



## Kentucky Firefighters Association

# SMOKE SIGNALS II

May 2016

Volume 21.3

## State Fire School

**LEXINGTON** - Firefighters from around the state are gearing up for the 87th Annual Kentucky State Fire School June 1-5, 2016. There are a number of courses being offered and many activities during the week.

The exhibit and vendor showcase is the largest display in Kentucky. Grab something to eat while taking in the exhibits at the free cookout. New this year is the 1st Annual Fire Truck Pull, get a team ready for this friendly competition. See you there!

*BELOW: President Jeff Pohlman proudly displays SB 195 "The Cancer Bill" after it was officially made law. He was joined by firefighters from across the state to celebrate this achievement.*



**SOUTHGATE** - The Kentucky Firefighters Association would like to dedicate this issue of Smoke Signals II to Monica Rath, our KFA Secretary. As many of you know Monica passed away after a long battle with Cancer.

Monica was 42 years old and served as a firefighter for 22 years. She leaves behind her husband Steve Rath and their children, Chelsie, Michael, Andrew, and Allen (Donnie.) We would like to thank her for her many years of service to the KFA and send our prayers to her family.

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## From President Jeffrey Pohlman

Greetings from Northern Kentucky! Warm weather is finally upon us and I am looking forward to a great spring and summer. It's Opening Day (Reds) as I write this article, which is like a Holiday here in the Cincinnati metro area. I can smell the hot dogs, brats and hamburgers on the grills! Play ball!!

It is with a heavy heart that I write this month's article. As you all know we lost our wonderful Secretary Monica Rath on Wednesday March 9<sup>th</sup>. Monica was not only OUR Secretary, but a close friend to Dottie and me. I can remember first meeting her in the early 1990's when Monica did her "ride time" as an EMT student when I was working at Newport FD.

Our paths crossed a lot over the years as many of my friends were Southgate Firefighters. Little did I realize that one day she would be Secretary of the KFA the same time as I was President. Monica and I were definitely on the same page when it came to the KFA. We spent a lot of time together driving to meetings, KFA functions, and LODD's. As we drove, we discussed much KFA business on what was working and what was not! She talked proudly about her family and trust me, it is a big family! When Dottie was with us, it was "girls talk" and I just drove!!

We will truly miss her and she leaves a great void in our organization. I can assure you she would be the first to tell us to get on with the business! She was very active in our upcoming KFA 2016 conference and she was looking very much forward to it. I can tell you and I am not surprised, she already has a lot of the paperwork ready for the conference! I, along with Southgate Chief John Beatsch (Chairman of the Hall of Fame Committee) were extremely honored in presenting Monica with her Hall of Fame induction the day before she passed. She will not be forgotten!

As I enter my 9<sup>th</sup> month as President, I continue

my busy schedule as your President representing the KFA at different functions. As you know, this has been a very busy Legislative Session. The Cancer Bill has passed and we are awaiting the Governor's signature. I was honored to be in the Gallery the day of the Cancer Bill's passing, sitting with Steve Rath and Wayne Watson (Monica's husband and father) as they were acknowledged by the House of Representatives.

As of this writing, we are still awaiting word if the budget passed which contains the increase in Incentive Pay and State Aid. My thanks to Howdy and Steve, along with Joe Baer, Chris Bartley, and Jack Reckner. These guys were constantly working the halls to assure our voices were heard. I also want to thank the many firefighters of this great Commonwealth who took the time to email or call YOUR Legislators when our voices needed to be heard. Without YOUR assistance, these bills may not have moved forward as they did.

State Fire School is quickly approaching and I have attended monthly meetings all year to assure all is ready. This is lining up to be another great fire school and without the great assistance of many organizations, this school would not happen. For the many years I attended fire school, I didn't have a clue what all transpired behind the scenes. A lot of time and effort by many people is put forth to assure YOU have a "top notch" fire school to attend. Register early and please make sure you attend the opening session and vendor hall on Friday June 3. The KFA Executive Board meeting will be held on Saturday June 4<sup>th</sup>, so feel free to stop by. We hope to see you all at Fire School!

