



# The Bulletin

Official Publication of the Allegany Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association

Volume XIII Issue 6

Barbara A. Knippenburg, Editor

November 2018

## *Georges Creek Ambulance Service Hosts Allegany and Garrett Counties*

### *Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association Meeting*

The meeting of the Allegany Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association was called to order by President Bobby Pattison on Sunday, November 4, 2018 at the Georges Creek Ambulance Service in Lonaconing. The

Pledge to the flag was led by Vice President Gene Kidwell. The Association was welcomed by Robbie Knox, President of GCAS. Twenty one companies and eleven Past Presidents were in attendance. Guests in-

cluded: Commissioner Bill Valentine and Dave Goad, candidate for Register of Wills.

### *Information Sharing*

**MSFA -2nd Vice President Dick DeVore** reported that the Executive Committee Meeting on December 1 & 2, 2018 will be held at Snow Hill. The Legislative Committee is gearing up for new session. Looking for funds for VCAF. They have secured an extension on SAFER Grant. Training opportunities coming up December 8 - 9th in OC by MD Fire Chiefs Association. In January there will be training for Fire Chaplains and Fire Service leadership. Marketing videos will be offered by the Association and they will be setting up a website to funnel new members interested. Each company needs to create a profile on line to benefit from this website.

**Volunteer Company Assistance Fund—Barbara Knippenburg** reported that they met October 7, 2018 at Union Bridge. **Fairmount Volunteer Fire Company** submitted loan application in the amount of \$187,764.00 to purchase a Tanker that will replace their

37 year old tanker. Total project cost is \$250,353.00. This project was approved. **Eldorado-Brookview** submitted an application for a loan of \$34,089.00 for 20 sets of Turnout Gear. The project was approved. **Kentland Volunteer Fire Department** submitted a loan application in the amount of \$300,000.00 to supplement their AFG grant award of \$550,00 to purchase a new Class A Pumper. This project was approved.

The next meeting of VCAF will be January 20, 2019 at Branchville VFD.

**Allegany County Emergency Services** 700 mgh radio system went on line Monday, November 5th. Emergency Services Board - Everyone had paperwork in on time, appropriation, gaming revenue, and rocky gap, (\$36,000), currently being released. Allegany County Emergency Services looking for a new emergency planner

to replace Susan Lee, who is retiring.

**Garrett County Association:** Next meeting November 28, 2018 at 1930 hours at Gorman

### **Allied law Enforcement Agencies –**

**Fire Police – Gary Carpenter** reported that they have received 15 new radios and will be trained on those soon.

**A. Mike Walters Fellowship of Christian Firefighters** Secretary Mary Carr reported that they met Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> at Flintstone with 43 present – PG county attended.

**LODD Memorial—Gary Carpenter:** Gary Carpenter reported that the Allegany County memorial service was held October 14<sup>th</sup>, at 1500 hours at the County Office Building. The memorial service went well. Chris Pryors name was added. The second Saturday in October, 2019 will be next memorial service

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### **Upcoming Meetings:**

- **Maryland State Firemens Association Executive Committee — December 1,2, 2018 Snow Hill**
- **A. Mike Walters Prayer Breakfast—December 1, Orleans**
- **AGCVFRA - December 2, Meeting Cancelled**
- **Garrett County Fire Rescue Association—Gorman, November 28, 1930 hours**
- **LA AGCVFRA—November 11th—Flintstone Fire Co.**



## AGCVFRA Meeting

in Allegany County The committee is still selling bricks. Dick DeVore commented on the NFF memorial service at Emmitsburg. It is a very moving ceremony.

**MIEMSS:** 50/50 Grant for AEDs, Lucas Devices will be out soon.

**Smoke Alarms:** Gary Carpenter reported that he will be soliciting donations to purchase smoke alarms.

**Convention – Dick DeVore** reported that they are working on the book. Events are being planned.

**WMRTC**—The ice machine purchased by AGCVFRA years ago needs replaced. The Association will replace that machine.

**Information Technology –** Jonathan Dayton – New web site for AGCVFRA will be live in December . Video clip advertisement – Jonathan will assist any company in creating a video to advertise your company. Small cost to do each company. AGCVFRA Facebook page doing well.

### Fire Prevention:

**Smoke Alarms:** Gary Carpenter is requesting publicity to request donations to purchase smoke alarms for both Allegany and Garrett Counties.

