



BELLS AND WHISTLES

Algonquin Lake in the Hills Fire Protection District Newsletter

November 2009



HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

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New Businesses

Doug's Transmission Service, 1531 Imhoff
Marco Mufflers and Brakes, 1060 W Algonquin
Martinez, Rich, 1510 Industrial Unit A-Storage

Condolences

Our thought and prayers go out to Chris Mika and his family on the loss of Chris's father, Joseph Mika.

Fire Prevention

By Bureau Director Murphy

Fatalities and Damage from Fire Drops Significantly in Sprinklered Homes

New report shows benefits of home fire sprinkler

No deaths in sprinklered homes

<http://e.nfpa.org/a/hBK10crAQPK-TB7vLCfDULPB65y/link3>

The home fire sprinkler ordinance effective since 1992 in Prince George's County, MD has had a significant impact on life-safety and reduction of property damage, according to a new study released this month by the nonprofit [Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition](http://e.nfpa.org/a/hBK10crAQPK-TB7vLCfDULPB65y/link3) (HFSC). The study, produced in cooperation with the University of Maryland, analyzed Prince George's County's experience with its single-family dwelling fire sprinkler ordinance over the 15-year period of 1992-2007.

<http://e.nfpa.org/a/hBK10crAQPK-TB7vLCfDULPB65y/link3>

During the 15-year period, there were 13,494 house



Bells and Whistles
Algonquin Lake in the Hills Fire
Department

Station 1

1020 W. Algonquin Rd
Lake in the Hills, IL 60156
(847) 658-8233
fax (847)854-2609

Station 2

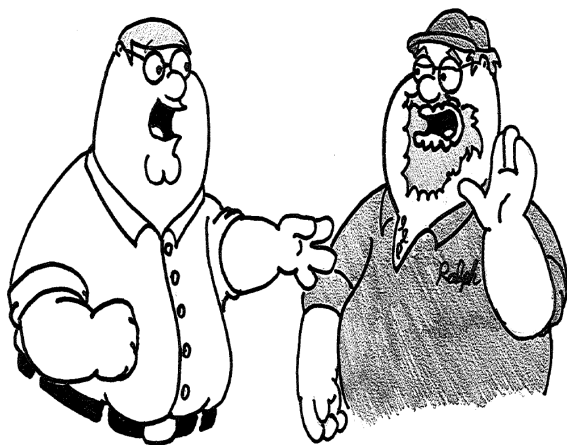
2440 Harnish Dr
Algonquin, IL 60102
(847) 658-8224

Station 3

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

fires with 101 deaths and 328 injuries in homes that were not protected with fire sprinklers. There were no deaths in the homes protected with home fire sprinklers. The average property loss after a fire with fatalities in an unsprinklered residence was 10 times more costly than a fire in homes protected with a fire sprinkler system.

"What we envisioned 20 years ago when we started our work to require fire sprinklers in single-family homes was demonstrated in this report," said William Barnard, Maryland State Fire Marshal. "Prince George's County was the first county in our country to pass this type of ordinance. With the completion of this study, we have the data to prove that we were right. The biggest fact is the fire fatalities. There were no fatalities in homes protected with fire sprinklers. It is unfortunate there were so many fatalities in the homes not protected with fire sprinklers."



By FF Dan Pressler

"Do my eyes deceive me? Have I just stumbled upon a carbon copy of myself? Look at that same chiseled chin, bulging biceps, and wash board type abs. And only a god from the heavens can pull off wearing such an off purple polo with matching purple hat. Puttah there fella The names Peter...Peter Griffin".

"How the heck are ya Pete? The name's Ralph Peterson. Now enough with the chit chat, can I trouble you for a lower back massage?"

Personnel Status

New Hire

Chris Bremner (Part time to full time)

Work Comp Leave

Kim Matz

Resigned

Charlie Cox, FF/PM (7 years)

EMPLOYEE TOTAL 81

Officials 8

Full time 51

Firefighter/paramedics - 37

Firefighter/EMT - 7

Firefighter - 1

Salary - 4

Civilian - 2

Part time 22

Firefighter/Paramedic - 6

Firefighter/EMT - 10

Firefighter - 0

Paramedic - 3

Civilians - 3

Congratulations

Congratulations to John-Paul Kilanski on attaining Rope Operations and Confined Space certification from the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

It's my privilege to announce that Chris Bremner has completed all requirements of being employed as a full-time member of the Algonquin - Lake in the Hills Fire Protection District. His status shall change to full-time effective October 16, 2009. Chris will be assigned to Red Shift effective October 17, 2009.

His official swearing-in ceremony is planned for the next Board Meeting on November 18, 2009.

Congrats to Josh as he is now a paramedic in our system. Josh recently tested into our system and can now run as a paramedic on our rigs.

Please join me in giving Josh congratulations for a job well done.

Birthdays

November 9 th	Marjean Diercks
November 9 th	Laurel Warren
November 13 th	Justin Dusek
November 20 th	Matt Berg
November 21 st	Tim Monahan
November 29 th	Chris Bremner
November 30 th	Scott Olsen

Happy Birthday to all!

