

Especially for young readers



The Mini Page

© 1978 by The Mini Page Publishing Co. All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S.A. Distributed by M.S.C. Publishers, Inc.

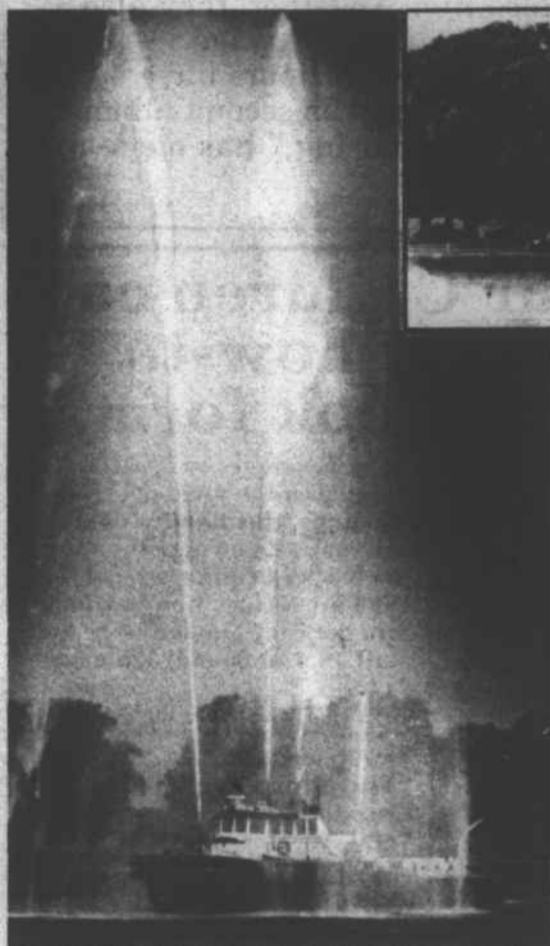


Distinguished Achievement Awards Winner 1975

By BETTY DEBNAM

A Floating Hydrant

Fireboats Have Plenty of Water



The fireboat sometimes shows off. It puts on a water display for tourists and important Washington visitors.



Sparky reminds us to prevent fires on land, sea and in the air! He is very busy the week of October 9. This is National Fire Prevention Week. That is when the big Chicago fire blazed in 1871.



The John H. Glenn fireboat in action. The boat can pump water at the rate of 5,000 gallons per minute. A fire truck can only pump 750 gallons a minute. The boat is named after John Glenn, the first American to orbit the earth. He is now a U.S. senator from Ohio.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The John H. Glenn fireboat has plenty of water.

All it has to do is pump water from the Potomac River.

Many harbors and rivers have fireboats.

People's boats catch fire just like their houses do.

Fireboats also put out fires on shore. They pump water to dockside blazes.

They can also hook up to hoses on land and pump water several blocks away.

Fireboats don't just put out fires.

In bad weather, they often swing into action. They rush to rescue boats in trouble.

When an alarm sounds, the firefighters can have the boat under way in 30 seconds.

The firemen live in a firehouse at the end of a dock.

The engineer works down below to keep the engines running and the pumps pumping.



Mini Page photos by Betty Debnam

The pilot at the boat's helm, or steering wheel. He must navigate the boat and know all about the 42 miles of shoreline the boat protects.

Draw a line to these words on this page.

- people's
- don't
- Potomac
- harbors
- rescue
- under way



A firefighter stands on the bow, the front of a boat. Firefighters on boats wear uniforms just like those worn by firefighters on shore.