



Kids! Read Your Way Through the Summer!

Now in its fifth year, the MFPD sponsored reading program provides special rewards for children ages 3-13 who read a designated number of books this summer. Register to receive a packet with program details, fire safety information, activities, and other cool stuff! It's easy and fun! Children completing the program will be invited to a party at the fire house. Last year about forty children enjoyed that success!

Visit www.middletonfire.org for additional information and to download the registration form. The deadline to register is Friday, June 15, 2007.



FIREline

NEWS FROM THE MIDDLETOWN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT • SPRING 2007 • VOLUME 7 ISSUE 1

The 54th WHAS Crusade for Children Something Very Special is About to Happen, June 2-3

Each year as the first weekend in June approaches, Kentuckiana focuses itself to give in a special way for the neediest children among us. Since the first Crusade in 1954, the \$118 million given by citizens and businesses has helped approximately 3 million children. This year special needs children in all 120 Kentucky counties and more than 50 southern Indiana counties have been served.

And remarkably, thanks to many generous contributions of goods and services, the Crusade returns 100% of all donations to organizations that serve children. Area fire departments have been a cornerstone of the fund-raising efforts. Each year these fire departments raise more than 50 percent of the Crusade's donations.

The Crusade is the most successful and oldest local telethon in America. For more information go to www.whas-crusade.org.

MFPD members will be at the intersections of US 60 & Hurstbourne Lane and Linn Station Road & Hurstbourne Lane with their 'collection boots.' As well, MFPD members will go door-to-door throughout many Middletown neighborhoods.

Everyone collecting on behalf of the MFPD will be wearing a shirt with the Department's logo and most of the time a fire truck will be nearby. If you need someone from the MFPD to come to your home to pick-up a donation, call 245-7555.

Thank you for your generous help!

Use the enclosed envelope to send your Crusade donation. Make checks payable to the WHAS Crusade for Children. Every cent of your donation will be forwarded to the Crusade.



The Mission:
The WHAS Crusade for Children, Inc. is a community supported charitable organization whose mission is to grant donated funds to help children overcome physical, mental, emotional and medical challenges.

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Tornados, Earthquakes, Floods, Hurricanes...

Don't Let a Natural Disaster Become a Personal Disaster!

Crazy, crazy weather. Unfortunately, the where, when, and duration of natural disasters is dangerously unpredictable. Despite this, there is one certainty: preparation reduces your risk!

The Threat

You may need to survive on your own after a disaster. Responsible preparation means having your own food, water, and other supplies in sufficient quantity to last for at least three days. Local officials and relief workers will be on the scene after a disaster, but they cannot reach everyone immediately. You could get help in hours, or it might take days.

Basic services such as electricity, gas, water, sewage treatment, and telephones may be cut off for days, or even a week or longer. Or, you may have to evacuate at a moment's notice and take essentials with you. You probably will not have the opportunity to shop or search for the supplies you need.

Responsible Preparation: Purchase or Assemble a Disaster Supplies Kit

A disaster supplies kit is a collection of basic items that members of a household will likely need in the event of a disaster. Experts suggest that your kit should be stocked with:

- Water
- Food
- First aid supplies
- Clothing, bedding and sanitation supplies
- Tools (matches, flares, whistles, utility knife)
- Special items (for infants, prescription medications, identification documents)

Keep the items that you would most likely need during an evacuation in an easy-to-access and easy-to-carry container. Possible containers include a five gallon bucket, covered trash container, a camping backpack, or a duffel bag.

Kits are available from numerous vendors. A well stocked kit for a family of four will cost about \$150. Google "disaster kits" for a wide number of options. Remember to add items specific to the needs of your family—medications, eye glasses, contact cleaner, etc.

Some Helpful Disaster Preparation Web-Sites

- <http://www.fema.gov/plan/prepare/supplykit.shtm>
- <http://www.ready.gov/america/index.html>
- <http://www.louisville-redcross.org/site/pp.asp?c=6dJHKSNrFoG&b=259562>



Loyal to the Cause...

by Chief Donald Brooks

The Crusade for Children is this region's premier fundraiser. The generosity of the donors is matched by the generosity of the volunteers that collect much of the donations. Let me take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the fire fighters, their families, and the community volunteers that will spend time in the coming weeks collecting for this worthy cause. We can all be glad about the special care this event extends to the neediest children in our region. Again, thank you.