Statistics

October 1-31, 2009

Fire calls 111

EMS calls 213

0130 61

Station One

0151 120

0141 132

0181 14

0154 4

Station Two

0152 108

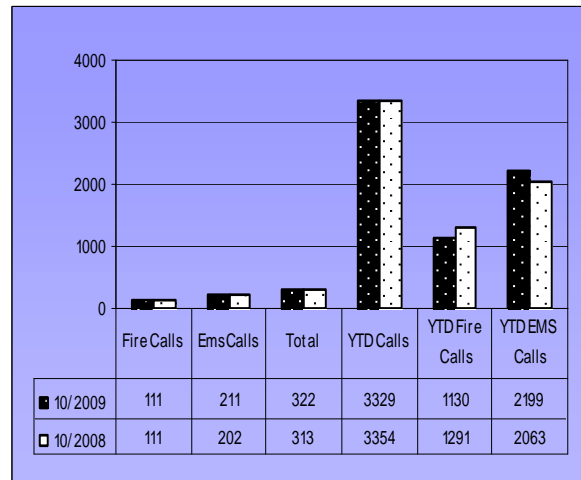
0142 126

Station Three

0153 37

0143 73

Grand Total 322



Anniversaries

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

Rick Kempe	33 years FT and PT (Marjean turned 6 on your hire date!)
Keith Mohr	9 years PT
Scott Burkemper	8 years PT
Michele Bauer	7 years FT

Reflections

Making Memories

Some may think spending the day with a child is doing 'nothing much.' Here's why it's the most important thing in the world.

BY: Tonna Canfield from 'Chicken Soup for the Soul'

After eating breakfast, my little girl says, "Mommy, will you watch this show with me?" I look at the breakfast dishes in the sink and then at her big brown eyes.

"Okay," I say, and we snuggle together on the couch

and watch her favorite show.

After the show, we put together a puzzle and I head for the kitchen to wash those dirty dishes when the phone rings. "Hi," my friend says, "What have you been doing?"

"Well," I say, "watching my little one's favorite show with her and putting together a puzzle."

"Oh," she says, "so you're not busy today."

No, I think to myself, just busy making memories.

After lunch, Erica says, "Mommy, please play a game with me." Now I am looking at not only the breakfast dishes but also the lunch dishes piled in the sink. But again, I look at those big brown eyes and I remember how special it felt when my mom played games with me when I was a little girl.

"Sounds like fun," I answer, "but just one game." We play her favorite game, and I can tell she is delighting in every moment.

When the game ends, she says, "Please read me a story."

"Okay," I say, "but just one."

After reading her favorite story, I head for the kitchen to tackle those dishes. With the dishes now done, I start to fix supper. My willing little helper comes eagerly to the kitchen to help me with my task. I'm running behind and thinking about how much faster I could do this if my sweet little one would just go play or watch a video, but her willingness to help and her eagerness to learn how to do what her mommy is doing melts my heart, and I say, "Okay, you can help," knowing it will probably take twice as long.

As supper is about ready, my husband comes home from work and asks, "What did you do today?"

I answer, "Let's see, we watched her favorite show and we played a game and read a book. I did the dishes and vacuumed; then with my little helper, I fixed supper."

"Great," he says, "I'm glad you didn't have a busy day today."

But I was busy, I think to myself, busy making memories.

After supper, Erica says, "Let's bake cookies."

"Okay," I say, "let's bake cookies."

After baking cookies, once again I am staring at a mountain of dishes from supper and cookie baking, but with the smell of warm cookies consuming the house, I pour us a glass of cold milk and fill a plate with warm cookies and take them to the table. We gather around the table eating cookies, drinking milk, talking and making memories.

No sooner have I tackled those dishes than my little sweetie comes tugging at my shirt, saying, "Could we take a walk?"

"Okay," I say, "let's take a walk." The second time around the block I'm thinking about the mountain of laundry that I need to get started on and the dust encompassing our home; but I feel the warmth of her hand in mine and the sweetness of our conversation as she enjoys my undivided attention, and I decide at least once more around the block sounds like a good idea.

When we get home, my husband asks, "Where have you been?"

"We've been making memories," I say.

A load in the wash and, my little girl all bathed and in her gown, the tiredness begins to creep in as she says, "Let's fix each other's hair."

I'm so tired! my mind is saying, but I hear my mouth saying, "Okay, let's brush each other's hair." With that task complete, she jumps up excitedly, "Let's paint each other's nails! Please!" So she paints my toenails, and I paint her fingernails, and we read a book while waiting for our nails to dry. I have to turn the pages, of course, because her fingernails are still drying.

We put away the book and say our prayers. My husband peeks his head in the door, "What are my girls doing?" he asks.

"Making memories," I answer.

"Mommy," she says, "will you lay with me until I fall asleep?"

"Yes," I say, but inside I'm thinking, *I hope she falls asleep quickly so I can get up; I have so much to do.*

About that time, two precious little arms encircle my neck as she whispers, "Mommy, nobody but God loves you as much as I do." I feel the tears roll down my cheeks as I thank God for the day we spent making memories.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!