And finally, our KFA 2016 conference committee is finalizing the 2016 KFA conference in Covington on the riverfront. The tentative schedule is out (in this edition) and we have two great speakers for our Saturday morning training sessions. In the morning session, Michelle Gay will be speaking about the Sandy Hook School incident where she tragically lost a child. Michelle speaks at venues across the country and with our emphasis on the SAVE programs, this will be a very educational seminar.

See **Jeff** / page 3

**Jeff***From Page 2*

Our afternoon session will be Firehouse Editor and Northern Kentucky's own Tim Sendelbach. Tim is a very dynamic speaker and has come a long way from his Southgate/Wilder days. Saturday evening will feature the Olympics and food will be served! The Fire Commission meeting will be on Sunday morning and shortly after will be the Memorial Service at the Convention Center.

Golfing will be Sunday afternoon. This is a change from previous conferences so make sure you note the change. Monday morning will be the opening ceremonies and meetings to follow. Sunday and Monday evenings will have activities on the Newport Riverfront. So please make arrangements and bring your families!

There will be lots to do here in Northern Kentucky!! Please visit [KFA2016.com](http://KFA2016.com) to make your reservations before the rooms sell out! On line registration is available at the above web site.

Thanks to all Kentucky Firefighters for their hard work and dedication and please have a safe and great summer!

*Jeffery H. Pohlman*

KFA President



From 1st  
Vice President  
**Billy Selvage**

First, I would like to send my prayers to the family and friends of Monica Rath. Not only was Monica a big part of the Southgate Fire Department, she was a very big part of the KFA. She will be missed but not forgotten.

As summer fast approaches we must remember to prepare for the elements that affect our personnel while they are performing their duties. In 2014 the

NFPA reported that 56% of firefighter deaths by nature of injury were caused by sudden cardiac death, directly linked to overexertion and stress. The chances of this occurring goes up during summer months when incidents occur during extreme heat. Please take proper steps to prepare for rehab at your incidents.

There are several training opportunities coming up this Spring and Summer. The Eastern Kentucky Firefighters Association will host their annual Spring Fire School in Louisa at the end of April. In May you can attend the Daniel Boone Regional Fire School. Then, the Kentucky State Fire School in Lexington the first of June. Many opportunities around the state, please take advantage of these opportunities.

Don't forget to plan on attending the 2016 KFA Conference this year in Northern Kentucky. It's never too early to make your reservations. Hope to see many of you around the state this spring and summer. Keep up the great work!!

*Billy Selvage*

1st Vice President



From 3rd  
Vice President  
**Pat Thompson**

There are many exciting things happening around the state in the fire service. I know President Pohlman and others have already covered most of them, so let me take a couple of minutes to cover a few things.

Several fire schools have been completed in the first several months of the year and have been extremely successful. The Jackson Purchase Association just finished their annual multitude of

*See **Pat** / page 4*



**Pat***From Page 3*

classroom and hands-on sessions over a 3 day weekend.

The Green River Bryant Stiles Officers School was held in Owensboro in late February with nearly 1,000 students attending the 3 day lecture oriented school. The new location and hotels were awesome and even mother nature cooperated with some beautiful weather.

Schools across the state take a lot of time and preparation to be successful. Your department can do their part and assist these associations by reviewing the brochures and registering early to assure that classes are not cancelled and the school remains viable.

Please continue to support these endeavors and make recommendations to the leadership of the individual associations for them to attempt to provide those needed classes.

Please be safe in your response and training!

*Pat Thompson*

3rd Vice President



**FRANKFORT** - Before I write this newsletter article I pause to say a prayer and ask that everyone say a prayer for the members of Monica Rath's family. This has been trying times for her family. We must remember her as a member of our firefighter family and the contributions that she made to the KFA.

The 2016 Legislative session began slow as many have and nothing moved until after the filing deadline. If the legislative session would start after that time we could accomplish more! That is a discussion for another time. After the special elections held in early March many pieces of legislation began to move and as it turned out this could be one of the most successful sessions that we have had in many years or perhaps ever.

As of April 15, 2016 a budget has been passed. The language in the current budget remains the same for both the House and the Senate and is great for the fire service of Kentucky. In the current budget there is an increase to incentive pay for career firefighters from \$3,100 to \$4,000 per year. There is also an increase in the state-aid program from \$8,250 to \$11,000 for volunteer fire departments. This is the first time there has been an increase to both funds since before 2000.

