

**SMALLTOWN VOLUNTEER
FIRE DEPARTMENT**

JUNIOR FIREFIGHTER PROGRAM

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

We hope the following will answer any of your questions that were not answered in your Junior's *New Member Booklet*.

SUPERVISION

Junior Firefighters interact with Firefighters, Emergency Responders and Paramedics and gain experience in a fire department environment. The programs Advisors offer students advice on the skills, responsibilities and educational requirements for fire and emergency services careers. The Coordinator, Director, and the advisors are all trained firefighters and/or paramedics.

DROPPING OFF AND PICKING UP YOUR CHILD

Drop off:

- Please make sure that an advisor is present before dropping off your child. The Juniors are not to be on fire department property without an advisor present.
- Please let an advisor know if someone other than a parent is picking up your child.

Picking up:

- **Please make sure to pick up your child on time!** This goes for any function, whether it's training, fundraiser or public service activity.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Please update your emergency contact and medical information whenever changes occur.

PARENTAL HELP

Any time that you can help at a function is greatly appreciated, even if it is only for an hour or so. We would like to have as many parents involved as possible. It is a great way to interact with your child and their friends. As long as a parent stays, siblings are welcome to attend, except department bingos and breakfasts. You do not need to contact anyone or sign up to help at a function; just show up...the help is always needed and appreciated.

FUNDRAISERS

Fundraisers are an important part of the Junior program. Without them we would not be able to do all that we do. The money that the Junior program raises goes towards their annual banquet, summer picnic, holiday party and special activity in December, purchasing gear and uniforms, costs associated with field trips, sleep-ins, parades, and the upkeep for Engine JR1 and the Junior bus.

The following are some of our regular fundraisers:

Dances:

These are the Juniors biggest money makers. They make an average of over \$1,000 each month. Chaperones are always needed!

Junior Parent Contact: *Name* at XXX-XXX-XXXX.

Breakfasts:

The Juniors have a bake sale table during the breakfast. Donations of baked goods are always needed. Parents are also welcome to help serve food at the Department's breakfasts.

Breakfasts are usually held the first Sunday of the month from 7:30 a.m. till 11:00 a.m., between October and May. Breakfasts are not held during the summer months.

Junior Parent Contact: *Name* at XXX-XXX-XXXX.

Bingos:

The Junior parents help in the kitchen at the Department Bingos. The Junior Program will get the profits from the sales at the kitchen. Help is needed between 5:30 and 9:30 p.m. those Bingo nights.

Junior Parent Contact: *Name* at XXX-XXX-XXXX.

We occasionally also have fundraisers at a local restaurant.

PARENT MEETINGS

Parent meetings are held on a Monday evening during the month at 7:00 pm in the upstairs garage meeting area. The date for the Parent meeting will be announced in advance. This is a good way for the parents to ask questions and offer opinions about the Juniors program and to find out what's coming up with the Juniors.

PARADES

Any parents who wish to participate in walking with the Juniors are welcome. Usually the parades are judged and the Juniors have any opportunity to win an award, so to maintain a uniform appearance we would ask that parents actually marching with the Juniors wear a Juniors polo shirt, navy blue pants and black footwear. We also need parents to help in handing out water during the parades, and doing so from the sidelines of the parade doesn't require a uniform.

JUNIORS CLOTHING

The following is supplied by the Junior department:

- t-shirt (for trainings/other functions)
- powder blue shirt (for parades/public functions)
- collar pins
- lanyards
- name bar (given at annual banquet)

The following will need to be purchased by the individual:

- navy blue pants (check Wal-Mart, Mark's Work Warehouse)
- black closed toe footwear (with laces)
- black belt
- black socks
- badge (see the Junior coordinator)

The following are optional items that can be purchased from the Junior coordinator:

- additional t-shirts
- sweatpants
- sweatshirts
- stickers for cars

See the *New Members Booklet* for more information on uniforms/clothing.

PUBLIC SERVICE PROJECTS

The Junior Firefighters help out at several community functions through the year:

- Howard County Fire Expo - in October
- Elkridge Volunteer Fire Dept. Open House - in October
- Superfresh Open House - in October
- Train Garden - in December at Station 2 in Ellicott City
- Parades

BECOME A MEMBER

Parents can also join the Smalltown Volunteer Fire Department as an Associate, Active, or Ladies Auxiliary member.

Associate Member - member who is not trained in fire, rescue, or EMS; helps at fundraisers, committees and other functions. For more information contact Juniors advisor.

Active Member - member who will be trained in fire, rescue and/or EMS; helps at fundraisers, committees and other functions. For more information contact Juniors advisor.

Ladies Auxiliary Member - member who is not trained in fire, rescue, or EMS; helps at fundraisers, committees and other functions. For more information contact *Name*.

QUESTIONS

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact *Name* at XXX-XXX-XXXX or one of the advisors (names/numbers on platoon list).