



## Tick, Tock, Tick Tock— Time to Change Every Clock!

Remember “fall back” one hour on the night of Saturday, October 28 when clocks are returned to “standard time.” And, on that same weekend:

- Change all smoke detector batteries
- Test all smoke detectors
- Review your escape plan with everybody in the house.

Forgetting to set clocks back may create an embarrassing situation. Forgetting to practice home safety can cost a life. It only takes a few minutes to ensure that one of your first and best lines of defense is in top working condition. Need help? Call our Fire Prevention Division at 245-7555.



# FIREline

NEWS FROM THE MIDDLETOWN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT • FALL 2006 • VOLUME 6 ISSUE 2

## Annual Open House! *Fire House Fun*

Visit the Middletown Fire Protection District's Annual Open House! Saturday, October 14, 12 to 4pm. Station One on Urton Lane.

When the Fall winds begin to blow and leaves change color... When Jack-O-Lanterns appear on the doorstep and sweaters replace t-shirts... You know it is time for MFPD Open House! And just what is there to do?

- The first 150 families through the door will each receive a Kitchen Fire Safety Kit!
- Fire Trucks—Get in behind the wheel. Sit where firefighters sit. See what they experience as they race to emergencies.
- Fire Fighting Gear—Try on a helmet, coat, and boots. The gear is really fascinating.
- The Jaws of Life—Firefighters will demonstrate one of the most important tools needed for rescues from automobiles.

- Hose Work—How's your aim? Hold on! Can you hit a target with a stream of water charged to 150 pounds of pressure?
- Thermal Imaging Camera—Take a look through a special state-of-the-art camera that allows firefighters to literally see through smoke.

**The Louisville Fire Pipes and Drums will play at 2pm. Free Food! Hot Dogs, Soft Drinks, Chips. Free Fun! Visit [www.middletownfire.org](http://www.middletownfire.org) for more info.**

- Fire Safety Tattoos will be available for kids (and brave adults, too!)
- Kids, take the Jr. Firefighter Challenge! Run through a 6-event obstacle course that includes “The Tunnel,” “The Rescue Carry,” and putting out a “House Fire!”



### FIREline

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**The National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) wants to teach families and kids how to keep cooking fires from starting in the first place.**

Here are some fast facts and safety tips about cooking fires.

- Between 1999-2002, there were an average of 114,000 reported home fires associated with cooking equipment per year in the U.S., resulting in an annual 290 deaths and 4,380 injuries.
- Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home cooking fires.
- Three in 10 reported home fires start in the kitchen – more than any other place in the home.
- Two out of three reported home cooking fires start with the range or stove.
- Electric ranges or stoves have a higher risk of fires, injuries and property damage, compared to gas ranges or stoves, but gas ranges or stoves have a higher risk of fire deaths.

While the following tips can help you put out a small kitchen fire, never forget how dangerous fire can be.

If you are unable to put the fire out, get out of the house and call the fire department. When in doubt, get out!

- If you have a fire in your microwave, immediately turn the microwave off and keep the door closed. Never open the door until the fire is completely out. Unplug the appliance if you can safely reach the outlet.
- When cooking on the stove, always keep an oven mitt and a lid nearby. If a small grease fire starts in a pan, smother the flames by carefully sliding the lid over the pan (make sure you are wearing the oven mitt). Turn off the burner. To keep the fire from restarting, don't remove the lid until the pan is completely cool. Cover it, don't carry it!
- In case of an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed to prevent flames from burning you or your clothing.
- Keep a fire extinguisher in the kitchen in case of an emergency. Before an emergency occurs, make sure that you know what type of fire the extinguisher will put out and how it works.

For many more tips, fun games for the kids, and interesting (if not sobering) statistics, go to the MFPD website, [www.middletonfire.org](http://www.middletonfire.org), and click on the Fire Prevention Week link.

**211 – A New Help Line**

If you have an emergency and need assistance from the fire department, police, or EMS—dial 911. If you have a question about important services, community needs and civic involvement opportunities dial 211, the new help line provided by the Metro United Way. Dial 2-1-1 to talk with a trained counselor about:

- Basic Human Needs
- Employment Assistance
- Children, Youth and Families Services
- Support for Older Americans and Persons with Disabilities
- Volunteer Opportunities and Donations

This one call provides information to these important resources across the community, is completely confidential, available 24/7 and will keep the 911 system focused on emergency calls.



**Family Film Night**

**at the Middletown Firehouse!**

It's becoming an annual event! As in years past, firefighters will conduct a brief safety demonstration before showing a popular family holiday movie that will be projected on a big screen in the gymnasium. Popcorn and drinks will be provided (it wouldn't be a movie night without them!) Bring your own chairs, sleeping bags, or blankets for comfortable seating.

**Save the date!**  
**Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, 7 – 9:30pm, at Station One—Urton Lane!**  
**Please visit [www.middletonfire.org](http://www.middletonfire.org) after November 1<sup>st</sup> to get additional information or contact [ntaylor@mfpd.org](mailto:ntaylor@mfpd.org).**

**Loyal to the Cause...**

*by Chief Donald Brooks*



It was just a few short months ago that MFPD fire fighters and volunteers were stationed at roadblocks and going door-to-door to collect for the WHAS *Crusade for Children*. Their dedication was matched by your donations—coins, bills, checks that together totaled \$91,811.52! When your gifts and the gifts from around the region were all totaled the final amount was impressive: \$5,047,554! One hundred percent of all donations made during the Crusade will be distributed in Kentucky and Indiana through 181 grants that were awarded to 154 different agencies. Funds became available September 1. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of so many of our community's neediest children.

In the spirit of making a difference, I would like to invite you to share how the MFPD fire fighters may have made a difference for you or someone you know. Perhaps you remember something special that a fire fighter did when responding to your call for assistance. Did you hear how a MFPD fire fighter helped a friend or neighbor? I know the men and women that serve this community as volunteer and professional fire fighters are first rate individuals and together make a top notch team. Let me hear your story. Please email me at [dbrooks@mfpd.org](mailto:dbrooks@mfpd.org). I'll pass your kudos along—it will make a difference for them.

**Bet you never thought of doing this in just eight months...**

Join the MFPD as a volunteer fire fighter. Complete the training. Pass the tests. In about eight short months you'll be ready and qualified to spend the night (or day) at the fire station and roll on a call as a volunteer fire fighter. Train about one evening a week and a few weekends.

Interested? Call Sergeant Ron Maddux at 245-7555 for information about the next volunteer class.

