

MFD HOT eNEWS



Greetings:

The temperatures are warming up and people are enjoying the benefits of summer. As you indulge in your favorite summer activities please remember to be safe.

During the summer months grilling becomes a popular activity that brings fun and families together. When pulling out the grill this season take into consideration the City code states fire must be 15 feet from "combustible construction."

Grills should not be near siding, deck railings or under eaves and overhanging branches. The grill should be a safe distance from lawn games, play areas and people, too.

Also, before grilling make sure to dust off and thoroughly clean all equipment prior to use. Studies show that June and July are peak months for grill fires.

Have an enjoyable and fire-safe summer Milwaukee!

Sincerely,

Chief Mark Rohlfsing

Message From Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett

I would like to welcome the City of Milwaukee's 16th Fire Chief, Mark A. Rohlfsing, to our extraordinary fire department. Rohlfsing comes to the department with a vast knowledge of the fire service industry. He was the former fire chief for the Rapid City Department of Fire & Rescue in South Dakota for the last two years, and spent 25 years with the Omaha Fire Department in Nebraska.



I am confident in Chief Rohlfsing's ability to lead the department to continued success and to uphold the quality of service the residents of Milwaukee have come to expect. He possesses strong leadership skills and has a proven track record of implementing policies and changes that positively benefit an organization and its constituents.

Join me in welcoming Chief Rohlfsing to the Milwaukee Fire Department as he embarks on a journey to keep Milwaukee safe.

Sincerely,

Mayor Tom Barrett

Meet Milwaukee's New Fire Chief



On Monday, May 3, the Fire Chief Oath of Office Ceremony for Mark A. Rohlfsing took place at City Hall. Rohlfsing is the Milwaukee Fire Department's 16th fire chief and comes to the City with an impressive background. He has been in the fire service for 27 years and spent most of his firefighting career in his hometown Omaha, Nebraska. Most recently, he spent the last two years of his career as fire chief for the Rapid

City Department of Fire & Rescue in South Dakota. During his speech at the ceremony, Chief Rohlfsing said he believes in three basic principals pertaining to the fire service, 1) prepare, 2) prevent, and 3) protect.

Chief Rohlfsing holds a Master of Science degree in Executive Fire Leadership from Grand Canyon University, a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Nebraska-Kearney, and an Associate Degree in Fire Protection Technology from the University of Nebraska-Omaha.

He is also a graduate of the Executive Fire Program of the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland, with training in executive development, strategic management of change, executive administration and executive leadership. Chief Rohlfsing is a member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs, Metro Fire Chiefs, and the Wisconsin Fire Chiefs Association.

Chief Rohlfsing is married to Maureen Rohlfsing and the two have a teenage son named Ryan, and two college-aged daughters named Jordan and Kaitlin.

Congratulations to the personnel who were recognized at the Aurora St. Luke's EMS Awards Ceremony on May 14. The winners recognized with a plaque were:

In the Category of Leadership:

Fire Paramedic Field Lieutenant Linda Mattrisch

In the Category of Courage Under Fire:

Heavy Equipment Operator John Rechlitz
Lieutenant Joel Rechlitz
Battalion Chief Alonzo Chapman
Captain Aaron Lipski
Heavy Equipment Operator Paul Griffin
Firefighter Michael Drover
Firefighter Scott Stuble



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MFD Members Give Back to the Community

Five Milwaukee Fire Department teams, including, MFD Engine Company 8, MFD Engine Company 4 and Truck Company 3, MFD probationer team, and MFD Explorer Post #875 team 1 and 2, all participated in the American Lung Association Fight for Air Stair Climb, sponsored mainly in part by Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield. The fundraising event took place Saturday, March 20, at the US Bank building in downtown Milwaukee. The MFD had a total of 25 climbers that collectively raised \$4,430. In total \$239,361.75 was raised for the entire event.



The firefighters climbed 1034 steps in their full turnout gear to raise funds to support the American Lung Association mission of saving lives by improving lung health and preventing lung disease. There were a total of 19 firefighter teams from around the state that participated in the stair climb. The MFD teams took third, fifth and eighth place in the challenge. The MFD Explorer Post teams took 11th and 15th place.



