



BLAZE

ADVENTURES



YOUNG T.J. IS
IN DANGER!

CAN BLAZE
SAVE THE DAY?

THE ADVENTURE
BEGINS NOW!

IT WAS SWELTERING HOT IN UPTOWN CHARLOTTE,
AND OVER AT FIRE STATION #1 THINGS WERE
ABOUT TO GET HOTTER...

McDONALD

APPROX!



Don't Get BURNED!

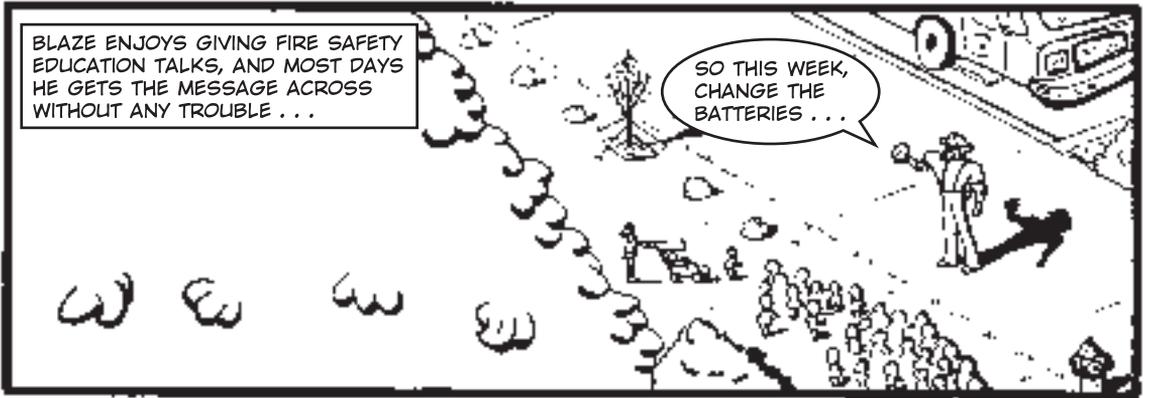
DAVE MCDONALD
STORY & ART

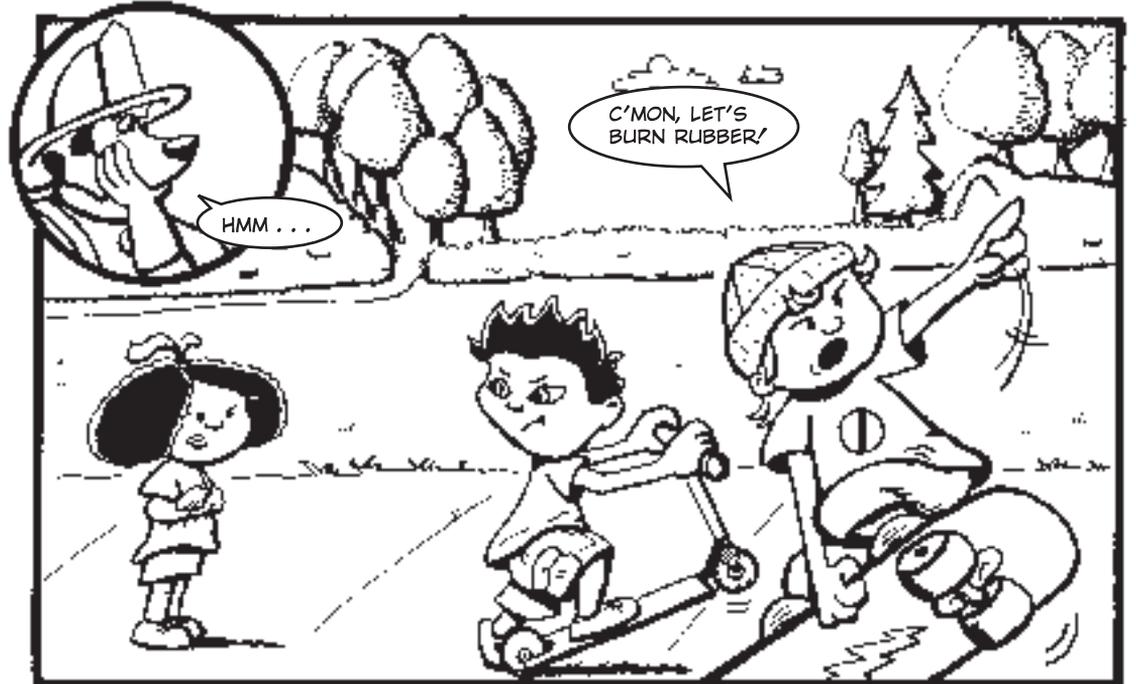
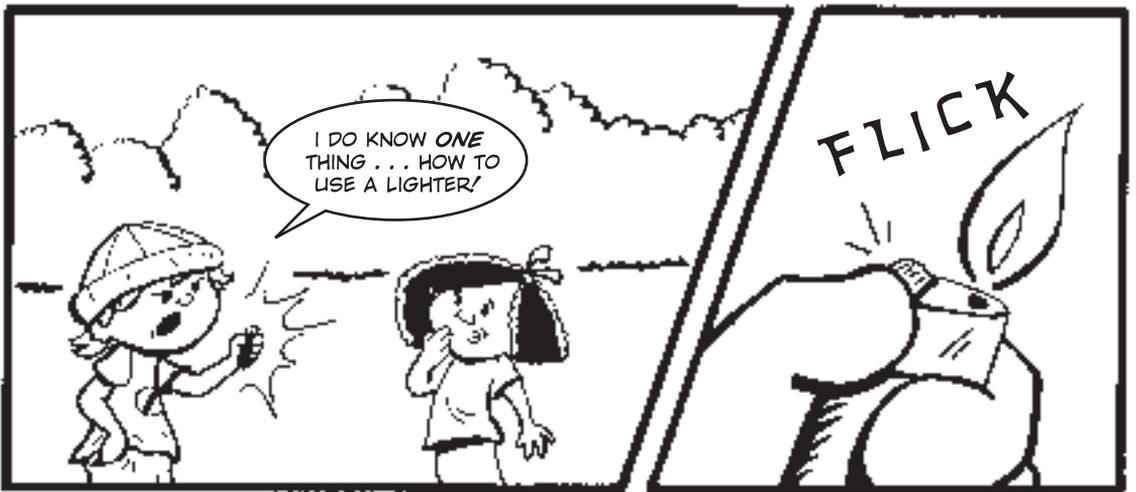
AL BIGLEY
COLORS/DESIGN

