

HOT NEWS



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MENOMONEE FALLS FIRE DEPARTMENT

LIGHTNIN' STRIKES

It was a stormy morning. Rain poured down and lightning cracked across the sky as many were starting their day on Tuesday, August 25. At around 7:45 a.m. our dispatch started to receive calls from passers-by that there was smoke coming from the area near County Line Road and Maple Road.

As crews arrived on scene, they found a fully-engulfed storage shed/barn fire with most of the roof collapsed. Thankfully, no animals were kept in the barn.

All lanes of County Line Road had to be closed off to traffic in order to stretch a hose across it from a hydrant on the north side of the street.

Crews worked quickly to bring the fire under control. An ambulance was kept on scene for any crew members that may have needed EMS on that hot and humid day.

We want to thank the surrounding departments of City of Brookfield, Butler, Elm Grove, Germantown, Lisbon, Pewaukee and Sussex Fire Departments that provided assistance either on scene or by staffing our stations during the incident. Menomonee Falls Police Department also helped with traffic control.

Great job to all who were on the scene!

IT'S BACK!

It's been over a decade since the last Hot News was circulated. If you were here long enough, you'll remember it was our monthly newsletter. Well, ladies and gentlemen, it's back and will help us stay up to date with what's going on within the department and among our ranks.

Here's a blurb taken from a 2008 issue that is still true today:

"We want to know "Whaaaat's Uuuup" with our members. Who's expecting a baby, or who just had a baby, any engagements, weddings or wedding anniversaries? Anyone recovering from an accident, illness, surgery, death of family member, etc.?"

We also place ads in the Hot News, in our section entitled "The Exchange."

If you would like to submit your information for publication, email Jessi Coon at jcoon@menomonee-falls.org. Then look for "the news" to appear in an upcoming issue.

TRIVIA QUESTION

How many tornadoes have hit Wisconsin between 1950 and 2019?

- A. 850
- B. 1225
- C. 1500
- D. 1775

(answer on page 4)





TRAINING IS NOT THE KEY TO SUCCESS IN THE FIRE SERVICE

Maybe you read that statement and thought it had a typo—or maybe you read it and it made you stop and think. We always talk about training in the fire service like it is the one thing that can solve every future problem. Similarly, the lack of training is the scapegoat for when things go badly. In reality, talking about training alone misses the other ingredients that lead to success—education and experience. There is no one perfect recipe using those three ingredients that guarantees success. A combination of the three, particularly one that always relies heavily on training and education, is most likely to lead to success. Set yourself up for success by seeking out opportunities for training and education keeping in mind the best learning comes from a place of curiosity. You don't have to wait for a class to learn about why you struggle with starting a gas chainsaw. You don't have to wait until Target Solutions is assigned to learn about responding to gas emergencies. And you don't have to wait until you become an MPO to understand what DEF is and how it works. There will always be training and education that is neatly packaged and delivered to your door, but if you rely only on that you will be missing out. Seek out information—ask questions—BE CURIOUS!

READ:

Report: Four Firefighters Injured in Lithium-Ion Battery Energy Storage System Explosion

<https://ulffirefightersafety.org/posts/four-firefighters-injured-in-lithium-ion-battery-energy-storage-system-explosion.html>

DO:

Suppression Tactics in Single-Family Homes

<https://training.ulffirefightersafety.org/course/014-suppression-tactics>

REVIEW and DISCUSS:

NIOSH death in the line of duty...

Structure Collapse at 140-Year Old Mill Building Kills 2 Career Fire Fighters and Injures 2 Others

<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/pdfs/face201806.pdf>

GET INVOLVED:

<http://www.brewcityfools.com/>

FREE TRAINING:

Center for Disaster Preparedness

<https://cdp.dhs.gov/find-training/discipline/fire-service>

- Battalion Chief Nicholas Boehlke



BRIEF SUMMARY OF EMS UPDATES

PROTOCOL REVISIONS

A few protocol revisions have been implemented, including changes to pain management like the addition of Dilaudid and dosing changes for fentanyl. A number of other revisions are in the works, like the addition of Geodon for psychiatric emergencies, and pacing for symptomatic bradycardia, to name a few.

