



Bells and Whistles

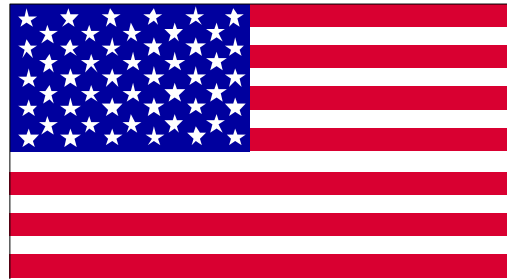
Algonquin Lake in the Hills Fire Rescue Newsletter

July 2009

HAPPY JULY 4TH!

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"Not everything that counts can be counted, and not everything that can be counted counts." - Albert Einstein

Chief's Corner

By Chief Kevin Rynders

Talk the Talk.....Walk the Walk

As the old saying goes, talk is cheap but can you follow through with action? We can probably use this phrase when evaluating many aspects of our lives - friendships, families, personal development, responsibility.....and the list goes on and on.

For the moment, and since the 4th of July is only a few days from now, let's zero in on what we stand for.....promoting Fire Safety.

Remember kids, fireworks are dangerous and in Illinois most are against the law. Enjoy fireworks that are displayed by professionals. Don't be foolish!

Algonquin Lake in the Hills
Fire Protection District

Station 1
1020 West Algonquin Road
Lake in the Hills, Illinois 60156
(847) 658-8233
fax (847) 854-2609

Station 2
2440 Harnish Dr.
Algonquin, IL 60102
(847) 658-8224

Station 3
1691 Cumberland Pkwy
Algonquin, IL 60102
(847) 658-0930

In 2007 hospital emergency rooms treated an estimated 9,800 people for fireworks injuries. Fireworks, including those that are legal to use, are a major cause of eye injuries and blindness.

Sparklers, as lame as they may seem, generate temperatures that may exceed 1200 degrees.

This 4th of July show your pride, not only as an American but also as a firefighter. Don't just **Talk the Talk**, but try to **Walk the Walk**. Don't use illegal fireworks.

Have a Safe and Fun Independence Day!

Personnel Status

New Hire

Jeff Harper- Fire Commissioner

Workers Comp

Kim Matz

Dominick Vassos

Not on Active Duty

Scott Burkemper

Bill Hough

EMPLOYEE TOTAL 81

Officials 8

Full time 52

Firefighter/paramedics - 34

Firefighter/EMT - 11

Firefighter - 1

Salary - 4

Civilian - 2

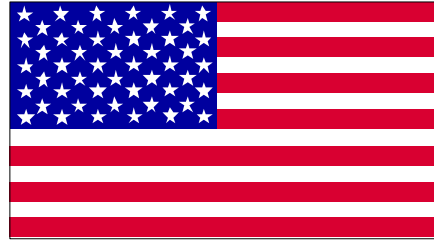
Part time 22

Firefighter/Paramedic - 6

Firefighter/EMT - 10

Paramedic - 3

Civilian - 3



Statistics

June 1 - June 30, 2009

Fire calls 112

EMS calls 219

0130 81

Station One

0151 118

0141 171

0150 3

0181 47

Station Two

0152 128

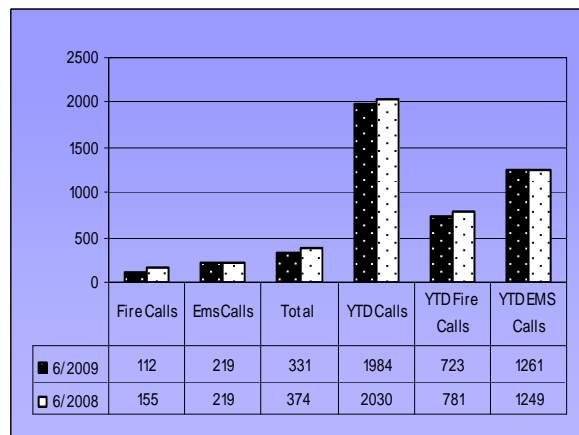
0142 136

Station Three

0153 37

0143 63

Grand Total 331



Birthdays

July 2 nd	Kristy Huddleston
July 11 th	Brian Kimpel
July 12 th	John Skillman
July 15 th	Steve Ciaccio
July 18 th	Kevin Raether
July 20 th	Kevin Goers
July 21 st	Craig Allen
July 25 th	Tim Ross
July 28 th	Ron Houghton
July 28 th	Don Kublank

Anniversaries

In July, the following people are celebrating an anniversary on the Algonquin/Lake in the Hills Fire Department.

