made in a high stress environment with no room for error. These opportunities to practice give the driver a chance to learn the approximate reach of the ladder based on where they park relative to the building. Thereby providing them the muscle memory for performing the evolution under emergency responses.

Highrise firefighting is an extremely dangerous activity and therefore crews have been doing numerous drills this month practicing the required techniques and strategies that are employed in these kinds of events. Most of the southend of the Town consists of high rise buildings along with a several buildings in the Center of Town. These fires are usually compartmentalized and require a high amount personnel to handle these incidents. Crews spent this month going out to different buildings and reviewing preincident plans and discussing different strategies and tactics to handle these emergencies. Back at the station the crews also performed high rise drills practicing hooking up to standpipes, creating external standpipes using aerial apparatus and trying different high rise pack deployments.

Finally, the month saw Compressed Air Foam System (CAFS) training. CAFS are used by departments to help reduce damage due to water application during firefighting operations. The last 3 suppression units purchased by the department have this system on them. Each front line unit at each station now has the system on board. The CAFS addition of Air and Foam to the water while firefighting makes the extinguishing process more effective. The foams used during firefighting help coat the burning material and prevent oxygen from coming in contact with the burning process, thereby suppressing the burning process. When performed correctly the correct air and foam ratios can reduce the loss of property due to water damage along with making the hose more maneuverable. The foam is also very effective in coating structures or objects near the fire and protecting them from becoming involved.



## Kindness in Leadership

By John Keyser

Posted on March 22, 2015 at: <http://www.common senseleadership.com/kindness-in-leadership/>

*"Unexpected kindness is the most powerful, least costly, and most underrated agent of human change."* – Bob Kerrey

Strong leadership and kindness are not mutually exclusive. In fact, they fit together effectively. The most successful leaders treat their team members with kindness. They realize that kindness is motivating.

Motivated team members lead to a winning organizational culture, which leads to people having pride in their work, their team and their company, which leads to outstanding results and superior client service.

In several recent conversations about kindness, people pointed out that what we say and do must be genuine. Yes, definitely. When I say kindness, I do not simply mean making platitudes.

Kindness includes being positive and encouraging. It also includes helping people feel good about themselves. This is a great description of leadership: how we help make someone feel, how we inspire a can do attitude, how we help others gain confidence.

In my work with business leaders, with 360 leadership assessments and developing winning organizational cultures and teamwork, I regularly hear that people want their managers to be honest and make the time to help them learn and succeed. They realize this often means being forthright and leveling with them about areas of professional development. Yet, managers are often too busy to realize their responsibility to give constructive feedback to help their people learn and grow.

It is important to realize that giving constructive feedback, mentoring and coaching our team members and others are also acts of kindness. Everyone wants to do well and be successful. Their learning, growth and success is our responsibility as leaders just as much as it is our team members' own responsibility.

We can give constructive feedback in a kind manner, letting our people know we genuinely care about them.

Ideally we have these conversations in person, and if we cannot be with them, we pick up the phone and call them.

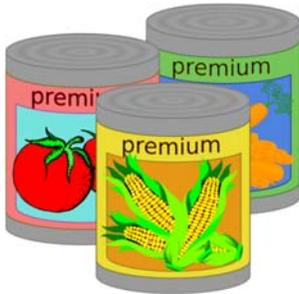
I recently had a conversation with Emily Clark, a regional marketing manager at Billy Casper Golf. She is a strong natural leader who is all about the team. Emily made an important point: It is important for us as leaders to take the time to reach out to our people when good things happen, not just when something goes wrong.

*"We rise by lifting others."* – Robert Ingersoll

My invitation is to think "kindness" in our work and interactions and to notice the difference we make.



## Empty Your Pantry Food Drive



**Feeding the Community**

# APRIL 1 - APRIL 22

### DONATIONS:

All non-perishable foods accepted.

Checks also accepted, made payable to Town of Palm Beach United Way.

We will run a weekly list of donors' names in print and online.

### RECIPIENTS:

CROS Ministries and Palm Beach County Food Bank

### COLLECTION POINTS:

Palm Beach Daily News: 400 Royal Palm Way, Suite 100

Town of Palm Beach United Way: 44 Coconut Row, Suite M201

Palm Beach Fire-Rescue Stations:

North Station: 300 North County Road • Central Station: 355 South County Road

South Station: 2185 South Ocean Boulevard

### QUESTIONS:

Call Empty Your Pantry Food Drive Coordinator

Stephanie Wiggins at 561-820-3874.

## Palm Beach Daily News

THE SHINY SHEET<sup>SM</sup>

[PalmBeachDailyNews.com](http://PalmBeachDailyNews.com)

**400 Royal Palm Way, Suite 100, Palm Beach, FL 33480**

*Sponsored by: Palm Beach Daily News, Palm Beach Fire-Rescue and Town of Palm Beach United Way.*

## New Hires—Charles Lee and Nicholas Potenza

Firefighter Lee is originally from Boca Raton where he received his AA Degree, Paramedic and Firefighter certificates. Charlie started working for the City of Cocoa Beach Fire Department in 2008 where he received the 2016 Firefighter of the Year Award and his Fire Science degree. He is a state certified Fire Officer, Driver, Instructor and Fire Safety Inspector. Charlie's previous career was in IT/Computer systems, which lead into developing new online tools for CBF. He is passionate about fire training and recently attended the Orlando Fire Conference, which he has attended for the past 10 years.