**Recruitment and Retention –** Jonathan Dayton – We need to be focusing on high school students. He has been approved to provide flyers to the three high schools in Allegany and BW. We need to have wrist bands or something small to provide to students to advertise the emergency services.

**Fire Chaplains –** Dick DeVore –Chaplain training in January. They are trying to reach all of the Chaplains in Allegany and Garrett County.

If you have not already given your Chaplain's contact information, please get that information to Dick so that the information about the training can be shared with them.

**Insurance & Benefits – John Shuhart** reported that accident insurance forms have been distributed to the companies. Please respond with your company's intentions. If your company has worker's comp, we will offer a supplemental plan for workers other than responding to a call. Garrett County will be covering their emergency services personnel with Workers Compensation. Supplemental insurance through AGCVFRA will be available. Garrett County is considering covering the auxiliaries with workers comp.

**Past Presidents – Dick DeVore –** No Christmas Party is planned this year. Plans are in the works for a dinner meeting TBA.

**Good of the Association:** Monthly meeting cards will be available soon. Commissioner Bill Valentine said this would be his last meeting as a County Commissioner. He said we need to be vigilant about the distribution of the Rocky Gap funds, both in county and in Annapolis. He received a round of applause and a standing ovation for his dedication to the Emergency Services of Allegany County.

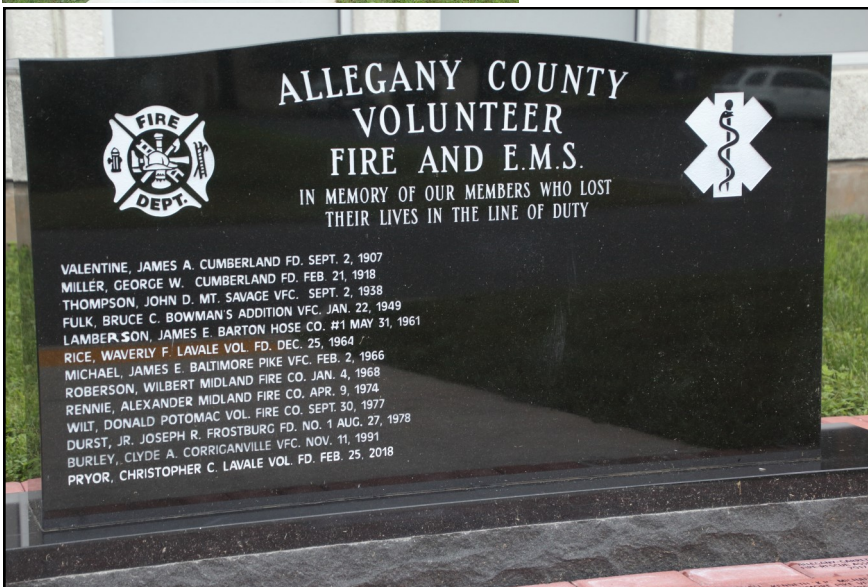


Jim Dawson Sr., last active charter member of Georges Creek Ambulance was recognized on his 86th Birthday with a cake and the singing of "Happy Birthday". Presented by President Robbie Knox and Chief Jenny Knox.

**Safety – Wayne Rounds – Responding in Cold Weather**—Cold, snow and ice can severely hamper firefighting operations. Making sure you and your apparatus are prepared is essential. Personal Preparedness: You must be properly dressed for the weather you'll encounter. Find the right combination of station clothing and fire clothes to maintain warmth on the fireground, yet not be too hot when actively engaging in fireground operations. Apparatus Maintenance: Extra attention to apparatus maintenance during cold weather is critical. Prior to the onset of cold weather, check and test your apparatus heating system to ensure it will function properly in the winter. The apparatus can be used as a rehab/shelter area during extreme weather. Firefighters must insure an uninterrupted water supply by continually checking hydrants to make sure they're dry and not frozen. Companies must also dig out hydrants after major snow storms to make sure they're accessible. Response: If your apparatus is equipped with automatic drop-down chains for traction, check it thoroughly prior to the winter season. If not, check and repair the chains/cable chains you normally carry. The most important factor regarding response in winter weather is to arrive on the scene safely. We can't help anyone if we don't arrive! Slow down and increase stopping distances when responding, even when using tire chains. Safety on scene: Since we do most of our work with water, when the temperature drops below 32 degrees, the water itself becomes an issue. Freezing hoselines, couplings, as well as slip and fall dangers can become a problem. As firefighters, we do not have the luxury to hibernate through the worst of winter. Get personally prepared for winter, now, and make sure your apparatus is ready to go as well. Remember: Stay safe and stay warm. Take your time – get to the call and back, safely!



