

Whippany Fire Company celebrates 90 years

Christens new hazardous materials response truck

BY JENNA M. MCKNIGHT

DAILY RECORD

home. The public is welcome.

"It's kind of like an open house," said Captain Randy Polo, a volunteer firefighter since 1987. "It gets people and families interested in what we're doing."

The star of the show is Rescue 80, a new hazardous materials response truck purchased late last year for \$500,000.

The truck replaces an older, smaller hazmat truck.

The new vehicle will not be hosed down during Saturday night's event.

"It tends to be a little bit of a messy situation," Polo said. "We've started asking people not to spray trucks."

The Whippany Fire Company's wetdown event runs 6 to 11 p.m. on Saturday on Brickyard Field at Bee Meadow Park.

IF YOU GO |

The Whippany fire department, which has about 50 active members, is one of only three fire departments in the county with a hazmat team.

Members said the truck enables them to respond quicker to emergencies like toxic spills and car accidents.

Beyond its modern equipment and slick design, what's particularly

SEE FIRE / A17



DAWN BENKO / DAILY RECORD

Capt. Randy Polo, left, Inspector Firefighter Ian Bell, Inspector Firefighter Paul Perrillo and Chief Joe Cortright of the Whippany Fire Department stand with their vintage fire truck. Bradley-Braviak Funeral Home has donated a rack that allows the truck to be used during funerals.