



LAKELAND FIRE DEPARTMENT

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New Fire Engine Exhibit to be Revealed at Explorations V Children's Museum

The Lakeland Fire Department (LFD) will be revealing its fire engine exhibit at the Explorations V Children's Museum on Tuesday, September 23 at 4:00 PM and you're invited to join us. A brief ceremony will be held to dedicate the exhibit to the children of Lakeland. Admission to the museum will be complimentary from 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM for those attending the unveiling ceremony. Refreshments will be provided.

Explorations V Children's Museum is home to a fire engine exhibit gifted by the Lakeland Fire Department in the late 1990's. The display is undoubtedly one of the museum's most popular and is visited by over 50,000 visitors every year! The original installation was a homegrown, grassroots effort created and installed by LFD firefighters who volunteered their time and skills to create an educational and hands on exhibit for children to enjoy.

The original exhibit was used very much and through that use it began showing signs of wear and tear. Through the work of a committee made up of LFD personnel it was decided the exhibit would be revamped to be more functional as well as be a better representation of the newer, more modern Lakeland Fire Department.

The engine was removed from the museum on Friday, July 11, 2014 and has been worked on by Lakeland Firefighters volunteering off duty to refurbish the exhibit. Community sponsors (Pierce Manufacturing, R.F. Lusa and Sons Roofing and Sheet Metal Inc., Indie Atlantic Films, Sherwin-Williams Paints, Explorations V Children's Museum) also helped by providing resources used on the exhibit.

Coverage of the new display is encouraged and LFD Fire Chief (s) and museum personnel will be available for interviews.

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Gary Ballard, Fire Chief

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