# LODD Memorial Service





Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute  
 University of Maryland  
 Western Maryland Regional Training Center  
 Post Office Box 5153  
 13928 Hazmat Drive  
 Cresaptown, MD 21502-5153

Class Update in Allegany / Garrett County (note: may not reflect entire schedule)

Report Date: November 4, 2018

Class	Log Number	Location	Start Date	Days	# Students	Status
EMT	-	WMRTC	8/15/18	W/Sun	20	Active
Firefighter I	-	WMRTC	8/22/18	W/Sat	18	Active
Fire Officer III	-	Shaft	9/9/18	Sun	11	Active
Firefighter II	-	WMRTC	9/16/18	Sun	15	Active
VME	-	Westernport	9/29/18	Sat	12	Completed
EMR Refresher	-	Grantsville	10/1/18	M/W	4	Completed
*EMT Refresher	EMS-203-S017-2019	GCCTTC	11/3/18	Sa/Su	(10)	Open / Active
<b>*EMT Refresher</b>	<b><i>EMS-203-S016-2019</i></b>	<b><i>WMRTC</i></b>	<b><i>12/1/18</i></b>	<b><i>Sa/Su</i></b>	<b><i>(7)</i></b>	<b><i>Open</i></b>
<b>*EMT Skills</b>	<b><i>EMS-202-S010-2019</i></b>	<b><i>WMRTC</i></b>	<b><i>12/4/18</i></b>	<b><i>T/Th</i></b>	<b><i>(2)</i></b>	<b><i>Open</i></b>

Notes:

1. Numbers in parentheses indicate total preregistered students
2. \*red color, bold, and italicized font indicates additional enrollment needed for class to start
3. OOS represents students from out of state

Additional Information

1. Spring Course Schedule is up to date and posted online.
2. Maryland Weekend at NFA classes are scheduled. If you want to know what they include please contact the office at your convenience. Date will be February 9 and 10 of 2019. See attached brochure.