Dona Wininsky, the director of public policy and communications for the American Lung Association in Wisconsin said, "Captain Aaron Lipski from Engine 8 served on the Fight for Air Climb planning committee and was responsible for recruiting many of the teams that participated in this year's firefighter challenge. His help was invaluable and appreciated beyond words."



MFD Battalion Chief, Alonzo Chapman, trained 48 middle school students at Notre Dame Middle School on what to do in the event of a disaster. The training was part of the Student Emergency Response Team (SERT) program and took place over a four-month period. During the training, the all-female student base met with Chief Chapman every Wednesday for two and a half hours to learn about hazardous materials, fire safety, how to treat EMS-related injuries, basic first aid and much more. The SERT program is modeled after the national program Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). It was implemented in the Milwaukee area to teach middle and high school students incident-management skills.

The SERT training concluded with a final mock exercise that took place Wednesday, May 12 at the school. The scenario was a natural disaster in which a tornado hit the middle school while the basketball team was practicing. All but 15 people got out the school safely. Those 15 people unaccounted for consisted of the basketball team and its coaches. The students set up an incident command system and divided into teams of six. The teams included EMS, search and rescue and triage. The goal was to locate the victims, remove them from the debris, determine their injuries and then notify all local agencies who would be involved with the incident.

"The students were intricately involved in the final exercise and treated it as a real event," said Battalion Chief Chapman. "The girls utilized everything they were taught throughout the four-month training and performed impressively under pressure."

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Firework Safety

Everyone loves fireworks! The excitement and emotions they stir up in children and adults alike create lasting memories during the Fourth of July season. However, fireworks can also cause tragic memories when people other than professional pyrotechnicians use them. To remain safe never use fireworks and instead enjoy them during public displays at your local park and other events.



Did you know (according to the National Fire Protection Association and the Consumer Product Safety Commission) that:

- approximately **30,100** fires are caused by fireworks each year.
- approximately **7,000** injuries were caused by fireworks in 2008.
- seven fireworks-related deaths occurred in 2008.
- the amount of direct property loss caused by fireworks was \$34 million.

Despite the fact that purchasing and using fireworks in the City of Milwaukee is illegal, distributors often sell fireworks near state borders. If someone is caught using fireworks in Milwaukee, he or she will be subject to a fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$1,000.



Volunteer Opportunities

Take Part in a Truly Rewarding Experience

Interfaith programs depend on volunteers to make its mission, vision and values possible. With your help we can make an incredible difference in the lives of over 16,000 older adults, caregivers and workers in the city.

Program Volunteers

- Opportunities located throughout Milwaukee County
- Various tasks available to suit adults of any age
- Numerous positions uniquely matched to personal interests & talents
- Flexible Commitment

A Variety of Ways to Get Involved:

Good Neighbor Project: Able-bodied volunteers of all ages assist with outdoor chores such as snow removal, lawn cutting and leaf raking.

Neighborhood Outreach: Neighborhood offices, located throughout Milwaukee County, depend upon volunteers of all ages to help provide practical assistance to help frail or isolated older adults remain living in their own homes.

RSVP Volunteer Program: RSVP invites people age 55 and better to volunteer at Milwaukee County non-profit agencies. Put your experience to work to meet your community's needs. Find a wide variety of opportunities to match your interests

Senior Centers: Five Senior Centers, located throughout Milwaukee County, depend upon adult volunteers to help provide assistance with recreational and educational opportunities geared toward diverse groups of older adults.

Volunteer Contact: Eddy Magnus; 414-220-8655; emagnus@interfaithmilw.org

MFD HOT eNEWS

A Job Well Done

June 5, 2010

To Those Who Care:

It was about 5:30 a.m., Tuesday, June 1, and I was feeling like I could be having a heart attack. I asked one of the Sisters to call 911. It was just a few minutes later when both firemen and policemen were at the door to care for me and then take me to St. Luke's Hospital.

This began as a frightening experience for me, but the wonderful response to 911, the kindness and care given by these men (I wish I knew their names and could thank each one personally, but I know that is impossible) can only fill my heart with gratitude for the wonderful men and women who respond to 911 calls.

I am most grateful to them and say "Thank you, God, for their service to me and to all who call them for help. God bless them and keep them safe! We need them and they need your help, God. Thank you, God!"

