

The New Washington Volunteer Fire Department, Auxiliary, and some members of the community are organizing a bean/potato soup supper benefit on November 23 from 4 p.m. until the food runs out, along with a silent basket auction from 4 to 7 p.m. with all proceeds going to help fellow firefighter Daniel Stoner cover the cost of medical bills and expenses. A live auction, with Auctioneer John Uhl volunteering his service, will also be held at 7 p.m. following the announcement of the silent basket auction winners. The Northbend Band will entertain from 4 to 7 p.m. The band features top 40 and country music.

Along with the silent auction, live auction and entertainment, there will be a 50/50 drawing. Tickets for the 50/50 drawing will be \$1 each or six tickets for \$5.

Several local organizations and local have made donations to help with the success of the upcoming fundraiser. Donating to the cause are: Jay C Food Store- gift certificate; Texas Roadhouse- gift certificate; Wiggam Lumber- donated lumber for picnic table built by Tim Cochran; Mildred Johnson, afghan; Grace Whobrey- Christmas decorations, angel statue, pillow and matching throw and Christmas boxes; David Abbott- candy basket; Hooters- calendar with coupons, sun visor, magazine, t-shirt and sticker; Lori Krohn- lid snowman and barn décor; Concrete Lady- fire fighter bench, fire fighter plaque, small fire fighter statue, large fire fighter statue, Hope angel and bird bath; New Washington Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary- 39" HD flat screen television; David Viertel- replica Nazi knife, collection book and antique platter; Courtney Lawrence- 31 basket; Anytime Fitness- gift certificate; 62 Twist- gift certificate; New Washington Masonic Lodge #167- Cornbread; Clarksville Walmart- mixing bowls, two children's scooters, candles, gift card and kids books; Absolutely You Salon- gift certificate; O'Reilly's- 135 piece tool set; Copper Kettle- two gift certificates; CarQuest- car detailing bucket; Western Auto- BBQ tool set; Zondy's Smelly Gellys- redneck candle; Doug's Auto Sales- 14 gallons of milk for the soup; B&G Mortuary Service- basket; Sam's Club- gift certificate, Jamey Noel- donated chicken and brats to be smoked by Robert Raines, Bette Harbin- homemade cake, Cameron and Jennifer Hoyt-Fields- barn quilt, Louisville Crashers- Louisville Crashers gift basket, Family Video- Scottsburg- gift certificate and Mike and Lisa Dickey- entertainment center. Two speciality Louisville Slugger bats have also been donated, one UK and one IU.

Also donating to the cause were: all the local churches, Drew Adams, Orscheln- Charlestown, Madison and Scottsburg, Leroy's Store/ Restaurant, Sommerville, Coopers Corner, Westwood Golf Course and Robert and Leisa Burgin.

New Hope Community Church Youth Group will be busing tables and Girl Scout Troop 2141 will be helping with parking during the fundraiser.

Popular local band, Honkywood, has also donated a home concert. Certain stipulations apply: \$500 minimum bid; must be within a 50 mile radius of Charlestown; band has to be on a patio/stage; if outdoors, band must be covered due to inclement weather and the date must not interfere with any prior scheduled events for Honkywood. The winner also receives a Honkywood sign to keep as a memento.

On September 9, 2013 Danny, a 33 year veteran and past Chief of the fire department, was assisting a stalled car by pushing it off the road safely to the edge when he collapsed. They

almost lost him twice that day, but he put up the biggest fight of his life and came back to his loved ones. Since then he has suffered a heart attack, a stroke (partially paralyzing his left side), and collapse of his left lung. He has undergone many different medical procedures. He spent 29 days in ICU, then two days in rehab, back to the hospital for an additional seven days. He was released from rehab on Sunday, November 10. He still has a long road of recovery ahead of him.

Before this incident his wife, Angie had back surgery and has not been able to return to work.

Due to his many years of unselfish help the New Washington Volunteer Firefighters are now asking their community to join them in helping show support. They are asking local churches, and businesses to help provide. All donations will receive a receipt upon request for a tax deduction. Food to be served: bean/potato soup, cornbread, hot dogs, smoked Boston Butt, desserts, tea and lemonade for refreshments.

For those unable to attend there are also collections jars at the following locations:

*Ace Hardware – New Washington and Scottsburg Locations

*Coopers Corner – Charlestown

*Copper Kettle Restaurant – Charlestown

*Four Quarters – New Washington

*Hoopsters – New Washington and Jeffersonville

*Leroy's Store/Restaurant – Lexington

*Marysville Hardware – Marysville

*The New Washington State Bank – All locations

*Orscheln Farm and Home – Charlestown

It is the hope of Stoner's firefighter family to show him the support that he has shown to so many friends and strangers in his years of service to the community, and the surrounding areas through mutual aid.

When asked to help promote the fundrasier, David Abbott, Sr., was quick to help.

"Rachel asked if I could help get the word out. I just wanted to do what I could to help Danny," Abbott stated. "I want the entire community to come together and help a man who has spent his life helping others. Danny has been with the New Washington Volunteer Fire Department for 33 years, serving as Chief from 1997 to 1999. He always answered the call, no matter what time of day or night, now it is time for the community to answer the call to help Danny."

Abbott concluded, "The fundraiser is Saturday. Now is the time to help one who has dedicated his life to helping others. We want everyone to come out and have a bowl of soup, enjoy some time with family and friends and maybe even pick up a few Christmas presents at the auction. Let's all come together to show Danny the community is supporting him 100 percent!"

For information about the gift baskets or desserts please contact: Heather Walter at 502-758-0423, or Karen Hawkins at 812-725-5929. Food/supplies donations please contact: Tony Walter at 502-724-0316. General information feel free to contact: Rachel Bussey at 812-406-6323.