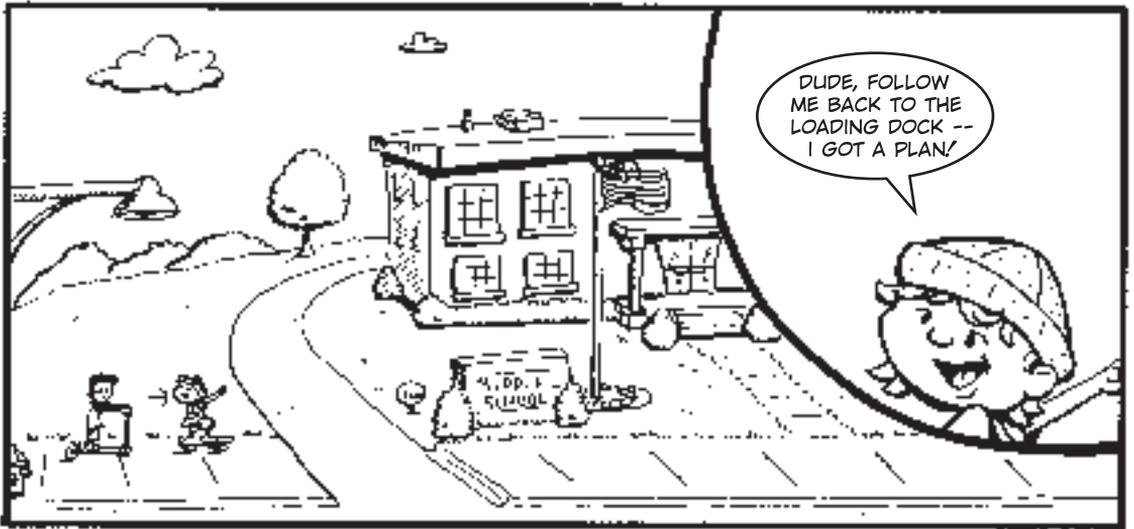
ROBERT ROWE
LETTERING

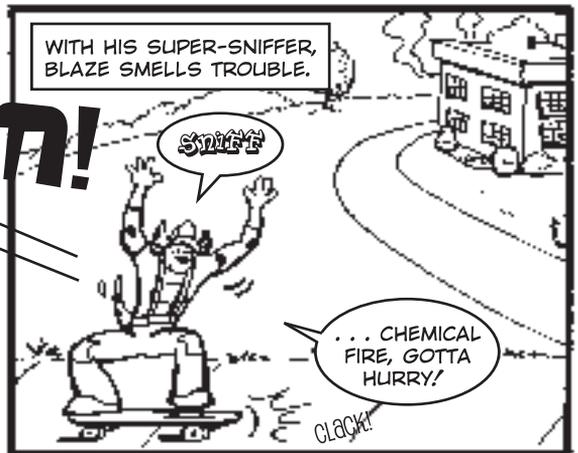
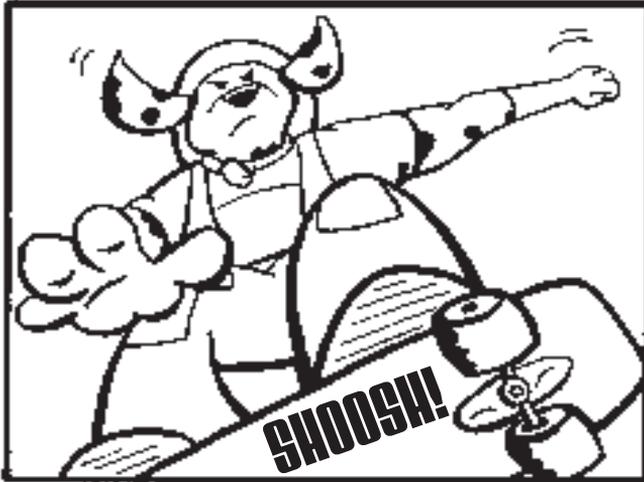


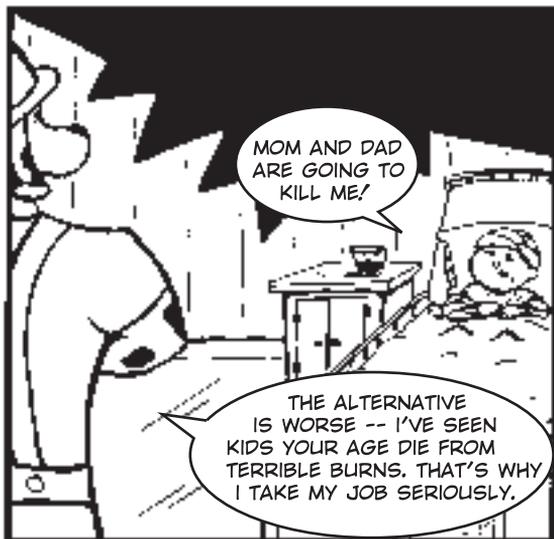
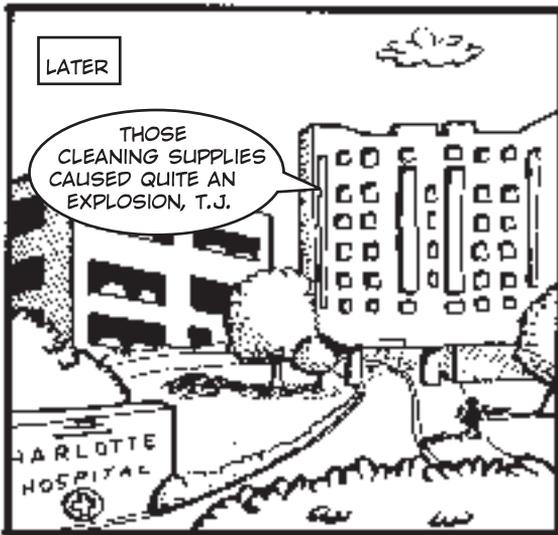




