

Fire District officially puts new engine 14 into service following a "Push-In" ceremony

St. Lucie West – On Wednesday, May 5, 2021, the St. Lucie County Fire District will officially put new engine 14 into service following a traditional “Push-In” ceremony. The ceremony will include a wet-down and blessing of the new apparatus.

The “Push-In” ceremony pays homage to firefighters in the 1800s who used horse-drawn equipment and would have to literally push the fire engines into the garage after returning from a fire. The event has since become a widely practiced tradition for new fire department vehicles. The wet-down is a ritual celebrated by many fire departments in the United States in which firefighters commission a new fire apparatus by anointing it with water sprayed from the retiring pumper’s tank water.

The apparatus committee has been instrumental in bringing the “Push-In” ceremony to the St. Lucie County Fire District. Last month, engine 1 was put into service following the first organized ceremony in St. Lucie County. The Fire District’s Chaplain, retired lieutenant Tommy Neiman, will be on hand again today to give the blessing.

The event will take place at 3:00 PM at fire station 14 in St. Lucie West. The address is 300 NW California Blvd. The media is invited to attend.

"It's a tradition that we hope continues here in St. Lucie." –Captain Donny Stefani