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Homeowners, business owners and facilities in the Forks of the River Industrial Park have a new fire station. Rural Metro Fire officially opened their new facility, Fire Station 27, at 5651 Strawberry Pike just off Governor John Sevier Highway, just before Christmas.

Fire Chief Jerry Harnish spoke briefly and, along with several elected county officials, cut the ribbon on the new facility. Harnish said it is the first new station in three years and thanked several people, including the community, for their support.

The fire station was formerly located in Industrial Park and the new location, according to Harnish, improves response time and reduces insurance premiums. The new fire station houses a pumper and a squad truck that carries specialized

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Old South High School's transformation to South High Senior Living is progressing nicely! The conversion of the old school, which was built in 1937 and closed following the graduation of the class of 1976, is quickly transforming into the vision of Dover Signature Properties.

Dover Signature Properties is developing a new Assisted Living and Memory Care community to be managed by Integral Senior Living when completed in April 2020. The project is estimated at $12.2 million to restore and renovate the 42,000-square foot building.

Helen Porter, executive director of South Knox High Senior Living, toured the renovations last week and is excit-

PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

Rural Metro Fire Chief Jerry Harnish cuts the ribbon on the new Strawberry Plains Pike fire station. The chief was joined by state and county officials including Knox County Sheriff Tom Spangler.

enables them to do an even better job of protecting our citizens and their property," said

service. No tax dollars are involved in the operation or the new station. Property owners

the largest private fire department in the nation and provides fire response and medical response with

"duly constituted" public fire department serving the community.

"The partnership