With these changes in the current budget we will have to be diligent, working with Legislators to ensure these increases remain in future budgets. During the 2017 short session we will do our best to make changes in the language of KRS95A to continue these increases in the future. Here is a list of legislation that affected the fire service;

### **Senate Bills**

**SB 43** – Provides for the death benefits for the survivors of an “emergency medical service personnel” who are killed in the line of duty. -

[Signed by the Governor.](#)

**SB 195** – Creates a presumption of a death in the line of duty and eligibility for the death benefit for firefighters who obtain certain types of cancer. Must be a firefighter for 5 years and not used tobacco for 10 years. - [Became Law without the Governor's signature.](#)

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## Legislative

From Page 4

**SB 203** – This bill is what we called the Malcolm Jenkins Bill. Provides for the spouse of a hazardous member to receive the pension benefits that are owed to them while they appeal the board's decision that was denied of death in the line of duty. – [Signed by the Governor.](#)

**SB 232** – Taxing district legislation to remove the cap. – [Did not pass.](#)

**SB 249** – Excludes all fire departments who's annual income is \$100,000 or less from the requirements of a special purpose government entity under KRS 65A.010. Will now report to the Fire Commission – [Signed by Governor.](#)

## House Bills

**HB 153** – provides for a change to the retirement language to the retirement legislation KRS 61.510 and 78.510 so that anyone retiring can still be a volunteer firefighter and receive their pension benefit that they should receive. – [Signed by Governor.](#)

**HB 215** – would have changed language to the insurance surcharge program that would have required that the legislature only can change the rate of the surcharge. This bill we opposed and stopped on March 25<sup>th</sup>. – [Failed. Bill pulled from consent. Did not pass.](#)

**HB 343** – legislation to provide that fire districts cannot be taken over from one fire district to another without an agreement. – [Signed by Governor.](#)

**HB 473** - Caps the required training that the Commission can set at the current levels. 400 Hrs. and 100 Hrs. for paid to receive incentive pay and 150 Hrs. and 20 Hrs. for the volunteer fire departments to receive state aid. – [Signed by Governor.](#)

Just a note on HB 215 this legislation would have changed who the surcharge rate is set basically

stopping all increases in the future. We have fought every year to stop this type of legislation because the fund could be reduced or if we have an unforeseen expense it can now be set higher or lower. This session they tried to slide this into another committee that passed it to the floor but we stopped it on the last day of the regular session. We have to keep watching for it to show up again in another year!

I want to thank Joe Baer, Ronnie Day, Bruce Roberts, Bryan O'Neill, Chris Bartley, Jack Recknor and Steve Rath for all of the time and work they put in during the session for the endless hours in Frankfort. It is their dedication and commitment to this process that allows us to move forward. A special thank you to Gerald Stuart who monitored activity daily to make sure nothing was missed.

Again, I want to thank all those who made the calls or came to Frankfort. You being there made the difference in passing legislation. Legislators listen to you not lobbyist!

Remember, keep Monica's family in your prayers!

*Howdy*

Legislative Committee



**ABOVE:** Steve Rath and family in Frankfort with Secretary of State Alison Grimes for the signing of (SB 195) the Cancer Bill.

## 2016 EASTERN KENTUCKY FIRE SCHOOL



**LOUISA** - The 2016 Eastern Kentucky Spring Fire School begins April 29th through May 1st at the Lawrence Co. Middle School located in Louisa Kentucky. With more than 11 courses being

offered including a live burn, it's sure to be another fantastic fire school. A cookout will be held Saturday night at the Louisa Fire Department. You can pre-register at [www.sfrt19.com](http://www.sfrt19.com)

## 2016 DANIEL BOONE FIRE SCHOOL



**MOREHEAD** - The 2016 Daniel Boone Fire School will be held at the Rowan County Middle School in Morehead. Courses range from Hard to Get Hours to Swift water Rescue. Courses start May 20th through May 22, 2016. You can find

more information and register at [www.sfrt9.com](http://www.sfrt9.com) Friday evening classes start at 6pm. The Friday EMT continuing education class will start at 1pm.

