

MIDDLESEX VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

PO Box 71

Urbanna, VA 23175

www.urbannafire.com



Home of Layne Family
Urbanna Road

Photo by T. Chillemi, Southside Sentinel

She'd just been out a little while to run a few errands. As she turned for home, she saw a pillar of smoke shooting straight up and then moving off on the wind that looked like a controlled burn.

But this time it wasn't a neighbor burning off some leaves.

Her house was on fire.

We're here for you when you just need to get through the night

Dear Neighbor:

That's what happened to the Layne family in September of 2008. When Gloria came home, her house was on fire and just about everything was gone. Thankfully, her 2 kids had gotten out safely. You may have even seen the photos like the one above that Tom Chillemi took for the front page of The Sentinel. It was devastating.

“Thank God for the fire department and the Ladies Auxilliary, that's all I can say. They comforted us with support, water and blankets and helped us get through the night.”

Hi, Joe Moschetti here from the Middlesex Volunteer Fire Department. You know, fire knows no boundaries. It doesn't distinguish between black, white, rich or poor. It couldn't care less about your treasured family photo album, your high school letter sweater, or the members of your family. It'll take them all.

Fire just doesn't care.

But we do. I'm writing you today to ask for your help. You've seen us around town helping your neighbors, at the Oyster Festival, or out washing the trucks and response vehicles.

Our team consists entirely of volunteers and can't exist without financial help from folks like you. We need to equip the firefighters ... they buy their own supplies ... and give them the training they require to help when you need it. I'm not exactly sure why, but we've had more calls – and losses – in the first half of this year than we did during the same time last year.

Fire isn't the only thing we're here for. Got a smoke detector that's gone off unexpectedly and

can't figure out why? Give us a call. We also conduct fire prevention classes for schools and churches.

But all of that – fighting fires, taking care of the community, and making sure we have the equipment to protect you – takes money. And I sure wish we didn't have to do any fundraising but, well, we need things like new air packs for the team (they cost \$7,000 per firefighter) so they can do their best if you need us.

There's a donation form at the bottom of this letter and I sure hope you'll help us out. Whatever you can give is great and we appreciate it so much. It's also tax deductible because we're a non-profit organization.

Fire doesn't care about you. But we do. Call us and we'll be there.

Best regards,

Joe Moschetti
Assistant Fire Chief

PS: Part of the reason for this letter is that we're in desperate need of a new fire engine. Anything you can do will be a big help.



Photo by T. Chillemi
Southside Sentinel

Cut on Line



Yes! I'd like to help the Middlesex Volunteer Fire Department protect me and my neighbors.

_____ \$15

_____ \$25

_____ \$35

_____ Other (please specify amount)

Please make checks payable to:
MIDDLESEX VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Doesn't Care About You. We Do.