Safe Place, Baby Safe Haven, and Map Your Neighborhood…oh my!

May 2018

* Do you live in Mukilteo and want to know how to better prepare your family and neighborhood for a disaster? Read on!
* Are you a teen that feels like you are out of options and don’t know where to turn? Read on!
* Are you a parent of a new baby, feeling overwhelmed and don’t know where to turn? Read on!

Map Your Neighborhood

Back in March my article contained information on how to prepare for natural disasters. We are encouraging everyone to be prepared to take care of each other for up to two weeks before help arrives from outside the area. We still have *Individually Prepared. Together Resilient.* booklets available at Fire Station 25, 10400 47th Pl W during business hours. The first of three Map Your Neighborhood classes is coming up May 22nd. We will provide information on the 9 steps to take immediately following a disaster and help prepare neighbors to take care of each other. Classes will also be held on June 20th and July 19th. All classes are held at Fire Station 25 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. To register, contact Fire Marshal Roger Rudikoff at 425-263-8158 or rrudikoff@mukilteowa.gov.

Safe Place

Safe Place is a crisis intervention program for at-risk and homeless youth. Founded in 1983 in Louisville, KY, the program is now in 41 states. In Snohomish County, the program is managed by Cocoon House. They manage the services for youth and provide the training for organizations wishing to be designated as Safe Places. As of April 2018, the Mukilteo fire stations are designated Safe Places. Other Safe Places in Mukilteo are the Library and the YMCA. Youth needing help can go to any of those locations and trained staff will get them in touch with a representative of Cocoon House for assistance. With the Safe Place program, we hope to help these young people before they make an irreversible decision to harm themselves or others.

Baby Safe Haven

Baby Safe Haven is a program available to responsible adults who are unwilling or unable to care for a newborn. Under state statute (RCW 13.34.3601), newborns can be surrendered at hospital emergency rooms and staffed fire stations for the baby’s safety. While staff will attempt to determine basic information on the family and the baby, none is required. The newborn will be transferred to qualified personnel who will summon appropriate resources to meet the newborn’s immediate needs. The newborn is ultimately transferred into the care of Child Protective Services (CPS) and placed in a foster home while the particular case is processed. Ideally professionals will be able to help the family through their challenges and allow the baby to be reintegrated into the family. If that is not possible, the baby will ultimately be available for adoption. The Baby Safe Haven program has been available in Washington State since 2002.

EMS Week

The week of May 20-26 is designated as National EMS Week 2018. This week is to recognize the valuable service and fantastic pre-hospital care provided by Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics. In Mukilteo, this care is provided through the Mukilteo Fire Department. Our cross-trained fire fighters and fire captains staff ambulances as well as fire engines 24/7 to respond to the emergency medical needs of the community. Thank-you to these great folks for all your service this year!