Here's some more special news I'm very pleased to share with you. Chief James

S. Baker, Sr. of the Lyndon Fire & Rescue honored four of your MFPD fire fighters with the Chief's Commendation Medal. Here's an excerpt from the citation:

"On September 12, 2006, Lyndon Fire responded to a residential structure fire on Sir Lancelot Lane. Shortly after arrival, the first company on scene abandoned their hose line to expedite a basement rescue that was beyond the reach of their line. Middletown Fire Q-9951 arrived shortly thereafter as part of the automatic response box. This company rapidly and efficiently provided positive water, set up positive



The Awardees (from left): Captain Sean Taylor, Sergeant Matt Goolsby, Firefighter Gideon Thurman, and Firefighter Brett Decker.

pressure ventilation, and conducted a search of the 1st and 2nd floors while the other companies affected a rescue and attacked the fire.

The rapid actions and teamwork of Middletown's crew on that day were instrumental to the successful rescue operation. Their efficiency and smoothness while operating in a strange area with another department and under the high stress of a rescue operation is an example of a superior performance of duty and is in keeping

with the highest traditions of the American fire service. MFPD Q-9951 is hereby awarded the Lyndon Fire Chief's Commendation Medal in recognition of these actions."

This is only the second time that an outside department has been recognized with this award. You are protected by the very best professional and volunteer firefighters. Join me in celebrating the accomplishments of these fine individuals.

Stop, pull to the right, pull to the left, speed up????

Do you know what to do when encountering emergency vehicles? Take this fun quiz.

You see or hear an emergency vehicle approaching you, what do you do?

- Slam on your brakes and plug your ears.
- Speed up as fast as necessary to keep the emergency vehicle from catching you.
- Yield the right-of-way by immediately driving to a position as close as possible to the right edge or curb of the road clear of any intersection and wait there until the emergency vehicle has passed.

After a fire truck which is operating red lights has passed, what do you do?

- Follow as closely as possible to the truck so you can wave to the firefighters.
- Pass the truck, flash your headlights and sound your horn as a warning to pedestrians and other drivers that a fire truck is on its way!
- Follow no closer than 500 feet to the truck and do not park within the block where the truck has stopped to answer a call.

Why do fire trucks have red lights?

- It matches the color of most fire trucks.
- K-Mart got all the blue lights first.
- No reason other than it is the law.

Why will a fire truck which is operating lights and siren sometimes turn off its warning lights and siren, turn around, and return to the station?

- The firefighters have taken the wrong truck—they are returning to get the right one.
- The firefighters have just remembered that someone left the iron on and they are returning to the station to turn it off.
- The call has been cancelled.

You come to a location where fire hose is lying across the road. What do you do?

- Close your eyes, press the accelerator to the floor and drive over the hose.
- Get out of your car and try to move the hose out of the road.
- Only drive over the hose if the fire department official in command directs you to do so.

Upon approaching a stopped emergency vehicle displaying emergency lights, you should:

- Approach the emergency vehicle, roll down your window and offer to help.
- Sound your horn to signal your presence and flash your lights if you see a fire fighter.
- Yield right-of-way by moving to a lane not adjacent to the emergency vehicle. If changing lanes is impossible or unsafe, reduce speed and proceed very carefully.

Answers: How did you do? The real answer to each question was "C."

Each year hundreds of fire fighters, police officers, EMS workers and road crew members are struck by vehicles; sadly, many are killed. Unfortunately there are a lot of distractions faced by drivers—cell phones, pagers, radio, CDs, GPS, children.

When you are driving, make sure the main thing stays the main thing: DRIVE SAFE.



Satisfying Service: Fire Fighter Volunteers Make the Difference

In 1940 the MFPD was created by volunteers in response to the needs of the community. Those values have remained unchanged for over sixty five years. Are you ready to join this tradition? The rigorous training bestows rewards best understood by those living in the tradition. Training classes are conducted periodically; please contact Sergeant Ron Maddux at 245-7555 or rmaddux@mfpd.org for additional information. Once completed you'll serve alongside volunteers and professional fire fighters that protect the community.