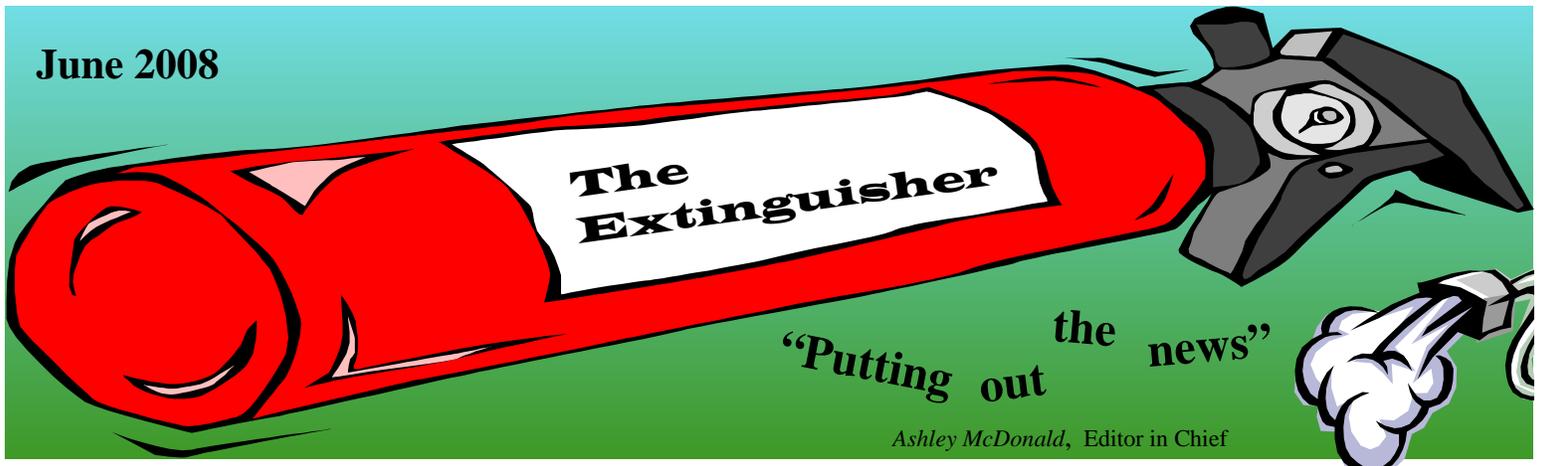


June 2008



Ashley McDonald, Editor in Chief



Birthdays

6/2 Tim Rowlett

6/2 Allen Swader

6/5 Killy Bins, Sr.

6/7 Clay Malone

6/11 Jonathan Gaither

6/13 James O'Brien

6/13 Dustin Liddell

6/16 Jerry McGregor

6/16 James White

6/19 John Avaritt

6/19 Randy Shaw

6/20 Jeff Irvin

6/23 Raleigh Marlin

6/24 Joe Pennington

6/27 Mark Brewer

6/28 Mike Meeks

6/28 Troy Gannon

2009 WORLD POLICE & FIRE GAMES

The World Police & Fire Games were started in 1985 by the World Police and Fire Games Federation, a non-profit organization run by the Californian Police Athletics Federation.

These games allow police officers, firefighters, and other public safety officers the chance to show off their athletic skills in over 60 sporting events. (i.e. Archery, Basketball, Darts, Golf, Karate, Ice Hockey, Paintball, Swimming, Skeet, Soccer, Tennis, Track & Field, Ultimate Firefighter, and many more)

The 2009 World Police & Fire Games will be held in British Columbia, Canada July 31-August 9, 2009.



For more information, please visit the website:

www.2009wpfg.ca

MFD HIRES 12



Photo by: TC Vinson

The 12 new firefighters began work on May 27, 2008. They are (from left): Kernie Cothran, Jason Norris, Jonathan Parsons, Darrell Cotton, Killy Bins, Sr., Jonathan Gaither, William Durkin, Robert Odom, Jeremy Morris, Sean Wheeler, Zach Fleenor, and Joshua Parsons.

FIREFIGHTER OF THE MONTH: VINSON



Training Coordinator Billy Vinson has been selected as the Murfreesboro Fire Department's Firefighter of the Month for May 2008 due to his anniversary date. In May, Vinson reached 34 years of service. The retirement of Shift Commander Jerry Stone, moved Vinson into the top seniority position. Thank you, Training Coordinator Vinson, for all your years of service.



TOYLIKE AND NOVELTY LIGHTER BAN

U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATION

According to the U.S. Fire Administration, Arson Awareness Week was May 4-10, 2008. The theme for this year's week was "Toylike Lighters-Playing with Fire." The goal of this year's Arson Awareness Week was to focus public attention on the dangers of toylike or novelty lighters in the hands of children.