Again thanks to all who carry out God's loving care by responding to those who are in need. God love and bless you and hold you in HIS loving arms.

Gratefully,

Sister Rosalia Zachman

The MFD personnel who responded to assist Sister Rosalia Zachman that day are:

Engine 26

- Lieutenant Brett Michalowski
- Heavy Equipment Operator Brian Gruber
- Firefighter Gregory Barachy
- Firefighter Robert Grudzina

MED 3

- Acting Paramedic Field Lieutenant Dennis Kowalski
- Fire Paramedic Christopher Weaver

On behalf of everyone at the MFD, we thank each of you for a job well done.

June 1, 2010

Dear Chief Rohlfing:

On behalf of the citizens of Franklin and the Franklin Fire Department, I want to express my deepest appreciation for the assistance of your Dive Rescue Team on May 29, 2010 at a drowning in our city.

The tenacious effort made by your team in searching for the victim was not only impressive but demonstrated the commitment firefighters have to give all they have in situations like this.

Unfortunately, the outcome of this incident was not what we all wanted. However, all should know that everything possible was done. Please convey my thanks to Captain Ron Firnrrohr and Lieutenant John Guillen for their leadership and skills at such a difficult incident. They are a credit to themselves and the Milwaukee Fire Department.

Respectfully,

James Martins
Fire Chief
City of Franklin

CC: Honorable Mayor Tom Taylor
Chief of Police Richard Olivia

The MFD personnel who responded to assist Franklin with the drowning that day are:

- Captain Ronald Firnrrohr Jr.
- Lieutenant John Guillen
- Lieutenant Gilberto Gonzalez Jr.
- Heavy Equipment Operator Anthony Savagian
- Firefighter Thomas Pecoraro Jr.
- Fire Paramedic Joshua Hinsenkamp
- Firefighter Dennis Gross

On behalf of everyone at the MFD, we thank each of you for a job well done.



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Courage • Integrity • Honor

The Milwaukee Fire Department (MFD) is the primary fire suppression, prevention, rescue and emergency medical service for the City of Milwaukee. The department's motto is "Courage, Integrity and Honor." The MFD consists of approximately 1000 firefighters, many of which serve simultaneously as paramedics providing emergency medical services. The MFD is known as one of the best fire departments nationwide for its response times and quality services. **Check us out on the Web: www.milwaukee.gov/mfd Or Twitter: <http://twitter.com/MilFireDept>**

SUBMISSIONS

We welcome submissions to MFD Hot eNews on upcoming events, unique runs, stories pertaining to saving someone's life or property, our MFD heroes and heroines, and/or anything worthy of recognition.

MFD Hot eNews is produced quarterly and a means to broadcast the excellent work done by the Milwaukee Fire Department. If you have a story idea, please e-mail the Public Relations Manager, Tiffany Wynn, at ttwynn@milwaukee.gov. Thank you.

Milwaukee Fire Department • 711 West Wells • Milwaukee • WI • 53233 • 414-286-8948 • (fax) 414-286-8996

**YOU PUT OUT THE HEAT.
RYAN SENDS IT
OVER THE
OUTFIELD WALL.**

FIREFIGHTER AND PARAMEDIC DAYS!

**WED 7:10P THU 1:10P
8/11 8/12
SAVE 50% ON SELECT TICKETS!**

M vs. DIAMONDBACKS

Ryan Braun and the Brewers power hitters love to send fastballs flying out of the park. And you'll want to act fast to score the best seats with this special ticket offer. When the Brewers take on the Diamondbacks on August 11 and 12, firefighters across the state of Wisconsin and their families can SAVE 50% on tickets in select seating areas. Tickets for this offer will go on sale June 21. To order, please visit <http://bit.ly/c8i02w> for the 8/11 game, and <http://try.cc47khu> for the 8/12 game and use the password FIRETRUCK. Offer ends August 9, 2010. To order group tickets of 20 or more, please call Ivan Ignatowski at (414) 902-4492.

(414) 902-GAME BREWERS.COM

Recent MFD Promotions

The following promotion was effective May 30:

- Robert Bresette was promoted to lieutenant.

The following promotions become effective June 27:

- Michael Wright will be promoted to captain.
- Lanny Curtis will be promoted to lieutenant.
- Casey Kerwin will be promoted to lieutenant.