EQUIPMENT

We have made a number of improvements to equipment. ZOLL monitors have been sent out for upgrades, and the Knox MedVaults will be more user friendly going forward. With the new MedVaults, the new main supply vault now allows crews to replace controlled substances when needed, instead of having to wait to restock. Two additional LUCAS 3 devices are on order, so all ambulances will have one. New oral thermometers are on order for the three ambulances that did not have them. The goal is that all ambulances should have the same equipment, and similar capabilities.


SUPPLIES

All of the ambulances have been outfitted to be able to operate as paramedic units. Flex staffing, when able, allows us to serve our citizens better. The universal layout, as well as stocking of all vehicles, means less things that need switching when an ambulance goes out of service.

Finally, and most importantly, I wanted to thank everyone for their feedback regarding our EMS program. There have been a lot of good ideas, some were quickly implemented, others are still in the works. I'm excited for the direction that our EMS program is moving, and the exciting things we have in store.

- EMS Service Director Kevin Myers

NEWS ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

 Congratulations to **John Schut** and his wife, Ginny, who got married on Aug. 22.

 After almost 10 years on the department, **Mike Groh** is leaving us for sunny Florida.

 **Cody and Nicki Porter** welcomed baby Charlotte Ann into the world on July 11.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS & WORK ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

09/03	John Schut
09/08	Gabe Norton
09/10	Lucas Albertson
09/18	Lisa Ulicki
09/23	DC Don Umhoefer
09/24	Josh Hutwagner

ANNIVERSARY DATES

21 years

09/21/1999	Lt. Brent Biedenbender Nick Coon
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15 years

09/26/2005	Lt. Joe Ostrosky
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FILL THE BOOT

Normally on Labor Day you will see members of the MFFD on street corners throughout the Village taking donations as part of the "Fill the Boot" campaign to support the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

While the traditional Fill the Boot drive is on hiatus this year, you can still support the virtual campaign that will be held the entire month of September.

The money raised will help children and adults in our community, and will also help support innovative research to change the future for people with neuromuscular diseases.

For more information or to donate, click on the icon below or go to <https://filltheboot.donordrive.com/participant/Local3879>



MFFD MONTHLY INCIDENT COUNTS

AUGUST 2019

Station 1 - 160
Station 2 - 40
Station 3 - 82
Station 4 - 62
Station 5 - 14

Total Runs - 358

AUGUST 2020

Station 1 - 161
Station 2 - 59
Station 3 - 105
Station 4 - 81
Station 5 - 21

Total Runs - 427

TRIVIA ANSWER

C. 1500

Over 1,500 tornadoes have hit Wisconsin since 1950 — over 20 a year. These have caused nearly a hundred deaths and over 1,600 injuries. In a typical year there will be millions of dollars in damage to property and crops.

Data prior to 1950 is incomplete because in many cases, only large tornadoes were reported and many rural tornadoes went unreported.





FIT 4 FIRE—PEER FITNESS TRAINING AT MFFD

Several years ago Firefighter/Paramedic Jesse Holmes started meeting with Jordan Ponder, a Captain on the Milwaukee Fire Department, who specializes in firefighter fitness programs. Jordan also runs his own business implementing fitness programs in other fire departments and training peer fitness trainers. With the support of Chief Washington and his desire to implement a fitness program here at the Falls, the program has finally been able to move forward. I was asked to assist given my background and current career as a Licensed Athletic Trainer.

During the third week of August, several members of the department met with Jordan as he taught the groundwork for dynamic performance training, specifically as it relates to our line of work. The program that he has developed focuses on movements we use for our job on a regular basis and has an emphasis on preventing injuries. One of the many ideas he stressed is that this is not a “workout” program, this is a way to train our bodies to perform tasks more efficiently and safely. We are the greatest assets our fire department has and by adding this style of training we are investing in ourselves.

