Hello Neighbors and friends,

The officers and Members of the St. Leonard Volunteer Fire & Rescue Co. 7 Inc. hope your fall and winter were healthy and safe; both of these seasons were a busy time for SLVFD. In 2020, SLVFD was dispatched to 2,963 emergencies, the busiest year in the history of our department! We are proud to report another year of a 100% response rate, which means SLVFD responded to every dispatched request for assistance.

Our Department has started off 2021 quickly with researching and ordering apparatus replacements and equipment upgrades to better serve the Citizens of Calvert County. New Ambulance 79 will have a state-of-the-art decontamination system and advanced equipment/amenities to help us better serve and treat our patients while providing better protection for patients and providers. Additionally, we are in the midst of upgrading our Heavy Rescue Squad’s extrication tool compliment; these tools (popularly known as the “Jaws of Life”) will improve our capabilities when seconds count during vehicle extrication. These are just a few of the many projects SLVFD is embarking on to upgrade our fire, rescue and EMS response abilities.

2021 is looking to be an exciting time for our Department, however we still want to note the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the world, our country, our state and our own community. Our first responders are on the front line responding to emergencies and will continue to serve our community without hesitation. As we continue to take precautions for COVID, you will see our providers dressed in personal protective equipment for our protection and yours. We want to remind you to please follow the current recommendation from the CDC and local Health Department as well as orders/guidelines enacted by Governor Hogan. Following these guidelines will help protect you and your family and decrease the spread of the virus. If you are able/eligible to get a COVID-19 vaccination please think about doing so (<https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/pages/vaccine>).

St. Leonard Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad is one of the four 100% volunteer Fire and Rescue departments remaining in Calvert County. The success of our department is made possible by our community’s amazing generosity and support. As we kick off our 2021 Fundraising Campaign, we ask for your continued support. Check our website (https://www.slvfd.org) and social media platforms for our online fundraisers and our fundraising events for the spring and summer such as our “high roller raffle.” As we attempt to continue our community outreach and involvement through this pandemic, please feel free to contact the station (410-586-1713) to schedule a fire apparatus drive by for birthday celebrations or other special occasions. Your kind donations help us supplement our operational budget and help purchase much needed personal protective equipment, further upgrade EMS, rescue, and fire equipment with cutting edge technologies/tools to help ensure the best emergency response and patient care possible. Donations also help us obtain specialized training, host community events, and support the cost of running an efficient, effective and well-equipped Volunteer Fire, Rescue, and EMS Department. Donations can be sent via mail (P.O. Box 101 St. Leonard, Maryland 20685) or by visiting our website, and clicking on the Green “Donate Today” button on the left hand side. As always, any amount of donation is greatly appreciated. Most importantly, we are PROUD to serve the citizens of Southern Calvert County and surrounding communities.

*Respectfully yours,*

St. Leonard Volunteer Fire & Rescue Company 7

Visit us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and <http://www.slvfd.org>.

**YOUR LIFE IS WORTH OUR TIME!**

**Volunteers not only save lives, we save tax dollars, and keep your insurance rates low.**

**A donation of $100.00 is only 27 cents per day!**