

MFD HOT eNEWS



Seasons Greetings:

I would like to first wish everyone a happy and safe holiday this season. Over the past year, The Milwaukee Fire Department has experienced many changes. Changes that have helped propel our department to a higher level of firefighter and public safety.

As Acting Fire Chief of the Milwaukee Fire Department, I assure our members and the residents of Milwaukee that the protocols I put in place while leading the department will not negatively impact their safety and well-being. My top priorities are to protect the lives and property of the residents of our community while also ensuring the safety of our firefighters.

As we move into the new year, the department will change some of the ways we have operated in the past. Those changes will be consistent with both the adopted 2010 City Budget and our safety priorities. The Milwaukee Fire Department will continue to deliver the stellar service the City of Milwaukee residents expect and deserve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Jones".

Acting Chief Michael L. Jones

Message From Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett

I look forward to working with the Fire & Police Commission on the search for a new Fire Chief to lead the Milwaukee Fire Department. The department plays an important role in providing public safety, and I am proud that it is one of the best departments in the country. I am very proud of all that the Milwaukee Fire Department has accomplished this year, and am confident that the department will reach new heights in 2010.



I would like to ensure the men and women of the Milwaukee Fire Department, as well as the residents of the City, that the next Fire Chief will be a strong leader who uses strong judgment and has extensive experience working in fire service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Barrett".

Mayor Tom Barrett

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The Milwaukee Fire Department Kicked off the Annual Pink T-Shirt Fundraiser for Susan G. Komen



The Milwaukee Fire Department (MFD) kicked off the annual pink t-shirt fundraiser for the Susan G. Komen Milwaukee affiliate on October 1. The department joined the fight against breast cancer for the second consecutive year and sold pink t-shirts with the traditional MFD logo on the front, and "Fire & Rescue" on the back. The t-shirts were sold only in the month of October in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness month. All MFD members and the public were able

to purchase the t-shirts to help the local Komen affiliate fund breast health education, breast cancer screenings, and treatment programs. On-duty MFD members were also allowed to wear the pink t-shirts, in place of their approved t-shirts, every day during the month of October.

All net proceeds of the Pink T-Shirt Fundraiser will go to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Milwaukee affiliate. Last year the department raised \$27,256. The total raised this year is being tallied up and a check will be delivered to the Susan G. Komen Foundation in late January.

The Komen Milwaukee Affiliate began in 1999 to carry out the promise of the Susan G. Komen for the Cure® in Southeastern Wisconsin. Initially, a group of dedicated women had a desire to bring the Komen Milwaukee Race for the Cure® to the community. These breast cancer survivors, breast health professionals, and other women of vision spent countless hours making the race a reality in Milwaukee.

The Milwaukee Fire Department Raises Approximately \$40,000 for Local Veteran Jason M. Schulz through "Red Shirt Fridays" Fundraiser

The Milwaukee Fire Department (MFD) raised approximately \$40,000 through the sale of \$10 red t-shirts and donated all the proceeds to the Homes for Our Troops nonprofit organization. Homes for Our Troops is using the money toward building a handicapped-accessible home for local veteran Jason M. Schulz. In 2007, Schulz lost both of his legs in Iraq upon return from a vehicle recovery mission. The home will accommodate Schulz's needs and enable him to concentrate on his recovery. The home is expected to be completed in the beginning of 2010.



MFD Fire Captains Dan Lipski and Brian McNulty helped organize the department-wide Red T-Shirt fundraiser, and organized another fundraiser, along with 10 other firefighters, in which they raised \$10,000 for Homes for Our Troops.

The red t-shirts are still being sold at the following locations for \$10: Engine 30, 2903 N. Teutonia Avenue; Engine 28, 424 N. 30th Street; Engine 12, 1400 S. 9th Street; Engine 8, 5585 N. 69th Street; and the Local 215 Union office, 5625 W. Wisconsin Avenue.

All net proceeds will go to Homes For Our Troops nonprofit organization.

