

JICANet Update

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Pottery Guild Sale Redux

Back by popular demand for those who were off-island and missed the big Pottery Guild Sale, there will be a repeat sale on Saturday, Dec 5 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm in the Guild Annex, Jekyll Shopping Center. This is your chance to stock up for the holidays and there's still plenty of inventory to choose from.

Groundbreaking Celebration for Revitalization Projects

Join the Jekyll Island Authority December 7th for a ground breaking celebration for the revitalization of Jekyll Island. Festivities take place beach front just north of the Jekyll Island Convention Center. 11:30 am - 12:30 pm.

Smoke Detector Message from JI Public Safety Director

I cringe every time I hear this story: The family was making dinner when cooking fumes set off the smoke alarms. Annoyed and trying to get the evening's dinner going, someone hurriedly pulled out the batteries or disconnected the wires. Ah, peace and quiet at last, and a pleasant family dinner to boot. But then they forgot about the disconnected alarms. Now what?

This scenario is the major reason why smoke alarms are not working in one of every five households here and across the country. A disabled smoke alarm is a prescription for disaster. When fire strikes, we may have only moments to get out safely. Without working smoke alarms to signal a fire, especially late at night, moments we could have had may not be there.

If you are one of the people who think you will wake up to the smell of smoke if a fire starts, you're wrong. The toxic smoke will more likely to put you into a deeper sleep. Late at night, the loud sound of a working smoke alarm is the only thing that can give you time to escape when fire strikes. Several kinds of fires may strike

when you're asleep and not able to keep an eye on things – a space heater, a pan on the stove, a discarded cigarette, lit candles, ECT.

The nonprofit National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week held October 9-15, says that the majority of fatal home fires occur at night, when we're sleeping. To prevent these needless deaths the NFPA and the Jekyll Island Fire & EMS Department are trying to drive home a very important point. The point is "Working smoke alarms are absolutely essential in every home, including yours".

Although 96 percent of American households have at least one smoke alarm, NFPA found that roughly half of the home fire deaths occur in that small percentage of homes with no alarms. NFPA says that about one fifth of all smoke alarms aren't working – mostly due to dead or missing batteries. These are problems that we can be overcome by simply checking and testing your smoke alarms twice a year during daylight savings time when we all turn our clocks forward or backwards.

Just having a smoke alarm cuts your chances of dying in a home fire nearly in half. You can also plan a home fire escape drill and you cut your chances even more. Practice good fire prevention and you do even better.

Working smoke alarms save lives and they can save yours. So what's your story? Right now, look around your home and see if you have working smoke alarms. I've seen too much tragedy over my 20-year career in the fire service and I don't want the next grieving family to be yours. Here are a few things you can do to protect yourself from a deadly fire with the help of home smoke alarms:

- Install smoke alarms on every level.
- Place alarms outside each sleeping area.
- Replace batteries every year, including back-up batteries in electrical alarms; if the alarm chirps, replace its battery immediately.
- Test alarms at least once a month.
- Install new alarms when the devices are 10 years old.

Never disconnect a smoke alarm or remove a battery in response to nuisance alarms. If cooking fumes cause the smoke alarm to signal, fan the air near the alarm until the signal stops. Later you can relocate the smoke alarm farther away from the kitchen. Over time dust may build up in the alarm - try dusting or vacuuming the alarm if nuisance alarms continue. Taking these steps may prevent future nuisance alarms.

The most important thing to remember is that you need working smoke alarms. It's just too dangerous to be without them.

Jason Richardson, Jekyll Island Director of Public Safety

Reminders of Previously Announced Events

- JI Arts Assn Annual Advanced Member's Show, Goodyear Cottage, Opening reception Sat Dec 5 2:00 - 4:00 pm.
- Jekyll Singers Annual Seasonal Concert, Tues Dec 8, 7:30 pm, Convention Center Beachside Hall.
- Town Hall Meeting, Thur Dec 10 5:00 - 6:30 pm, upstairs at Morgan's Grill

---and that's the news from Jekyll Island where history lives, nature abounds and we're checking our smoke detectors. Darrell Davidson, Interim JICANet Editor

JICANet Updates are distributed periodically by the Jekyll Island Citizens Association to its members and interested parties. To subscribe or unsubscribe send an email to jicanet@jekyllcitizens.org.