## From Steve Sheets KFA Regional Director



As the 2016 Dixie fire school ended we were very pleased with the showing of 650 plus students. We are now in our summer meeting schedule where we meet every other month. Our next meeting will be in May at Hew Haven / Rolling Fork FD located at 362 East Center Street, New Haven, KY 40051. The meeting starts at 7 PM and everyone is welcome.

We now have a new coordinator for Area Five. Russell ( Rusty ) Todd took over in March.

*Steve Sheets*



LifeSaver



[www.lifesaver-app.com](http://www.lifesaver-app.com)

STOPS TEXTING  
WHILE DRIVING

FREE

Because  
"We Care"

Visit us: [www.kyfa.org](http://www.kyfa.org)



# FIRE PREVENTION CALENDAR

## Fundraising and Safety Awareness in communities for over 60 years.

**SCIOTO TWP. - OSTRANDER FIRE DEPT.**  
*Community Birthday Calendar*

Fire or Emergency 911  
OUR 51st ISSUE  
Business Phone 740/666-2121

**2015 FIRE PREVENTION WEEK**  
Have the BBQ Where you SLEEP  
"Every bed room needs a working smoke alarm"  
OCTOBER 4 - 10

**WINTER STREET GALLERY**  
Landscape painting studio and gallery  
415 S. Main St., Ste. 100  
Scioto Township, OH 45783  
Phone: 740-666-2121

**BOYD'S Goodyear Tire & Service Center**  
GoodYear  
415 S. Main St., Ste. 100  
Scioto Township, OH 45783  
Phone: 740-666-2121

**ROBINSON FUNERAL HOME**  
415 S. Main St.  
Scioto, Ohio

**LIBERTY DIE CAST**  
Scioto, Ohio

**BLACK WING**  
415 S. Main St.  
Scioto, Ohio

**BUCKEYE BATTERY CO.**  
415 S. Main St.  
Scioto, Ohio

**SMITH DISTRIBUTING**  
415 S. Main St.  
Scioto, Ohio

**OSTRANDER IMPLEMENT**  
415 S. Main St.  
Scioto, Ohio

**JOHN REGULA SALES MANAGEMENT**  
415 S. Main St.  
Scioto, Ohio

**Farrell**  
415 S. Main St.  
Scioto, Ohio

**OCTOBER 2016**  
Calendar grid showing dates and events for October 2016.

**Fire Prevention Week**  
October 4-10, 2016

**Fire Safety Facts**  
Fire is a leading cause of death and property loss. Fire prevention is the best way to protect your family and community.

**Fire Prevention Week**  
October 4-10, 2016

**Fire Safety Facts**  
Fire is a leading cause of death and property loss. Fire prevention is the best way to protect your family and community.

"This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and it focuses on selling ads to businesses rather than collecting money from families. I am impressed with GBC's customer service year in and year out."

Bill, Evansville Fire District



**1.800.531.1484**  
Chia Menchen  
sales@gordonbernard.com  
www.gordonbernard.com  
Facebook.com/gbccalendars



**FUNDRAISING CALENDARS**  
SINCE 1949

**EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

**Principles of Modern Fire Attack**  
Maysville - May 14, 2016

**The Nozzle Forward**  
Middletown - May 18-19, 2016

**Daniel Boone Regional Fire School**  
Morehead - May 20-22, 2016

**Intelligence Liaison Officer Training**  
Frankfort - May 25, 2016

**State Fire School**  
Lexington - May 31/June 5, 2016

**Intelligence Liaison Officer Training**  
Ashland - June 8-9, 2016

**Honor Guard Academy**  
Madison Township, Ohio - June 12-17, 2016

**The Art of Reading Smoke**  
Murray - August 27, 2016

**Pike County Fire School**  
Pikeville - September 9-11, 2016

**Jefferson County Fire School**  
Louisville - September 15-18, 2016

**SKFA fall Fire School**  
Corbin - October 14-16, 2016

**Buffalo Trace Fire School**  
Maysville - October 21-23, 2016

**CPAT Testing Schedule**

If you are interested in testing please contact Rick Larkins, CPAT Director email [rick.larkin@kyfa.org](mailto:rick.larkin@kyfa.org). We have two fixed testing sites one in Louisville, KY and the other in Winchester KY.

