

Fred Rogers was joined at his retirement ceremony by his wife Ann, daughter Melissa and her husband, and his grandchildren. His son was unable to attend the event. Other family members were also present,

Fred Rogers retires with 42 years of public service

and wish Irvine had pieces of fire equipment like what they were seeing in the pictures. The two, along with Rogers' brother, Herbie, would sometimes make the equipment they saw in the pictures. And surprisingly, Murphy said those items would work.

Murphy stated that when Rogers took over at Irvine Fire Department, it had the With some hard work, that ed. was lowered to a 5.

in 1991.

Rogers left for a private sector job at Sherwin-Williams. Murphy was promoted to fire chief.

"I feel like I'm fire chief today because of this man," Murphy stated.

Because of the chemical stockpile and possible chemical leaks at nearby Bluegrass Army Depot, Murphy learned that a fulltime director of Emergency Management was going to be hired for Estill County. He recommended Rogers who was hired.

"He made me fire chief. I made him director of Emergency Management. I returned the favor," joked Murphy.

Besides being the Irvine Fire Chief, Murphy was made assistant director of Emergency Management.

In the 1980's, Dwaine Riddell encouraged emergency volunteers to organize a rescue squad. He was wholeheartedly supported by Rogers and Murphy.

"Today, I feel like we have one of the finest rescue squads in the state," Murphy said.

early stages.

"All of a sudden we started seeing equipment. We started seeing progress," Murphy stated.

Eventually, Rogers was allowed a part-time employee. The part-timer, Ronnie Riddell II, was made full time in less than a year. Riddell is succeeding Rogers as Director of Emergency Managment.

Before Rogers' retire-

Continued from Page 1 ment, Emergency Manage- went off for a wreck on the Murphy said he and Rog- ment had three full time em- Richmond Road. ers would look at magazines ployees and two part-time employees.

> said Rogers was like a fa- It was over when they got ther-figure toward them.

> Melissa Neal-Jessie said that anytime she got upset, tor, Rogers was responsible Rogers would say, "Let's not for the training of all other get excited."

> Chad Neal, one of the part-timers, said he started hanging around Rogers curred, Emergency Manwhen he was a teenager.

highest ISO rating of a 10. some guidance," Neal stat- Some of these emergencies

I'm going to turn this like Fred, I wouldn't be storms. fire department over to here," Neal, who grew up Rogers described leavyou," Rogers told Murphy without a father in his home, ing his family when he left said.

Neal was made a junior firefighter. He works part- flashlight or candle and say time today for the Irvine Fire I'll see you after a while,' Department.

Lee Countians also at- had what they needed." tended the retirement ceremony. They said Rogers has got mobile phones,' also helped their county to he stated. "If they needed get new equipment.

In the middle of the cer- away." emony, the emergency tone

A large number of rescue squad members quietly got All of those employees up and left the ceremony.

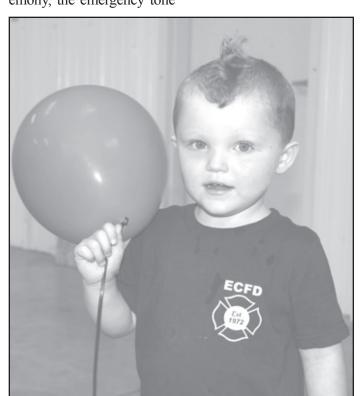
As Emergency Direcagencies, such as the rescue squad, fire departments.

When an emergency ocagement with Rogers in "He saw that I needed charge was the lead agency. included the runaway train, "If it wasn't for people gas spills, and snow and ice

home for a disaster.

"I'd always given them a he said. "I made sure they

"Two-thirds of the U.S. me, I'm only a phone call



When Rogers was made A firefighter's son didn't know what all the celdirector of Emergency Man- ebration was about. He just enjoyed playing with agement, CSEPP was in its all the balloons he saw and posing for a photographer.



Loretta Friend made two cakes for the event.

Tossing and Turning

and that thought kept run- port for her trip to Italy. ning through my mind as I and I would be late for was somewhere on the road heart. After all, it's the First

Tam's Front

Porch Ponderings

Tammy Terry

TamsFrontPorch@IrvineOnline.Net

last night in preparation

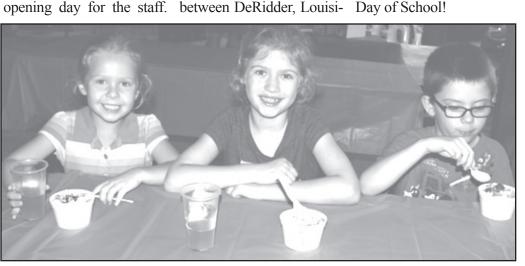
didn't work! I tossed and

turned all night, afraid

I tried going to bed early

My Daddy always said I'd ana and Houston, Texas, be late for my own funeral driving his sister to the air-

I thought about the huge tried to fall asleep. I heard Maple tree in our front yard the alarm in time and out that would have no one to of habit, raced off the hill take a picture with Wednesto work. The morning sky day morning. A part of me was beautiful as I popped was very sad thinking back over the first hill and the on all the "First" days of image of a little boy filled school with our children, I the seat beside me, "Look", miss that. Another part of he said pointing at the sky, me was extremely proud "Momma, it's a little bit of that my babies were all Heaven coming down". In grown up and doing well my rearview mirror I saw on their own. Wednesday the face of my daughter, morning would be difficult "Momma, these socks are for me without our chilbugging me", I could hear dren here, but I will go to for the new school year, it her voice from the back bed early, set TWO alarms, seat. Slowing down as I appress my clothes and pack proached the second hill, my lunch and face the that if I closed my eyes I I thought about where my morning with a smile on wouldn't hear the alarm children were today. Dylan my face and a song in my



These young girls and a boy went to the ice cream social held at the end of the summer reading program. Prizes were also awarded to participants who had met the goals of the reading program. This was the first reading program for children's librarian Whitney Hays. During September, she is planning on having come concerts in the park.

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