On his off days, Charlie likes to scuba diving, duck hunt and frequent the Disney Parks with his wife Crystal, daughter Ella (5), and son Cayden (4).

When asked what he enjoys most about being a firefighter, he responded, "It's an amazing feeling knowing you did your part in saving someone's life, possessions or home. The feeling you get when a child looks up at you and says they want to be like you one day. Most importantly is the brotherhood, a family you're part of forever."



Nicholas Potenza is 25 years old and was born and raised in Wellington, Florida. Nick and his fiancé recently bought a house in Wellington and adopted a one-year-old mixed breed puppy. Nick has always been into watching and playing sports. He played baseball throughout his entire childhood. His favorite football team is the Miami Dolphins, through the good and the bad. Nick's dad is a retired Broward County Police Officer, who is ultimately the one responsible for encouraging him to pursue a career in public service and become a fire fighter, paramedic. Nick looks forward to pursuing his career here at the Town of Palm Beach and serving the community.

*Welcome to our family*

### Keith Golden's Retirement Party



### St. Patrick's Day Parade



## Compressed Air Foam System Training



Train Like Your Life  
Depends On It...It Just  
Might!

## FEBRUARY DEPARTMENT STATISTICS

### Training Hours

A Shift	394
B Shift	682
C Shift	747
Total	1823

### Fire Prevention Inspections

106

### Ocean Rescue

Visitors	21,265
T/O enforced	132
Preventative Actions	152

### FIRE and EMS

FIRE Calls	87
EMS Calls	163
Transports to Hospital	116

### MARCH BIRTHDAYS:

Brendon Andrews	04/02
Jill Bassford	04/05
Austin Bradshaw	04/08
Laura Deckers	04/11
James Weber	04/11
Patrick Frawley	04/11
Joseph Sekula	04/15
Thiago Barosa	04/21
Amanda Bronson	04/22
Timothy Martin	04/23
Daniel Dirocco	04/25
March Bortot	04/26
Michael Bennett	04/27
Danny Gargiulo	04/27

### MARCH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Belinda Hardy	04/85	34 years
Jose Ruiz	04/93	26 years
Bradley Caudell	04/94	25 years
Mark Bradshaw	04/97	22 years
Damon Patrick	04/01	18 years
Jill Bassford	04/01	18 years
Hector Ayala	04/03	16 years
Jody Sronce	04/07	12 years
William Layman	04/09	10 years
George Klein	04/15	04 years
Martin Leloach	04/16	03 years
Ed Sabol	04/17	02 years
Justin Heinrichs	04/17	02 years
Michael Curcio	04/18	01 year

## Employee of the Month—Cesar Lora



Firefighter/Paramedic Cesar Lora has served in the Palm Beach Fire Rescue organization for 4 years, starting his career on July 13, 2015. Firefighter Lora goes beyond his required scope of duty on a regular basis. He has provided an immense amount of training to residents and businesses of the Town of Palm Beach. Cesar currently serves as Palm Beach Fire Rescue's Community Education Coordinator, responsible for the coordination and instruction of all Public Education events. Firefighter Lora has recently attended two classes at the National Fire Academy. One class presented the opportunity to learn about community risk reduction and the other provided education on leadership and the culture of safety. Cesar consistently seeks out opportunities to learn and further his education.



This month Firefighter Lora is being recognized for his exceptional work ethic in providing community education. He has taught or coordinated training on the subjects of Fall Prevention, CPR Training, AED Training and proper methods of Fire Extinguishment at places such as 130 Sunrise, The Beach Club and 2100 S. Ocean to name a few. Cesar currently involved in a pilot program aimed at bringing together residents throughout the Town in order to discuss topics such as CPR, AED usage, Fall Prevention, and Stop the Bleed training. In addition, there are discussions to educate personal health care providers on ways to better assist residents. He has established a new program for residents called, Vial of Life, where participants adhere a sticker to a specific location on entryways in order to notify first responders that all pertinent medical information is located in a unique area of the residence. This allows for a faster, more organized gathering of information during an emergency event.

Always maintaining a positive attitude, Cesar is an example for others, his efforts are making a difference in both the department and in our community by improving the quality of the service we deliver. We highly commend Firefighter Cesar Lora for his dedicated service and devotion to Palm Beach Fire Rescue, and to the citizens of the Town of Palm Beach. Cesar demonstrates an attitude of compassion and excellence through the service he provides. His hard work and dedication to those he serves makes him a great asset to the Town of Palm Beach and the community, therefore, making Firefighter Cesar Lora the outstanding recipient of the February 2019, Employee of the Month Award.