Farmingville, NY - On Saturday, August 17, 2013 the Center Moriches Fire Department honored Councilman Dan Panico with the rank of Honorary Fireman at their 125th Anniversary Celebration. This honor has not been given to anyone by this department in 25 years but it was said that Councilman Panico has proven to be a superlative public servant, consistently working to improve the quality of life for the residents he serves.

"We bestowed this title to Councilman Panico to honor all he does for our community and fire district. Councilman Panico is always there when we need him and has become one of us over the past years. It was a vote amongst the membership of the Center Moriches Fire Department that thought it was time to make it official to bring Councilman Panico into the family by making him an honorary fireman." said Center Moriches Fire Department Chief Ronald Primus.

"Throughout my relatively short time as a Town Councilman, I have always worked to improve the quality of life for the residents I serve as well as the communities in which we live," commented Brookhaven Town Councilman Dan Panico. "I have dedicated a great deal of my time and my life to this job because I truly believe that there is so much potential for our area, and so much beauty that must be preserved. To be recognized for these efforts by the most heroic of people, our firefighters, is something for which I will be eternally grateful. I thank them for bestowing the rank of honorary fireman upon me and congratulate them on 125 years."

The Center Moriches Fire Department was founded in 1888 and proud of 125 year tradition of providing fire suppression, emergency medical services, fire prevention and public education to the residents, property owners and visitors in our community. The organization is made up of approximately 100 members who volunteer their time for the community. They have an incredibly diverse and talented membership with many skills and areas of expertise. The residents are very appreciative of their dedication and service to the community. Many personnel are cross trained in both fire fighting and emergency medical services to provide optimum service to our community. The department consists of 3 fire companies, an EMS squad, a fire police squad, and a surface water rescue team. They also have a ladies auxiliary, and a junior explorer program.