The MFD Kicked Off Fire Prevention Week at MillerCoors In Conjunction with the American Red Cross

On October 3, the Milwaukee Fire Department (MFD) kicked off Fire Prevention Week at MillerCoors in conjunction with the American Red Cross. The three entities teamed up to host a fire safety and prevention event for residents living in the area surrounding MillerCoors. At the event, participants received free smoke detectors, and were given the option to sign up for a free fire safety evaluation of their property to identify specific fire hazards. The evaluations were conducted by the Milwaukee Fire Department as an extension of Project FOCUS, a fire prevention program conducted twice a year by firefighters who target a neighborhood and conduct a door-to-door campaign to educate residents on fire safety and prevention. The Department of Neighborhood Services assisted the MFD in evaluating the homes.



The fire safety event also featured food and a children's area including coloring books and crayons, games, and the MFD mobile Survive Alive House. Participants also received fire safety and prevention literature, spoke with firefighters, and were given free MillerCoors tours.

According to research conducted by the American Red Cross, in the past three years there were 217 residential fires in the neighborhoods surrounding MillerCoors. As a result, the American Red Cross provided food, clothing, shelter, health, and mental health services to 646 individuals who were in need of the services. The agency spent \$104,616 in direct assistance to these clients.

Milwaukee Firefighters Demonstrate Cooking Skills at Milwaukee Public Market



The Milwaukee Fire Department firefighters held an eventful cooking class, resulting in mouth-watering food items, at The Milwaukee Public Market, Thursday, December 3. The class, titled "Firehouse Favorites," featured our local heroes who cooked a variety of foods such as Chicken Squares,



increasing local and national attention to the devastating impact breast cancer has in the African-American community.

Salmon Sausage, Homemade Biscuits and Gravy, Muffaletta Sandwiches, Chicken Quesadillas, and Cowboy Beans. The cost for the class was \$19 and approximately 50 people attended. A portion of the proceeds, \$200, was donated to the Milwaukee chapter of the Sisters Network, an organization committed to



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WISN 12 Visits Engine 9 & MED 4 on Thanksgiving Day as They Collectively Prepare a Feast

On Thanksgiving Day, WISN Reporter Nick Bohr visited Engine 9 & MED 4 as the crew collectively prepared a feast. Bohr was interested in doing a feature on firefighters working and cooking on Thanksgiving Day. The piece turned out magnificent as well as the food. The crew of Engine 9 & MED 4 ate good that day having prepared everything from grilled turkey to chit-terlings to delectable desserts.



MFD Firefighters Ring Bells for Salvation Army in Firefighting Gear for 2nd Consecutive Year



Off-duty firefighters from Engine 8 and Truck 3 volunteered their time to help the Salvation Army with its Red Kettle Campaign on Black Friday for the second consecutive year. The firefighters rang bells at the Walmart Supercenter in Germantown from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in their turnout gear to help raise funds for the increased number of hungry and needy families in Milwaukee.

Last year, the team of firefighters from Engine 8 rang bells for the campaign at the same location and set a record for the most money raised in a 5-hour time period. The crew of four raised over \$1000. This year they were looking to beat that record and they did by raising approximately \$2000.

Thank you for volunteering your time to a worthy cause!



Another Crew of MFD Firefighters Volunteer Their Time to Salvation Army



The crews of Engine 9 and MED 4 volunteered their time, off-duty, to help the Salvation Army with its 2009 Red Kettle Campaign for the first time. The firefighters were compelled to ring bells in their turnout gear after seeing the success their colleagues achieved on Black Friday. They raised \$611.43. For the last two hours of the fundraiser FOX6 News Anchor Beverly Taylor came out and helped firefighters with their efforts.

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A Job Well Done

December 9, 2009

Acting Chief Michael Jones:

I'm writing this letter in hopes that you'll be able to put a letter of recognition on file for one of your employees, namely Jarod Kimber, MED 19.

On Sunday, June 28, 2009, I was at the YMCA South Shore as Jarod Kimber was, an off-duty EMT, which turned out to be a blessing. As we were in the locker room talking, I had mentioned to Jarod I thought I pulled a muscle in my chest a few days prior. Jarod began to question me about when this happened and how I felt. Then he informed me to go to the hospital at once. I said it wasn't necessary, but he insisted, following me in his own car and seeing to it that I had immediate care in the emergency room. Needless to say not only was I admitted to St Luke's South Shore Hospital, I was then transferred by ambulance to St. Luke's Hospital on South 27th and Oklahoma. On July 3, 2009 I had double bypass surgery. Two of my arteries were blocked; one 100 percent and the other 70 percent. Had I not gone to the hospital that day, I wouldn't be writing this letter.