Keith Svendsen	30 years- part time and full time
Mike Saenz	10 years - part time and full time
Julie Didier	8 years - full time
Steve Witkus	5 years - full time

The REDNECK FIRE ALARM

Available at most local grocery stores and Wal-Mart.



Congratulations!

Andrew Pieri graduated from SIU this spring with a Bachelors in Fire Science Management. Way to go!



Fireworks Safety this Weekend

By Lt Julie Didier

Each July 4th, thousands of people, most often children and teens, are injured while using consumer fireworks. Despite the dangers of fireworks, few people understand the associated risks - devastating burns, other injuries, fires, and even death. Permanent scarring, loss of vision, dismemberment - these are too often the harsh realities of amateur fireworks use.

Pyrotechnic devices ranging from sparklers to aerial rockets cause thousands of fires and serious injuries each year. *Did you know that even sparklers, which are considered by many to be harmless, reach temperatures of more than 1,200° F?*

Facts & figures:

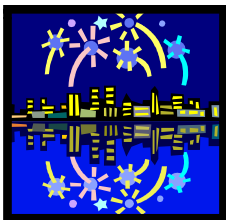
- In 2006, fireworks caused an estimated **32,600** reported fires, including **1,700** total structure fires, **600** vehicle fires, and **30,300** outside and other fires. These fires resulted in an estimated **6** civilian deaths, **70** civilian injuries and **\$34** million in direct property damage.
- In 2007, U.S. hospital emergency rooms treated an estimated **9,800** people for fireworks related injuries; **56%** of 2007 emergency room fireworks-related injuries were to the extremities and **36%** were to the head.

- The risk of fireworks injury was **two-and-a-half times** as high for children ages **5-9** or **10-14** as for the general population.
- On Independence Day in a typical year, more U.S. fires are reported than on any other day, and fireworks account for half of those fires, more than any other cause of fires.

(Source: NFPA's Fireworks report by John R. Hall, Jr., June 2009)

Wooded areas, homes, and even automobiles have become engulfed in flames because of fireworks. Fireworks-related fires have typically caused at least \$20 million in property loss (not adjusted for inflation) each year in recent years. A substantial portion of the structure fire property loss due to fireworks typically involves bottle rockets or other fireworks rockets. These rockets can land on rooftops or wedge within certain structures and still retain enough heat to cause a fire.

Public fireworks displays are one of those alternatives. Conducted by trained professionals, these displays are the smartest and safest fireworks alternative for anyone because they are established under controlled settings and regulations. Consider attending one of the many local fireworks show this upcoming weekend and be safe!



Friday, 7/3/09

Barrington, Barrington High School, 616 W. Main St., Barrington: at dusk.

Bartlett, Apple Orchard Park, corner of Stearns and South Bartlett Rds, Bartlett: 9:30 p.m.

Elgin, Elgin Sports Complex, 709 Sports Way, Elgin: 9:20 p.m.

Hoffman Estates, Hoffman Estates Village Hall, 1900 Hassell Rd, Hoffman Estates: 9:30 p.m.

Huntley, Prime Outlets, I-90 and Route 47, Huntley: 9:30 p.m.

Sleepy Hollow, Sabatino Park, Winmoor Drive and Willow Lane, Sleepy Hollow: 9:30 p.m.

Streamwood, Dolphin Park, 880 S. Park Blvd., Streamwood: at dusk.

Woodstock, Emricson Park, off Route 14, Woodstock: at dusk.

Saturday, 7/4/09

Crystal Lake, Lippold Park, Route 176, west of Route 14, Crystal Lake: 9:15 p.m.

and of course...

Algonquin - The Founders' Days Festival

Fireworks Spectacular

Sunday, 7/26/09

9:00 p.m.

Riverfront Park

Photo Radar Vans Click to Capture Speeders in Work Zones

"Construction season is in full effect and we want to urge motorists to comply with the posted speed limits in all work zones. We want to send a message to motorists now to slow down in work zones," IDOT Secretary Gary Hannig said. "If you are caught speeding in a work zone, at minimum you will be looking at a fine of \$375, and while some may think that's harsh, you cannot put a price on a life."

The law states that first-time work zone speeders, including those caught on camera, will be hit with a fine of \$375, with \$125 of that sum going to pay off-duty State Troopers to provide added enforcement in construction or maintenance zones. Two-time offenders are subject to a \$1,000 fine, including a \$250 surcharge to hire Troopers, and the loss of their license for 90 days. Tickets received in a work zone require a mandatory court appearance.