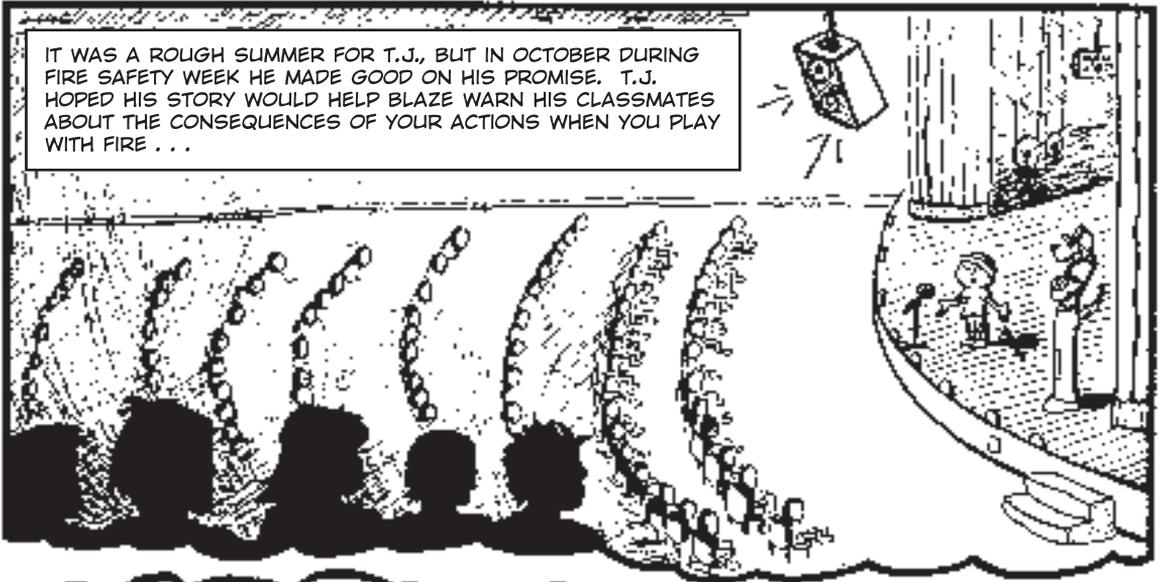








IT WAS A ROUGH SUMMER FOR T.J., BUT IN OCTOBER DURING FIRE SAFETY WEEK HE MADE GOOD ON HIS PROMISE. T.J. HOPED HIS STORY WOULD HELP BLAZE WARN HIS CLASSMATES ABOUT THE CONSEQUENCES OF YOUR ACTIONS WHEN YOU PLAY WITH FIRE . . .

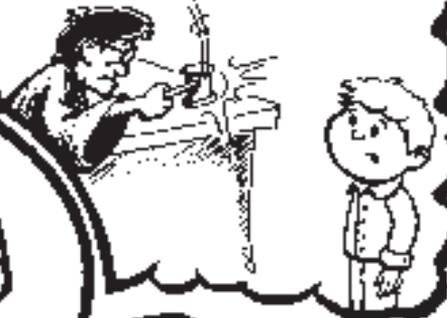


GETTING BURNED HURT A LOT!