**Testing Dates For 2016**

**Louisville** Area 5 & 6 (Open) \* Eastern Time

April 7th / 6 PM - Orientation (Mandatory)  
 April 28th / 6 PM - 1st Practice  
 May 12th / 6 PM - 2nd Practice  
 May 26th / 6 PM - Final Test

**Glasgow** Area 4 - \* Central Time

May 21st / 8 AM - Orientation (Mandatory)  
 June 18th / 8 AM - 1st Practice  
 June 25th / 8 AM - 2nd Practice  
 July 9th / 8 AM - Final Test

**Somerset** Area 13/14 - \* Eastern Time

June 1st / 8 AM - Orientation (Mandatory)  
 June 22nd / 8 AM - 1st Practice  
 July 6th / 8 AM - 2nd Practice  
 July 20th / 8 AM - Final Test





## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES



### 2016 IFSAC SKILLS TESTING SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Phone</u>
5/ 14-15	3	Owensboro	888-306-8105
7/ 23-24	7	Burlington	888-306-8101
8/ 13-14	13	Corbin	888-234-0100
9/ 30 10/ 01	2	Princeton	888-306-7986
10/ 8-9	14	TBA	606-219-2243
11/ 5-6	6	Middletown	888-306-8064
11/ 12-13	12	Hazard	888-234-6759

### Testing within the Kentucky Accredited Certification Program

All Kentucky firefighter certifications that carry IFSAC accredited credentials, require the candidate to complete both a written examination and a skill competency evaluation. The written portion of the process is usually arranged by the lead instructor of class-based certification, such as Level 1 Fire Instructor. Written exams are also available through the offices of State Fire Rescue Training, by contacting the Area Coordinator of the office nearest you. You can locate that information on our website [www.kyfa.org](http://www.kyfa.org)

Additionally, you may check with your area offices for monthly test dates for written exams. Written exams require 70% to achieve a passing grade. Exams are mostly multiple choice questions, with a few True/False and Matching questions. Exams carry a completion time limit.

Skills testing for FF 1 and 2 is a random sampling of all possible skills in each certification level. There are multiple skill possibilities at each station, however the candidate will only be required to perform 1 skill at each station. 2015 policy changes in the Kentucky process require **ten (10) skill stations** to be completed by the candidate for FF1 with 100% competency. FF2 testing will consist of **six (6) skill stations** with a required 100% competency. Hazardous Materials Operations PPE and Product Control (NFPA 472:2013 Chapters 5, 6.2 and 6.6) are required pre-requisites for firefighter certification. **Four (4) Haz Mat skill stations** will be offered on the same test day as FF2 for the benefit of those needing the required certification.

Candidates are now required to test FF2 skills with Haz Mat. Candidates needing ONLY Haz Mat Operations must test following an organized course of the subject matter OR a scheduled skills test session that consists of ALL Haz Mat Operations (NFPA 472:2013 Chap 5) Ops Product Control (NFPA 472:2013 Chap 6.6) and Haz Mat PPE (NFPA 472:2013 Chap 6.2)

Testing requires the use of PPE, therefore candidates for testing are required to bring full PPE and SCBA. Each test day will expose the candidate to potential IDLH atmospheres with live-fire scenarios, therefore all candidates MUST be clean shaven to the point that facial hair does NOT come between the face piece seal and the face.

**Candidates may no longer bring a copy of Kentucky FF1, FF2 and Haz Mat Operations skill sheets and/or a copy of the IFSTA Essentials of Firefighting to the testing site.** Testing DOES NOT break for lunch, light snacks will be made available.

Due to current NFPA requirements for certification, candidates shall show competency in medical training. Candidates shall bring a copy of a current CPR-Pro card and current first aid, first responder, EMT or Paramedic certification. Failure to show proof of medical training does not prohibit the candidate from testing, just certifying.

Visit Kentucky Accredited Firefighter Program:  
@ <http://kyffcert.com/>



Hear Michelle Gay discuss her personal experience of Safe and Sound: A Sandy Hook Initiative. Following the tragic loss of her daughter, Josephine, in the Sandy Hook School tragedy, Michelle established Safe and Sound Schools as a national resource for school safety.