Jarod literally saved my life. The doctors told me if I had a heart attack it would have been fatal. It took me awhile to write because I had to find out Jarod's last name and MED number.

I'm totally on my way to a complete recovery thanks to Jarod. I'm quite stubborn. Had he not insisted I seek help, I'm without doubt that I wouldn't be here today.

My family and myself are forever grateful for this act of kindness on Jarod's part. With all the negativity going on in this world it's truly a blessing when someone gives of themselves to others.

I obviously will never be able to thank him enough, but I thought this letter of gratitude might help to get him some kind of recognition for making a difference in someone's life, namely myself.

Sincerely,

David K. Bohren



December 7, 2009

Dear Acting Chief Jones:

On the morning of Friday, November 6, 2009, our family experienced a near-tragedy. Our family patriarch, Deputy Chief (retired) Daniel F. Lipski collapsed in his kitchen and a call was placed to 911. Engine Company 22 and Paramedic Unit 13 responded and arrived within minutes of the call.

The care rendered and the professionalism displayed throughout this emergency response are worthy of recognition. All of the firefighters involved worked to assess, treat and transport my grandfather in short order.

Especially deserving of recognition is Peter Anderson, who was the Acting Paramedic Lieutenant on MED 13. He quickly ascertained that what was likely occurring was a stroke and suggested that we allow them to transport to Froedtert instead of St Joseph's, as my grandmother wanted. His reasoning was that Froedtert was much better equipped to handle neurological emergencies. He very calmly and politely explained this to my grandmother, who was understandably distraught.

As it turned out, Froedtert was the answer to our prayers. Their performance was nothing short of miraculous as they aggressively targeted and removed the clot causing the stroke. The equipment used and the skills needed to deploy it are not presently available at any hospital other than Froedtert. I credit the firefighters and especially Peter Anderson with saving my grandfather's life and most definitely improving his chances at regaining some normalcy.

Please pass along our entire family's gratitude and appreciation for a job well done. The members involved were:

Engine Company 22:

- Captain Brian O'Connor
- Heavy Equipment Operator Nate Valley
- Firefighter Zayid Shakoor
- Firefighter Thomas Herpel

Paramedic Unit 13:

- Acting Paramedic Lieutenant Peter Anderson
- Heavy Equipment Operator/Paramedic Gregory Miller

Sincerely,

Captain Aaron Lipski
(on behalf of the entire Lipski Family)

MFD HOT eNEWS



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." MFD consists of approximately 1000 firefighters, many of which serve simultaneously as paramedics providing emergency medical services. 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

Chief Douglas A. Holton Retires From Milwaukee Fire Department

Chief Douglas A. Holton announced on October 14 that he was retiring from the Milwaukee Fire Department after 32 years of firefighting service. His last official day was November 28, 2009.

Chief Holton joined the Milwaukee Fire Department on January 9, 1978. He successfully advanced through the ranks of the Milwaukee Fire Department over a 25-year period, serving as Deputy Chief of Fire Operations, Deputy Chief of Instruction and Training, Deputy Chief of Construction and Maintenance, Battalion Chief, Captain, Lieutenant, and Firefighter.

In 2003, Chief Holton left the Milwaukee Fire Department to become the first African-American chief of the St. Paul Fire Department. After a successful three-year stint in St. Paul, Chief Holton returned to the city of Milwaukee, where he was sworn in as the first African-American chief of the Milwaukee Fire Department on June 4, 2007.



Although Chief Holton officially retired from firefighting, he has continued to be actively involved in educating future leaders in various public safety professions in both the City of Milwaukee and throughout the state of Wisconsin.

On Dec. 1, Chief Holton began serving as the Associate Dean of Human and Protective Services at Madison Area Technical College, which has one of the largest fire and police training programs in the state of Wisconsin.

Chief Holton's vision, coupled with his action, is the result of many positive changes within the Milwaukee Fire Department. With gratitude, the MFD says thank you for your leadership and wish you much success in your future endeavors.