# 2019

## MARYLAND

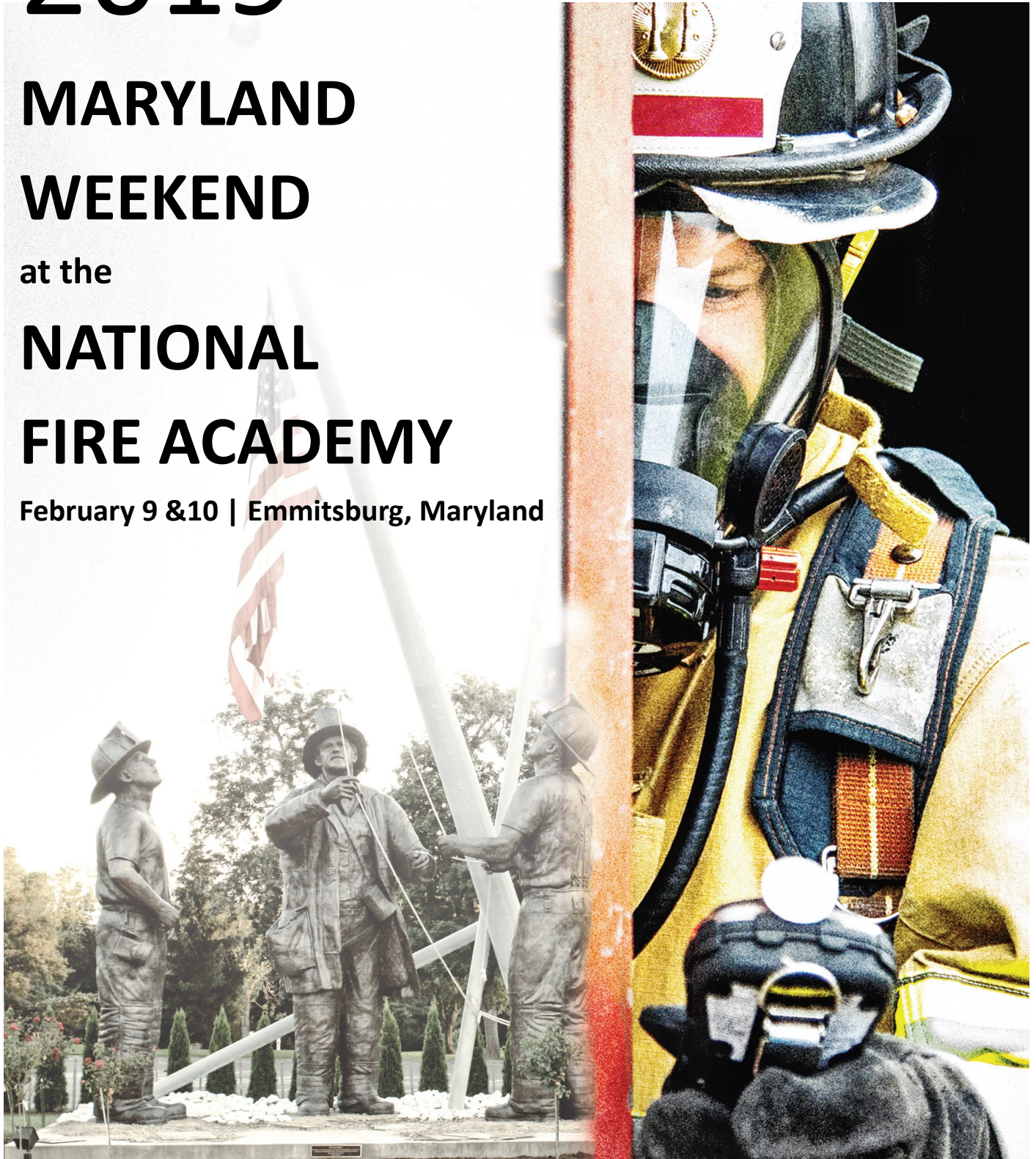
## WEEKEND

at the

## NATIONAL

## FIRE ACADEMY

February 9 & 10 | Emmitsburg, Maryland





September 30, 2018

## Allegany-Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association

P.O. Box 14  
Friendsville, MD 21531

Dear Friend,

Envision this. It's late into the evening and you and your family is fast asleep. All is quiet in the dark of night. At a distance, a small flicker remains from a lone candle left burning in your living room. Suddenly the candle catches a nearby curtain on fire.

You and your precious family remain asleep. None of you can smell the smoke as curtains, a nearby sofa, and now -- carpeting -- are all suddenly engulfed in flames. None of you awaken. None of you have an inkling of the fire taking place within your very own home -- *until* the smoke alarms sound off. Only then, do you and your family awaken and safely flee from your home, waiting for the fire department to respond. Only then, can you embrace each other, thankful to be alive -- all due to the activation of working smoke detectors.

Though this is a fictitious story, the details are all too common. Every year, people across the country are saved from deadly fires after being alerted by their smoke alarms. In 2009-2013, three of every five home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms (38%) or no working smoking alarms (21%). From 2013 to 2017, in Allegany County alone, three people tragically lost their life in a fire. Another 22 individuals were injured.

The Allegany-Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association believes **just one life lost - is one life too many**. That is why the Association is launching the **"Raise the Alarm!"** Campaign to provide smoke detectors for our community -- so that everyone can sleep safely -- so that *no life* is lost.

As Chairman of this most worthy fundraising project, I humbly ask that you consider joining our efforts by making a generous financial gift. As we enter into October, National Fire Prevention Month, it is appropriate to reach out to you! *My goal* is to raise \$10,000 over the next three months for this critical project. Just a donation of \$20.00 will buy one smoke detector, which could mean the difference between life and death for your neighbor, for your friend -- for your loved one!

Please join us and help **"Raise the Alarm!"** Make your checks payable to the *Allegany-Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association*; directing your mailing to:

Mr. Gary Carpenter, Chairman  
**"Raise the Alarm!"** Campaign Committee  
10719 Hinkle Road, NE  
Cumberland, MD 21502

OR  
John Shuhart, Treasurer  
Alleg/Garrett Vol. Fire & Rescue Association  
c/o Barton Hose Company  
P.O. Box 252  
Barton, MD 21521

If you should have any questions about this life saving project, please contact me at 301-268-4041. I would be pleased to talk with you in more detail. Thank you advance for giving now. Together we can **"Raise the Alarm!"**

Sincerely,

Gary Carpenter, Chairman  
**"Raise the Alarm!"** Campaign Committee  
Allegany-Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire & Rescue Association

