



# MULDOON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

June 3, 2008



## Directory for Quick Reference

Fire Chief	Johnny McCoy, Jr.	979-966-8805
Asst. Fire Chief	Douglas Iannelli	979-250-1818
President	Ron Wunsch	979-247-4684
Vice-President	Norma Kerr	979-966-8787
Secretary	Timothy Seubert	979-247-4280
Treasurer	Gaye Wunsch	979-702-0700
Chaplain	Pastor Chris Irving	979-966-8703

Website: <http://www.muldoonfiredept.org>  
 E-mail: [muldoon.vfd@gmail.com](mailto:muldoon.vfd@gmail.com)

### Non-Emergency Notifications:

Muldoon Fire Station (leave message) 361-865-0176  
 \*Fayette County Sheriff –Dispatcher 979-968-5856\*  
 \*to report supervised burning on your property

**ALL EMERGENCIES ----- CALL 911**

**Monthly General Meeting:** 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday, 7:00 pm  
 June 5 – July 3 – Aug 7 – Sept 4 – Oct 2 – Nov 6 – Dec 4

**MULDOON 6<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL FUNDRAISER**  
 Saturday, March 8, 2008

## MULDOON COMMUNITY PARK PARADE & PICNIC

Friday – July 4, 2008



Join your neighbors for the Muldoon annual community parade. You can walk, ride, or drive any vehicle of your choice. Just decorate your choice of transportation and report to the fire station at 9:00 am, to participate in the parade that begins at 9:30 AM. OR, bring a lawn chair and cheer along the sidelines! After the parade, stay for all of the festivities, including a community-style meal (please bring a covered dish), following the auction at 10:30 am to raise funds for the Muldoon Community Park Assn. Your MVFD firefighters will also provide some water fun for the kids. For questions, or to volunteer in any way, contact Mark Miles at 361-865-3474.

## MULDOON VFD 4<sup>th</sup> of JULY RAFFLE

Drawing to be held at Muldoon Community Picnic.



Kawasaki Mule  
1<sup>st</sup> Prize



Cub Cadet  
2<sup>nd</sup> Prize



Char-Broil Gas Grill  
3<sup>rd</sup> Prize



Richard Ogden, Lt. Stephen Kelly, Lt. Melody McCoy, Chief Johnny McCoy, Jr., and Tim Seubert prepare for the auction

This year's annual fundraiser was the first public event to be held under the newly expanded Muldoon Community Park pavilion. The construction project was funded by the Muldoon Community Park Assn., with labor provided by firefighters and supporters. Located across Hwy 154 from the Muldoon VFD fire station, it provided welcome space for neighbors, extended families, and landowners to enjoy a delicious "community-style" covered dish meal, live and silent auctions, Cistern KJZT-sponsored cake spin, raffles, and inflated children's play center. Proceeds for the day, including generous park donations, netted almost \$10,000 in much needed funds to cover annual operating costs. The firefighters and community service volunteers are very grateful for your support. For lots more photos, visit our website: <http://www.muldoonfiredept.org/events.html>

Back by popular demand! This year's raffle is even more exciting than last year's. Sales are limited to 1000 tickets at \$20 each or 6/\$100, for the three prizes shown. The Kawasaki Mule vehicle and Cub Cadet riding mower are on display at ELK Tractor. The Char-Broil 4-burner stainless steel gas grill will be ready for pick-up at the picnic. ELK Tractor will allow the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place winners to upgrade their item, if desired, applying the retail value of their winnings to their final purchase. For questions, contact Ed Kolesky, Sr. at ELK Tractor. To purchase tickets, contact any firefighter or community service officer, or e-mail to: [muldoon.vfd@gmail.com](mailto:muldoon.vfd@gmail.com).



**MULDOON VFD'S CISTERN AREA FACILITIES**

Hwy 95 @ Jeddo Road



*Firefighters living near the Cistern facility are able to reduce response time by at least 10 min. with access to local equipment.*

Profits from the 4<sup>th</sup> of July raffle will be used for community safety programs and the enhancement of our response capabilities in the Cistern area. The current Cistern facility needs an upgrade of housing and storage for vehicles & equipment to protect access, before more tools and newer equipment can be housed in this area. After funds are collected to determine our budget, MVFD volunteers will seek input from all interested parties to research and develop a responsible program. If you are interested in participating in this process, please plan to attend our monthly general meetings or contact any officer to express your interest. We are excited about the opportunities and possibilities, and appreciate your input and support.

**SEASONAL FIRE SAFETY TIPS**



*MVFD firefighter Herbert Hart applies a water barrier to a recent debris fire that flared out of landowner's control.*

Controlled burns and holiday fireworks can be safe and successful by planning responsibly. Consider these two cases, based upon actual events:

**DEBRIS BURN:** Recently a new landowner, anxious to remove piled debris following bulldozer clearing work, used a cigarette lighter to ignite a "small" pile of limbs and branches. When the fire flared in winds created by the rapid cedar-fueled combustion, the landowner was not equipped with water, tools, or even a cap and long-sleeved shirt to protect his head and body. When flames threatened the nearby cedar-filled woods, MVFD was summoned to the scene. Firefighters reached the scene within a few minutes of the 911 call, to find a very stressed, embarrassed landowner. A perimeter search showed no signs of spreading fire, so firefighters created a wet barrier around the fire before departing the scene. The landowner didn't have a posted 911 address, and the fire was not clearly visible from the road, so there were some anxious moments in locating and identifying the reported fire. We are pleased that this story had a happy ending.