THIS UGLY SCAR REMINDS ME EVERY DAY OF WHAT I DID . . . AND THERE'S MORE . . .

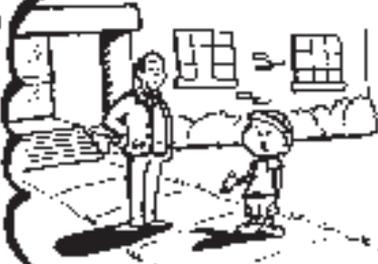
THE POLICE CAME TO MY HOUSE AND I HAD TO GO TO COURT. A JUDGE ORDERED ME TO PAY **RESTITUTION** . . . THAT MEANS I HAVE TO PAY FOR ALL THE MATH BOOKS AND SUPPLIES I BURNED -- THAT'S MY WHOLE ALLOWANCE FOR A YEAR! I ALSO HAVE TO DO "COMMUNITY SERVICE," WHICH MEANS I HAVE TO PICK UP TRASH IN THE PARK FOR TEN WEEKENDS.



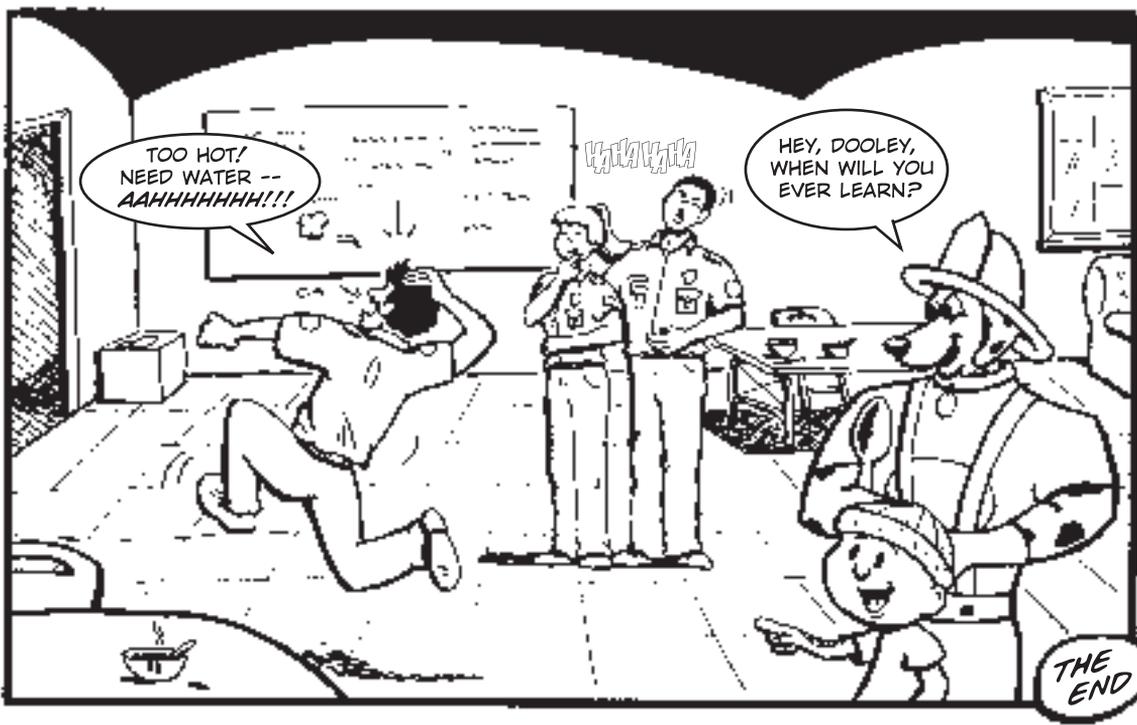
I TOOK A FIRE SAFETY COURSE, WHERE I LEARNED HOW TO DO A HOME SAFETY INSPECTION IN MY HOUSE. AND EVERY MONTH I HAVE TO MEET WITH MY COUNSELOR.