Toylike or novelty lighters have been responsible for injuries, death, and accidents across the Nation. Children are attracted to novelty lighters because they look like toys. Many of these lighters look like animals, miniature cars, mobile phones, cameras, fishing lures, stacks of coins, markers, and doll accessories. One lighter is nearly identical to the popular rubber ducky bath toy- it even quacks! There are also toylike and novelty lighters that look like tools such as tape measures, drills, hammers, and paint brushes. Ironically, there are even lighters that mimic a dalmation donning a fire helmet, a red fire truck, or fire extinguishers.

CHILDREN KILLED AND INJURED

Mistaking lighters for toys has proved to be deadly: on September 25, 2007, 15-month-old Peyton Edwards and 2-year-old Breydon Edwards of Russellville, Arkansas died after setting fire to their apartment with a motorcycle shaped lighter.

Shane St. Pierre was in a grocery store in Livermore, Maine last June with his mother buying sandwiches. Thinking it might be a flashlight, the 6-year-old picked up a miniature baseball bat and flicked the switch. A flame shot out, singeing his eyebrow and burning part of his face. His father, Norm St. Pierre, a fire chief in nearby West Paris, became an advocate for a ban on toylike and novelty lighters. Maine passed a ban on toylike lighters on March 14, 2008.

Children are not the only ones fooled by novelty lighters. Beaverton, Michigan resident, Laura Fowler, purchased a novelty lighter for her 4-year-old child after mistaking it for a toy. In 2006, a South Carolina woman shot herself in the hand while attempting to light a cigarette with what she thought was a pistol-shaped novelty lighter.

A fire marshal in Wisconsin was making a purchase at a local home improvement store when his 12-year-old daughter picked up what she believed was a tape measure. When she clicked the button on the tape measure, a flame came out. Fortunately, the child was not hurt and the store owner voluntarily stopped selling the lighters.

In North Carolina, a 6-year-old boy sustained second degree burns after playing with a lighter that looked like a toy cell phone. In Maryland, playground equipment was set on fire by three 5-year-old girls using a gun-shaped lighter. In Oregon, one child died and another was permanently brain damaged after a 6-year-old was playing with a lighter that looked like a toy dolphin and started a fire. In another incident, a mother was severely burned after her child, playing with a lighter that resembled a Christmas tree, ignited the mother's bed.

TOYLIKE AND NOVELTY LIGHTER LEGISLATION

Some local and state governments are taking action by banning the sale of toylike and novelty lighters and limiting their distribution. Maine was the first state to pass the ban on March 14, 2008. Tennessee also passed a ban in April 2008. Other states considering bans are Alabama, Connecticut, Iowa, Michigan, Ohio, Oregon, and Vermont. In addition to state bans and restrictions on the sale of toylike and novelty lighters, numerous local jurisdictions have passed ordinances. These include more than 19 jurisdictions in Arkansas, another 6 in California, and Yakima County in Washington State.

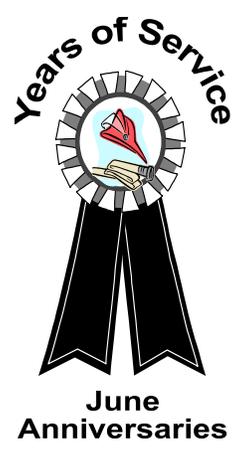
Source:

U.S. Fire Administration. 2008. Emmitsburg, MD. 13 May 2008. <<https://www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice>>



*"Boy with Pig Lighter" and "Rubber Ducks" photos were taken by Tim O'Dowd. All others were courtesy of Oregon State Police and Oregon Office of the State Fire Marshal. All pictures were taken from the Media Kit for Arson Awareness Week, created by the U.S. Fire Administration.

"BELIEVE IN YOURSELF. YOU MUST DO THAT WHICH YOU THINK YOU CANNOT."
-ELEANOR ROOSEVELT



23 YEARS
Sam Benford
Keith Bratcher

18 YEARS
Jeff Bratcher
Steve Melton
Troy Gannon
Ted Pertiller
Keith Elrod
Guy Matthews
Allen Swader
Tim Swann
Ronnie Nobles
Eugene Todd

14 YEARS
Bobby Canterbury
Gary Hutchinson
Nora Smith

9 YEARS
Israel Marcella
Greg Robinson

7 YEARS
Brian Lowe
Mike Meeks

5 YEARS
David Bricker
James White
Mitchell Whittenburg
Kyle Winnett
Ray Robinson
Davey Ferrell
Kenny McFarland

4 YEARS
Joel Patnode
Carl Daigle
Mark Brewer