**WILDFLOWER FIELD:** In early spring, a landowner family carefully prepared to initiate and complete a controlled burn of a wildflower field behind their home. As night fell, a neighbor driving home from work spotted the fire in the distance and immediately started a telephone sequence within the MVFD volunteer network. Utilizing Contact Information previously provided by the landowner, a MVFD volunteer's call to their cell phone confirmed that the fire was well-attended and under control. That phone call prevented an unnecessary dispatch of firefighters and trucks. The landowners were acting responsibly, but had failed to notify the county dispatcher of their plans, in order to avert a false alarm.

**WHAT SHOULD YOU DO??**

Please plan carefully before initiating a controlled burn on your property. If you are not experienced in managing such burns, you can contact any of the volunteers listed in the directory for guidance, or refer to resources on our MVFD website: [www.muldoonfiredept.org](http://www.muldoonfiredept.org) Firefighters are willing to make a visit to your site to provide guidance before you begin, or will provide supervision when starting the fire, with sufficient prior notification.

Call Fayette County Sheriff's Dispatcher at 979-968-5856 to alert the dispatcher on duty, immediately before you begin a controlled burn so that the dispatcher can determine your exact location and be prepared to respond to any unexpected problems you may encounter. Also, if a concerned citizen should attempt to report the fire, your prior notice will prevent unnecessary dispatch of volunteer firefighters and use of valuable resources.



**FIREWORKS** are extremely dangerous in dry rural areas, where sparks and missiles can land far out of sight – such as on an unsuspecting neighbor's hay bales or dry pastures. Please treat a fireworks show as a controlled burn--proper notification and safety measures are the same. Don't ruin the holiday for yourself or your neighbors! Be safe out there! Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July!



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## MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR BOARD



Muldoon fire station at 333 N. 3<sup>rd</sup>, north of FM 154 @ FM 2237 shows allocated space for future sign (upper left area of building)

Beginning with the 2008 calendar year, the Muldoon VFD will begin recognizing current contributions of \$500 or greater, in the following levels:

- Bronze \$ 500 - \$ 999
- Silver \$1,000 - \$2,499
- Gold \$2,500 - \$4,999
- Platinum \$5,000 or more

Major contributions received in prior years will continue to be recognized on an Honor Roll wall inside the fire station.

The major contributor board will arrive soon. It is a quality metal board that will withstand weathering and be visible from a distance. Each contributor will have a 6" x 24" metal plaque inscribed with contributor's name or organization. An individual plaque will remain posted for a two-year term before transferring it to the interior Honor Roll wall, unless a new qualifying contribution is made prior to the end of two-year display period. If you want to secure YOUR spot on the new board, contact Gaye Wunsch, Treasurer, at 979-247-4684, to make arrangements.

## BURN BAN NOTIFICATION PROCESS and Related Resources

Currently, Fayette County is NOT under a burn ban. The decision to change this status rests with our County Judge, based upon advice from the Fayette County Firefighters Association.

**BURN BAN STATUS:** OK to burn for now, but please be careful! If our county initiates a burn ban, you will see these flags within our fire district:



Burning Ban Flags are located at:

- Muldoon fire station
- Muldoon Community Park
- Cistern at Hwy 95/Jeddo Road.

## FIREFIGHTER TRAINING ACTIVITIES Located at House Donated by Martin Cherry



Asst. Chief Doug Iannelli is conducting an intensive 78-hr training regimen to support MFVD firefighters in achieving SFFMA introductory certification. Martin Cherry recently donated the use of a

house and garage (located behind the fire station) to be used for training purposes. This training site facilitates essential hands-on experience in processing structure fires. As shown in above photo, firefighters practiced laying an effective water delivery system for fighting a residential fire. Fire hose management and premises assessment techniques were practiced by all firefighters, donned in full gear. They gained valuable insights to prepare for future actual events.

Mr. Cherry knows the importance of such a resource for training, having served as one of the principal founders of this Department, and its first president. Muldoon VFD is grateful to Martin Cherry for this training resource.



Chief Johnny McCoy, Jr. and Asst. Chief Doug Iannelli explain the pumping system mounted in the truck to current firefighters wearing their gear, while a new recruit (left) observes.

MVFD maintains current burn ban status on our website: <http://www.muldoonfiredept.org> Any change in burn ban status is also distributed via e-mail to landowners who have requested to join our e-mail notification list. If you wish to join this list, write to [muldoon.vfd@gmail.com](mailto:muldoon.vfd@gmail.com) to request inclusion in future MVFD e-mail communications.

**NOTE:** Fayette County is in the process of revising the burn ban status signs located at various points of entry to the County. The old signs are not being maintained, but may still be visible along the roadways. Please don't rely on those signs at this time. When the new signs are in place, we will notify our e-mail list and post it to our website. In the meantime, you can rely on the flags being posted (or absent) as noted, within our fire district.