*Proudly Representing and Serving 36 Fire and Rescue Departments*



*IN MEMORY*



*Helen M Norris, Corriganville Auxiliary  
 Sharon King, Bowling Green Auxiliary  
 Donald Dickel, Cresaptown Fire Department,  
 Frostburg Fire Co,*

**MIDLAND FIRE COMPANY**  
**GUN BASH**  
 November 10, 2018  
 1300—1800 hours  
 Food and Beverages included  
 Tickets: \$20  
 Tickets available from  
 members or at Firemen's  
 Tavern

**ORLEANS Vol. Fire Department**  
 Events for 2018  
**Nov 9th \*\*\* Meat & Cheese  
 Drawing**  
 Starts at 7:00 pm  
**December 16th \*\*\* Christmas  
 Dinner**  
 Bring a covered dish, dinner starts at 5:30  
 pm, Santa at 6:30 pm. Santa will bring a gift  
 for the children.  
 Fire Department will supply meats.

**Eastern Garrett Co. V.F.R.D.**  
**Spaghetti Dinners**  
 2nd Saturday each month  
 3:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
 Adults: \$7.00  
 Children: \$3.50  
**Turkey Dinners**  
 4th Sunday of:  
 March  
 April  
 September

**Bowling Green VFD**  
**Bingo Every Friday Night**

**Midland Firemen's Tavern**  
**WINGS Wednesdays**  
 starting at 1700 hours.

*Thank you Tom and Flo  
 Collins for their generous  
 donation to the  
 publication of the  
 Bulletin.*

*Barton Ladies Auxiliary*  
**Public Dinners**  
 2nd Tuesday of the month  
 From 3:00 pm to 6:30  
 Cook books for sale: 301-697-  
 0923

Spaghetti Dinner  
 Good Will Fire Company  
 First Friday of each month 4pm-6pm  
 Fireman's Armory in Lonaconing

**FLINTSTONE VFC**  
**November 17 Holiday Bash**  
 Questions/information call  
 301-478-2311

**Christmas Cash Raffle**  
 Midland Fire Company is  
 holding a 50/50 Christmas  
 cash raffle. Drawing date is  
 Wednesday Nov. 21 just in  
 time for Black Friday.  
 Tickets \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00

Tickets available at Midland Firemen's Tavern or from Members  
 50% of total ticket sales amount will be paid to one lucky winner

**GOOD WILL FIRE CO.**  
**Lula Roe Bingo**  
**Food & Refreshments  
 to be served**  
**November 11th**  
**Good Will Armory**  
 See members for tickets

*All You Can Eat*  
**WINGS**  
**Ellerslie Fire  
 Department**  
**November 9**  
**December 14**



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PO Box 252  
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Editor  
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Check out our Facebook Page:  
Allegany Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire  
and Rescue Association



Check us out on  
the WEB—  
[AGCVFRA.com](http://AGCVFRA.com)

**Getting to the call safely is  
the most important job you  
have!  
Buckle up!  
Remember  
Everyone Goes Home!**

### Did you know?



Thanksgiving is the leading  
day of the year for home fires  
involving cooking equipment.



## Thanksgiving Safety

The kitchen is the heart of the home, especially at Thanksgiving. Kids love to be involved in holiday preparations. Safety in the kitchen is important, especially on Thanksgiving Day when there is a lot of activity and people at home.

- Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking on the stovetop so you can keep an eye on the food.
- Stay in the home when cooking your turkey and check on it frequently.
- Keep children away from the stove. The stove will be hot and kids should stay 3 feet away.
- Make sure kids stay away from hot food and liquids. The steam or splash from vegetables, gravy or coffee could cause serious burns.
- Keep the floor clear so you don't trip over kids, toys, pocketbooks or bags.
- Keep knives out of the reach of children.
- Be sure electric cords from an electric knife, coffee maker, plate warmer or mixer are not dangling off the counter within easy reach of a child.
- Keep matches and utility lighters out of the reach of children — up high in a locked cabinet.
- Never leave children alone in room with a lit candle.
- Make sure your smoke alarms are working. Test them by pushing the test button.

**Have activities** that keep **kids out of the kitchen** during this busy time. Games, puzzles or books can keep them busy. Kids can get involved in Thanksgiving preparations with recipes that can be done **outside** the kitchen.



**NATIONAL FIRE  
PROTECTION ASSOCIATION**  
The leading information and knowledge resource  
on fire, electrical and related hazards