

## **Resident donates firefighter statue to TCFD**

THE COLONY, Texas — Longtime The Colony resident Michelle Murray gave back to her community recently in a very unique way.

In an effort to honor the memory of her father, Emit Looney, a former volunteer fireman in The Colony, she purchased a bronze statue of a young firefighter and donated it to The Colony Fire Department. The statue was purchased on auction in Garland. Murray said it originated from New York City, and she is currently researching to find out more about who made it and where it came from.

On Wednesday, Sept. 30, Murray and The Colony Fire Chief Scott Thompson held a dedication ceremony for the statue at Fire Station No. 3 on North Colony Boulevard, where it has been installed by the city's Public Works and Facilities Maintenance crews.



Looney was a volunteer fireman in the late 1970s during the city's formative years. Murray said he was always very proud of his role in the community. She remembers riding with him in his personal vehicle when it was affixed with an old-school dashboard light and siren.

On behalf of the city, Thompson offered his thanks to Murray for the generous donation, and encouraged residents to stop by the station to both view the monument and to rub its head for good luck – a firefighter tradition.

“We’re proud to have this artwork at our fire station, and grateful for Michele and her family for thinking of us and for honoring her father’s involvement in the fire services,” Thompson said, adding that he and Murray intend to continue working together on a plaque for the statue marking the dedication and bearing her father’s name.

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