

MULDOON FIRE DEPARTMENT OPENS CISTERN STATION

Photo caption:

(L-R) MVFD Chief Johnny McCoy, Jr.; Eugene Vinklarek; Ron Wunsch, president, and Jo Brunner, treasurer, of MVFD Community Service division; Dorothy Vinklarek; MVFD firefighters Paul Splawn, Carlos Martinez, and Fred Hernandez; and Joe Gajdos, Bob Roberts, and Otto Steinhauser, of Flatonia American Legion Post No. 94.



Residents of the Cistern-Muldoon area gathered on Saturday morning, October 17th, to dedicate the Muldoon VFD Cistern Station and view the facilities. Area visitors of all ages enjoyed sausage wraps made with links donated by V & V Products, Inc. of Cistern, and served by MVFD firefighters. Area residents also shared their favorite sweets to complete the meal.

A US flag donated by Lawrence Bordovsky was raised on the new flagpole donated by Woodmen of the World. A US flag was also included with the flagpole donation, and will be raised when the current flag is retired. The ceremony was presented by Chris Cherry, on behalf of the Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society Lodge 302. Members of the Flatonia American Legion Post No. 94 (Joe Gajdos, Bob Roberts, and Otto C. Steinhauser) performed the flag-raising duties. Ron Wunsch, president of the Muldoon VFD Community Service division, served as master of ceremonies.

The flag pole was the second one received by Muldoon VFD, with the first being installed at the main station in Muldoon. Here is an excerpt from Chris Cherry's presentation:

"Since 2002, Woodmen of the World lodges across the country have been dedicating flagpoles and presenting flags not only to honor the heroes and victims of September 11, 2001, but also the men and women of our Armed Forces serving in combat. These ceremonies also pay tribute to the men and women here in this community who risk their lives daily to keep us safe—police officers, firefighters, and emergency rescue personnel. They all deserve our thanks and admiration."

“Over 3,500 flagpoles have been dedicated to these individuals in the special ceremonies held by Woodmen of the World lodges. Hundreds more will be dedicated this year. We can think of no more special way to honor them than the sight of the American flag flying proudly.”

A commemorative plaque at the base of the pole reads: “In Honor and Remembrance of the heroes and victims in the fight against terrorism and to celebrate the enduring spirit of all Americans. Presented by members of Woodmen of the World.”

MVFD firefighters gave informal inspection tours of their fleet of trucks for the visiting children, as well as for many curious adults. A grass truck and a pumper will be housed in the Cistern station, to provide quality support for the immediate area. Firefighter Terry Vaughan, a Cistern area resident, along with Charles Vinklarek and Mark Miles, are looking for new firefighter recruits to assist them in providing service from this location. If anyone is interested in joining them, please contact Chief Johnny McCoy, Jr. at 979-966-8805.

The Cistern station is located at 7729 Jeddo Road, near Hwy 95, on the SW corner of the public plaza that was donated to the township of Cistern, formerly known as Milton, by Starks Cockrill, Sr., prior to his death in 1862. Joe and Donna Cockrell provided valuable family history to support the selection of this location for the construction of the fire station. A plaque now mounted on the station reads, “Land donated by Starks S. Cockrill, Sr.”

The Muldoon VFD station construction was completed with the support of many donations (any of \$500 or more are shown on the building) and volunteer hours. Special thanks go to Mel Ott and Josh King for installation of electrical wiring and lighting, and to Commissioner James Kubecka for the landfill and paving of the parking area and driveway along the south edge of the plaza. Fundraising continues, to meet the costs incurred in construction, as well as the purchase of the updated pumper apparatus housed in Cistern. For any questions about the Cistern installation, please contact Ron Wunsch, 979-247-4684, or Chief Johnny McCoy, Jr., 979-966-8805.