Peer Fitness Training (PFT) requires minimal equipment and can be done no matter what your current level of fitness is. This program will also complement anyone’s current workout program, not detract from it. Jordan will continue to work with our department to ensure it runs smoothly and in the right direction. Those who attended his class will continue their education to become certified PFT trainers next year. We encourage everyone to participate in this training when we roll it out to each of the shifts and will be having Jordan lead a workout for each shift in September to kickoff the program.

- Firefighter/Paramedic Nichole Dorvinen



MEET MFFD's NEWEST MEMBERS



Name: Drake Barczak

Where do you live? Greenfield

Why did you join MFFD? I was interested in the profession after my previous job. I was lucky to get in touch with former Chief Kais. He motivated me and supported me through my process. He made it seem MFFD was a great place to work.

What classes have you taken related to Fire or EMS? Fire 1 and EMT-B

What classes will you be taking? Fire 2 and Paramedic down the road

Have you been on any other departments or in a related field? No

Are you employed somewhere besides MFFD? Agiliti Health Services

Do you have any family? Girlfriend named Haley

Any hobbies/activities involved in? Golf, working out, attending Packers games, hunting



Name: Brandon Mumm

Where do you live? Ripon

Why did you join MFFD? To gain experience in the fire service.

What classes have you taken related to Fire or EMS? Fire 1, RIT and EMT-B

What classes will you be taking? Fire 2, MPO, Fire Officer, Fire Investigation, Fire Inspector, Paramedic

Are you employed somewhere besides MFFD? Ripon and North Fond du Lac Fire Departments and Rosendale School District

Do you have any family? Wife - Pam, Allison-7, Charlie - 5

Any hobbies/activities involved in? Kiwanis and United Way, cycling

Anything else you would like to tell us about yourself? I am a substitute teacher. I have also organized a half marathon for the last 10 years.



Name: James Heichelbech

Where do you live? Pewaukee

Why did you join MFFD? I noticed how great the employees and community are. I believe joining MFFD will also allow me to sharpen my skills and learn more about the Menomonee Falls area and people.

What classes have you taken related to Fire or EMS? EMT, AEMT, Paramedic and Fire 1

What classes will you be taking? MPO and Fire 2

Have you been on any other departments or in a related field? Lisbon Fire Department, Richfield Volunteer Fire Department and Red Cross

Are you employed somewhere besides MFFD? Fulltime at Lisbon Fire Department

Any hobbies/activities involved in? Sporting clay shooting, fishing, spending quality time with family on Pewaukee Lake

Anything else you would like to tell us about yourself? I look forward to getting to know everyone here and to working with you.



Name: Matthew Wilson

Where do you live? Grafton

Why did you join MFFD? To take the next step towards a full-time career as a firefighter/paramedic

What classes have you taken related to Fire or EMS? Fire 1 and 2, D/O-Pumper, EMT-B, Building Construction, Fire Safety/Survival, Fire Behavior

What classes will you be taking? Paramedic, D/O-Aerial, Instructor 1 and Officer 1

Have you been on any other departments or in a related field? Grafton Fire Department, Western Lakes Fire District

Are you employed somewhere besides MFFD? Grafton Fire Department

Any hobbies/activities involved in? Bowhunting and the outdoors

Anything else you would like to tell us about yourself? Very eager to learn the trade and become an excellent paramedic



Review your family's emergency plans to see if they should change due to coronavirus.



National Preparedness Month (NPM) is recognized each September to promote family and community disaster planning now and throughout the year. As our nation continues to respond to COVID-19, there is no better time to be involved this September.

Stay tuned to Facebook for each week's theme and tips from [ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov).



2020

Disasters Don't Wait.
MAKE YOUR PLAN TODAY.

#BeReady