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## NEWS

New Jersey

### Scouts Visit Burlington Township Fire Department

By KRISTIN JONAITIS Correspondent

1st Responder Network

Story Number 070111101

**Disclaimer:** This article is a direct street report from our correspondent and has not been edited by the 1st Responder newsroom.

The Burlington Township Fire Department (BTFD) has had the pleasure of partnering with many scout troops this year. We have had several boy and girl scout troops visit the home of the Independent Fire Co. #1 (Sta. 301) on the Burlington By-Pass. During their visits the scouts learned many valuable lessons in fire safety and the role of a firefighter in the emergency services. The department also received a generous donation of stuffed animals from Junior Girl Scout Troop 22213. These stuffed animals will be distributed among emergency service organizations as well as the BTFD to be utilized to comfort children affected by fire, accident or other emergency situations.


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Daisy Troop 21708 Receiving Patch From Fire Official Matthew Tomaszewski, Dept. Chief William Diamond, and District Employee Kristin Jonaitis

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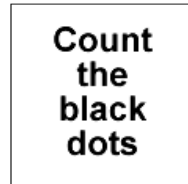
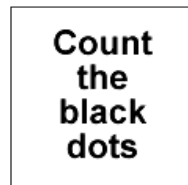
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Junior Troop 22213 Receiving Patch From Fire Official Matthew Tomaszewski, Dept. Chief William Diamond, and District Employee Kristin Jonaitis



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This year has given the fire department a wonderful opportunity to not just visit the township school system, to present education information, but to have eager young scouts visit the station for hands on experience. The scouts learned about fire equipment and its use; they also experience a simulation fire in our fire safety house as well as how to safety escape using an escape plan. While presenting these programs to young children we have found that fire safety does not have to be complicated and that it is important to be

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through and to regularly remind them about fire safety principals. We have also found that through regular reminders and lessons children will better be able to retain safety information taught. Hence if the need ever arises they will feel confident in knowing exactly what to do and will make smart choices on a moments notice.

In celebration of this new found partnership the Burlington Township Fire Department has designed a special patch for the scouts. At a celebration held at Station 301 on June 23, 2011, Fire Official Matthew Tomaszewski and Department Chief William Diamond unveiled this patch and presented it to several troops in attendance. The celebration was attended by Director of Fire Services Anthony Correia as well as members of the Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District No.1, Township of Burlington. The BTFD intends to give this patch to all future troops that visit its stations. It is the hopes that this patch will remind them of the valuable information gained during their visit and to encourage their continued support to the community.

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By Burlington Twp. Fire Dept.

**Cub Scout Den 11, Pack #10 Receiving  
Patch From Fire Official Matthew  
Tomaszewski, Dept. Chief William  
Diamond, and District Employee Kristin  
Jonaitis**



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**Cub Scouts take a tour of the apparatus**



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**Daisy troop tries on gear.**

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