



NEWS

for immediate release

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The Area Office on Aging in conjunction with the Toledo Fire and Rescue Department and the American Red Cross will be recognizing the 2006 graduating class of senior volunteers of the S.A.F.E. program. (Senior Advocates for Fire Education). The ceremony will take place on Wednesday, August 30, 2006 at approximately 11:00 am at the Toledo Fire Museum (918 Sylvania Avenue). Certificates will be presented by Toledo Fire and Rescue Department Fire Chief Mike Bell.

Statistics show older adults are at an increased risk for fire and other emergencies. Adults ages 65 and older are twice as likely to die in a fire in their home. Fire is the 6th leading cause of accidental death for the elderly in the United States. The city of Toledo reported that 50% of fire fatalities involved seniors over the age of 65. Graduates will be working with members of the Toledo Fire/Rescue Department's Fire Prevention Bureau to educate seniors in the Toledo area. Graduates from the SAFE program participated in a three (3) day training in which they were provided with information from the Toledo Fire/Rescue Dept. and the Area Office on Aging on how to educate older adults in fire safety and fall prevention.

For more information on the SAFE program or to schedule a presentation for your senior organization contact 419-382-7060 ext. 15.

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