

Sept. 20, 2010

‘Pink Heals Tour’ for breast cancer awareness coming to Sarasota Sept. 27

Five pink fire trucks along with other fire and police vehicles will parade down Main Street in Sarasota on Monday, Sept. 27, to promote breast cancer awareness month in October.

The “Pink Heals Tour,” is coming to Sarasota at the invitation of Sarasota County Fire Chief Ken Ellerbe, who learned about the group after he arrived in Sarasota County in August 2009.

“I’ve seen women and their families who’ve been impacted by breast cancer,” said Ellerbe. “As firefighters, we’re trained to help and when I heard about this program, I knew we had to bring it to Sarasota to spread the word and make people aware of this disease.”

Dave Graybill, an Arizona firefighter and former major league pitcher, conceived the idea of the “Pink Heals Tour” to raise awareness about breast cancer. Using vacation time, Graybill and fellow firefighters take the pink fire trucks on tour throughout the country.

From 10-11 a.m. Monday, Sept. 27, the pink fire trucks will travel down Main Street in Sarasota ending at Marina Jack’s for a rally at 11 a.m. Following the rally, three trucks will split up and make stops at the following locations in Sarasota between 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.:

- Siesta Key
- St. Armands
- Sarasota Memorial Hospital
- Florida Cancer Specialists and Research Institute
- North County Library and Booker Elementary School
- Gold’s Gym
- Bonefish Grill 41
- Hooters
- New Balance
- Doctor’s Hospital
- Firehouse Subs

One of the other two trucks will travel to Englewood where it will be available for viewing from 2:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Pioneer Park, 300 block Dearborn Street.

From 6-9 p.m. the pink fire trucks will re-unite at Westfield Sarasota Square Mall for a grand finale.