I HAD TO APOLOGIZE TO A LOT OF PEOPLE -- IT WAS TOTALLY EMBARRASSING!



THE THING IS, IF YOU'RE THINKING OF STARTING A FIRE, THINK AGAIN . . . I WISH I HAD.





BLAZE is the official superhero firefighting mascot of the Charlotte Fire Department. Blaze uses his extraordinary powers to prevent fires and burn injuries from occurring, and has the ability to influence kids of all ages to "Do the Right Thing" when it comes to fire safety.

MEET BLAZE

BREED: Dalmatian
BIRTHDAY: October 1, 2004
HEIGHT: 6'4"
WEIGHT: 185 lbs
HOME: Fire Station #1 "The Big House"
SCHOOL: CFD Training Academy
JOB: Charlotte Firefighter
HOBBY: Chasing Cats
FAVORITE FOOD: Firehouse chili
PET PEEVE: Kids playing with matches & lighters
QUOTE: "Don't get caught in a blaze... have and practice a home fire escape plan!"



DID YOU KNOW?

More children are killed each year while playing with matches and lighters than while playing with loaded guns.

Fire kills more Americans each year than ALL natural disasters.

Every day 13 people die in fires and 3 of them are kids.

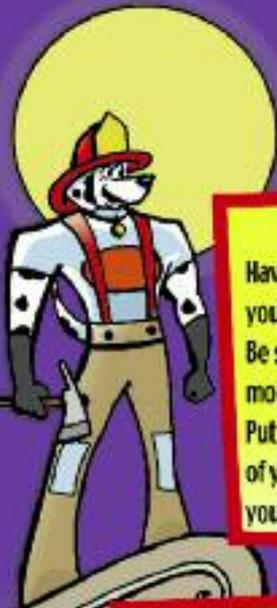
BURN UNIT

A burn unit bed in the hospital costs about \$3,000.00 per day, and the average length of stay for a 25% of body burn is 6 weeks. You can help burn victims by saving aluminum cans and putting them in the collection containers for recycling at the fire station.

Facts from U.S. Fire Administration 10/98 and 7/05

www.charlottefire.org

BLAZE SAFETY TIPS



SMOKE ALARMS

Having a working smoke alarm increases your chances of surviving a fire by 50%. Be sure to test your alarms at least once a month and change the batteries twice a year. Put at least one smoke alarm on each level of your home and make sure they are near your sleeping areas.

HOME EVACUATION PLANS

Every home should have a Home Fire Escape Plan. Draw a floor plan or map of your home. Be sure to show all windows and doors. Clearly indicate 2 ways out of each room. Pick a family meeting place outside where everyone can meet. Remember to practice your plan at least twice a year.

COOKING

Most residential fires occur in the kitchen. You should never leave food cooking on the stove or in the oven unattended. Kids cooking should always be supervised by a responsible adult. Turn pot handles inward to prevent them from being knocked off the stove, and never wear loose or baggy sleeves that may drag across the stove burners when you are cooking.

9-1-1

The 9-1-1 system is a central telephone number for you to call for all types of life threatening emergencies. Always give your name and the location and type of emergency. Calling 9-1-1 as a joke or prank is a crime. It delays getting help to those who really need it. 9-1-1 operators can trace where a call was made from.

MATCHES AND LIGHTERS

Matches and lighters are tools, not toys. They should be kept in a secure location and out of the hands of children. If you find matches or lighters, do not touch or play with them, but tell a responsible adult.

ARSON

Arson is the crime of starting a fire and burning either some of your property or the property of another person. You can be arrested for arson and have to pay for any damage you caused and a fine, too. A judge can make you perform hours of community service or send you to a Juvenile Detention Facility (jail). You are responsible for your behavior and your actions.