This summer, 5 vans will be deployed across the state. The specially equipped vans are staffed by specially trained ISP officers and can take photographs of drivers speeding in IDOT and Tollway construction and maintenance zones. Tickets are reviewed and approved by

ISP and will be issued by mail to vehicle owners. The registered owner will not be liable if someone else is driving the vehicle. Businesses and rental companies are required to provide the driver information for any violations occurring with their vehicles. To date, over 8,000 citations have been issued across the state.

For more info:

<http://www.dot.state.il.us/press/r062409.html>

Reflections

By Anna Quindlen, Newsweek Columnist and Author:

All my babies are gone now. I say this not in sorrow but in disbelief. I take great satisfaction in what I have today: three almost-adults, two taller than I am, one closing in fast. Three people who read the same books I do and have learned not to be afraid of disagreeing with me in their opinion of them, who sometimes tell vulgar jokes that make me laugh until I choke and cry, who need razor blades and shower gel and privacy, who want to keep their doors closed more than I like. Who miraculously, go to the bathroom, zip up their jackets and move food from plate to mouth all by themselves. Like the trick soap I bought for the bathroom with a rubber ducky at its center, the baby is buried deep within each, barely discernible except through the reliable haze of the past.

Everything in all the books I once poured over is finished for me now. Penelope Leach., T. Berry Brazelton., Dr. Spock. The ones on sibling rivalry and sleeping through the night and early-childhood education, have all grown obsolete. Along with *Goodnight Moon* and *Where the Wild Things Are*, they are battered, spotted, well used. But I suspect that if you flipped the pages dust would rise like memories. What those books taught me, finally, and what the women on the playground taught me, and the well-meaning relations --what they taught me, was that they couldn't really teach me very much at all.

Raising children is presented at first as a true-false test, then becomes multiple choice, until

finally, far along, you realize that it is an endless essay. No one knows anything. One child responds well to positive reinforcement, another can be managed only with a stern voice and a timeout. One child is toilet trained at 3, his sibling at 2.

When my first child was born, parents were told to put baby to bed on his belly so that he would not choke on his own spit-up. By the time my last arrived, babies were put down on their backs because of research on sudden infant death syndrome. To a new parent this ever-shifting certainty is terrifying, and then soothing. Eventually you must learn to trust yourself. Eventually the research will follow. I remember 15 years ago pouring over one of Dr. Brazelton's wonderful books on child development, in which he describes three different sorts of infants: average, quiet, and active. I was looking for a sub-quiet codicil for an 18-month old who did not walk. Was there something wrong with his fat little legs? Was there something wrong with his tiny little mind? Was he developmentally delayed, physically challenged? Was I insane? Last year he went to China. Next year he goes to college. He can talk just fine. He can walk, too.

Every part of raising children is humbling, too. Believe me, mistakes were made. They have all been enshrined in the, "Remember-When- Mom-Did" Hall of Fame." The outbursts, the temper tantrums, the bad language, mine, not theirs. The times the baby fell off the bed. The times I arrived late for preschool pickup. The nightmare sleepover. The horrible summer camp. The day when the youngest came barreling out of the classroom with a 98 on her geography test, and I responded, "What did you get wrong?". (She insisted I include that.) The time I ordered food at the McDonald's drive-through speaker and then drove away without picking it up from the window. (They all insisted I include that.) I did not allow them to watch the Simpsons for the first two seasons. What was I thinking?

But the biggest mistake I made is the one that most of us make while doing this. I did not live in the moment enough. This is particularly clear now

that the moment is gone, captured only in photographs. There is one picture of the three of them, sitting in the grass on a quilt in the shadow of the swing set on a summer day, ages 6, 4 and 1. And I wish I could remember what we ate, and what we talked about, and how they sounded, and how they looked when they slept that night. I wish I had not been in such a hurry to get on to the next thing: dinner, bath, book, bed. I wish I had treasured the doing a little more and the getting it done a little less.

Even today I'm not sure what worked and what didn't, what was me and what was simply life. When they were very small, I suppose I thought someday they would become who they were because of what I'd done. Now I suspect they simply grew into their true selves because they demanded in a thousand ways that I back off and let them be. The books said to be relaxed and I was often tense, matter-of-fact and I was sometimes over the top. And look how it all turned out. I wound up with the three people I like best in the world, who have done more than anyone to excavate my essential humanity. That's what the books never told me. I was bound and determined to learn from the experts. It just took me a while to figure out who the experts were.