Hear Tim Sendelbach, Firehouse Magazine's Editor in Chief

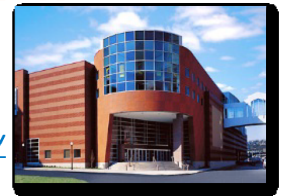
Free to all KFA Conference Registrants, \$40 to all others attending (includes lunch)



**Marriott, Embassy Suites, & NKY Convention Center**

Link is available to reserve your room today.

<https://aws.passkey.com/event/13925199/owner/1352/home>



# July 29 – August 3, 2016

Day	Time	Event or Meeting	Location
Friday July 29	1800-2200	Registration	Convention Center
	1900-2100	KFA E-Board Meeting	Embassy Suites
Saturday July 30	700-1800	Registration	Convention Center
	800-1200	Kentucky Dept. of Local Governments	Convention Center
	800-1200	"Safe and Sound" A Sandy Hook Initiative by Michele Gay (free to all Registrants)	Convention Center
	1300-1700	Firehouse Magazine's Editor-in-Chief Tim Sendelbach (free to all registrants)	Convention Center
	1800-2100	Olympics	TBD
	1800-2100	Olympics Picnic	TBD
Sunday July 31	2000-2400	Hospitality Rooms	Embassy Suites
	800-1100	Registration	Convention Center
	800-900	Church Service	Marriott
	930-1100	Fire Commission Meeting	Marriott
	1130-1300	KFA Memorial Service	Convention Center
	1330-1600	Ladies Event (Child Care provided)	Marriott
	1400-1900	Golf Outing	Twin Oaks Plantation Club, Covington, KY
	1930-2300	Alexandria Fire Dept.'s. Welcome Dinner	Newport Festival Park
Monday August 1	2000-2400	Hospitality Rooms	Embassy Suites
	730-1130	Registration	Convention Center
	800-1130	KFA Opening Ceremony	Convention Center
	1130-1350	Lunch with the Vendors	Convention Center
	1200-1500	Ladies Event (Child Care provided)	Newport Festival park
	1350-1700	KFA Business Meeting	Convention Center
	1800-2100	Southgate Fire Dept.'s. Dinner	Newport Festival Park
Tuesday August 2	2000-2400	Hospitality Rooms	Embassy Suites
	730-830	Registration	Convention Center
	800-1200	KFA Business Meeting	Convention Center
	1330-1600	KFA Business Meeting	Convention Center
	1800-2200	KFA President Banquet and HOF inductions (Child Care provided)	Convention Center
Wednesday August 3	2200-	Hospitality Rooms	Embassy Suites
	1000-1300	KFA E-Board Meeting	Embassy Suites

Visit us: [www.kyfa.org](http://www.kyfa.org)



As the newly appointed Director of the Division of Fire Prevention (State Fire Marshal), I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself to our fire service community. I am a thirty year veteran of the Kentucky State Fire

Marshals' office. I began my career in 1984 as a Deputy State Fire Marshal covering the Eastern KY Region. After twenty one years as a field inspector I was promoted to General Inspection Section Chief and served in that capacity for six years before being promoted again, this time to State Fire Marshal Manager. On March 1, 2016 I began my current role as State Fire Marshal.

I also want to take this opportunity to first say how highly I regard our fire departments, firefighters and fire prevention officers across this great state of ours. Thank you for your service and commitment to our commonwealth!

As Director of the Division of Fire Prevention, our office will work to achieve the following:

- ⇒ Provide accountable, dedicated and professional service to our citizens.
- ⇒ Develop and improve training for our staff to raise the level of expertise.
- ⇒ Ensure a respectful and courteous staff dedicated to serve.
- ⇒ Better define the role of each section and inspector.
- ⇒ Seek out and eliminate duplication of services with other agencies to prevent waste of time and money.
- ⇒ Improve morale by treating each individual with respect and appreciation and giving them the tools to accomplish their career goals.
- ⇒ Reach out to other agencies to ensure a more cooperative working relationship.
- ⇒ Re-establish our working relationship with all local fire departments.
- ⇒ Establish guidelines to ensure our staff fully understands that we are a service and are to be of service to the citizens of the commonwealth.

I look forward to the task of enhancing the safety of

our citizens in regulated facilities through education, compliance, and teamwork with our local fire prevention programs.

### **Michael (Mike) Haney**

**Director, Division of Fire Prevention**

**State Fire Marshal**

**Department of Housing, Building and Construction**

**Public Protection Cabinet**



### **American Red Cross Partners with Community Groups and Area Fire Departments Across Kentucky to Aim at Reducing Home Fire Deaths and Injuries**

The biggest disaster threat to families isn't floods or tornadoes; it's fire. Last year in the Kentucky Region, the Red Cross provided assistance to over 2,229 families who were impacted by a house fire. We ensured they had a place to stay, provided them with immediate emergency needs, as well as a shoulder to lean on, as they began their road to recovery.

Home fires all too often end in tragedy. Seven times a day, someone in this country dies in a home fire. The Red Cross is working with community partners and fire departments across Kentucky as part of its nationwide Home Fire Campaign to reduce that number by 25 percent by canvassing high fire risk neighborhoods and installing smoke alarms. Since July 1, 2015, The Kentucky Region Red Cross has installed more than 7,000 smoke alarms and has assisted with educating and providing nearly 2,000 fire escape plans should people need to evacuate their home.

The Red Cross wants to help you get prepared. People can learn how to help prevent a home fire and what to do if one occurs by downloading the Red Cross Emergency App. Children can earn points and incentives in a fun, gaming environment while learning how to prevent a home fire and other emergencies in the Monster Guard: Prepare for Emergencies App. The First Aid App provides expert advice including what to do for burns, broken bones, and breathing and cardiac emergencies. The apps can be downloaded for free in app stores or at [redcross.org/apps](http://redcross.org/apps).

People can visit [redcross.org/homefires](http://redcross.org/homefires) to find out more about our home fire programs as well as contacting your area Red Cross or call 1-800-RED-CROSS.



## New Arrivals



*The South Shore Fire Department took delivery of a new 2016 Pierce custom enforcer pumper in March. It has a 1250 gpm pump with a 1250 gallon booster tank. South Shore Fire Department took delivery of the engine from Finley Fire Equipment.*



**ABOVE:** Dixie Fire School Firefighter Survival and Rescue Training In Elizabethtown in March 2016.

*Please help support the KFA when you purchase a Kentucky Firefighter tag. Your contribution supports KFA education.*



## FIREMAN JOE SAYS:

I'm sure everyone heard by now of the tremendous loss sustained in Northern Kentucky with the death of Monica Rath. When I was Chairman of the KFA Pub Ed Committee Monica was such a able supporter and willing to do whatever she could to promote our efforts. I will always be grateful for her friendship, guidance and support you just can't replace someone like that.

In case you all didn't know my Buddy, Sparky the FireDog from NFPA is celebration his 65<sup>th</sup> Birthday. I must tell you two programs I have always admired and used frequently were, Sparky the FireDog and Sesame Street Characters. Kids everywhere know Sesame Street and especially Sparky. For a great history and many exceptional activities I recommend you check out Sparky.Org with NFPA and see what I mean. During Fire Prevention Week in October you will see many references to Sparky's Fire Safety Programs.

If you've never read the NFPA Safety Source Newsletter I suggest you get on that email list and see the exciting and useful "FREE" things you can get your hands on to promote your own Safety Programs.

Lastly, I want to mention, this has been a tough year for the Kentucky Fire Service in regards to deaths, particularly Line Of Duty Deaths. I have prayed GOD will give us a break in that regard, but my dear Fire Service Friends do what you have to do to keep yourself and the members of your department safe. Train, Train, Train and keep doing the little things that make us the best we can be. Also, if something is bothering you or if you have a run that is especially hard to forget, don't keep that inside. TELL SOMEONE or TALK TO SOMEONE, what we do is tough and often very difficult to deal with.

I also hope to see everyone in Lexington in June at Kentucky State Fire School which looks to be the best ever, be sure to take advantage of the great classes that are available this year. Sign up Today!

*Until next time, stay safe (FIREMAN JOE) Joseph Stambush, Past Chairman KFA Public Education Committee - Retired now from EDGEWOOD FIRE/EMS*

Are you up for a challenge?

# 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Fire Truck Pull

Grab your friends and register a team!

*Come join the fun!*



Friday, June 3, 2016 6:00—8:00 PM

State Fire School Vendor Show - Heritage Hall

It is time for some fun and friendly  
competition!

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