



# HOT NEWS

## THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MENOMONEE FALLS FIRE DEPARTMENT

### QUARTERLY STATION INSPECTION AWARD

Congratulations to Station 1 who wins the quarterly station inspection for the second time this year with a score of 236/260 possible points! To ensure everyone knows what is being inspected, there is a standard form that is used each time, and the inspection dates are scheduled ahead of time. The inspection form covers many areas including the station exterior, apparatus bay, vehicles, station entrance, and interior areas. Also inspected are operational systems such as the generator, smoke alarm, and carbon monoxide alarm. Stations 2, 3, and 5 had good showings, but station 1 has been a step above for the second quarter in a row. The improvements to the station interior and attention to detail stand out. This dedication to making the station look great is readily apparent. Thank you to all MFFD members for your work in keeping the stations looking and working at a high level.

### MFFD MONTHLY INCIDENT COUNTS

MARCH 2021	MARCH 2022
Station 1 - 160	Station 1 - 180
Station 2 - 46	Station 2 - 50
Station 3 - 94	Station 3 - 108
Station 4 - 48	Station 4 - 41
Station 5 - 21	Station 5 - 25
<b>Total Runs - 369</b>	<b>Total Runs - 404</b>



### TRIVIA QUESTION

How many fire departments are in the state of Wisconsin?

- A. 1,014
- B. 821
- C. 936
- D. 752

(answer on page 6)





*Fleet 1161*

## NEW COMMAND UNIT ARRIVES

MFFD took delivery of a new command unit in November 2021, and placed it into service shortly thereafter. Fleet 1161 is a 2021 4WD Chevrolet Tahoe Special Service Vehicle (SSV). It is outfitted with DOT approved lighting, reflective, and siren systems. This unit will provide safe transportation and emergency response for the on-duty Battalion Chief.



Equipped with a computer for dispatch and emergency operations, three on-board radios for emergency scene communications, and a command box from Rockland Cabinets, it allows our Battalion Chief to effectively run the variety of emergency scenes they are called to. Also installed is a Gear Clear cabinet with an external venting system that provides protective storage for turnout gear that is contaminated with carcinogens.

Fleet 1161 replaces Fleet 400 (a 2010 Chevrolet Suburban) as the command unit. A command unit is a specialized and integral piece of equipment, being utilized 24/7/365. With this importance, Fleet 400 is being repurposed as the backup command. This allows the supervisor to have a dedicated vehicle to use when 1161 requires maintenance or repair. Most of the time, when not being utilized, Fleet 400 will also function as an inspector and utility vehicle.



- Deputy Chief Kevin Rokenbrodt

# THE REV'S REFLECTIONS

April is an important month for those of us in the religious community. April sees the remembrance of Passover in the Jewish faith. In the Christian faith there is the celebration of Easter. Both of these religious holy times mark a significant change, a transition. For Passover, it was the transition of a people from slavery to freedom. Easter is a celebration of the transition from death to life. As with most change, both of these did not come easily. Passover's journey from slavery to freedom, included plagues, oppression, and a perilous journey through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. We would not have Easter if it were not for the agony in the garden and the Good Friday cross. But the pain and the struggle were not the end of the story. Passover celebrates freedom. Easter celebrates new life.

April will also be a time of change here in the Menomonee Falls Fire Department. We will transition from five fire houses to three stations. We will transition from very small crews to much larger crews. We will continue to add new people to the force, and bid farewell to some familiar faces. This time of transition will require a great deal from each of us. We will need to leave behind some old ways and adopt many new ones. We will need to grow into new patterns of serving the community. We will need to discover the positives and correct the negatives. So now we will move forward as faithful people have always moved forward. But know that we will do it together. Let's journey into the future.

Chaplain Russ Knoth



Rotary and chainsaw training



Rapid Intervention CPR training

## THOUGHT OF THE MONTH

Every accomplishment starts with the decision to try.

## APRIL WORK ANNIVERSARIES

### 34 years

4/25/1988 Todd Dettmering

### 14 years

04/01/2008 Douglas Mueller  
(with 18 previous years of service)

### 11 years

4/12/2011 Josh Hutwagner

### 8 years

4/1/2014 Lt. Rico Bishop  
Lt. Ed Burg  
Camron Hepp  
Lt Cody Porter  
Kevin Porter

### 6 years

4/2/2016 Dan Schroettner

### 4 years

4/1/2018 Matt Medrow  
(With 4.8 previous years of service)

### 1 year

4/18/2021 Quincy Beeks  
Jamie Bohacek  
Jim Creegan  
Devin Godager  
Midou Gueye  
Rebeca Juarez  
Jeffrey Mason  
Elijah Ornstein  
Jeffrey Plewa  
April Schuermann  
4/21/2021 Lawrence Jenkins  
Duane Kantowski

## FROM THE TRAINING BUREAU

### EMS & Training Update

Training with Dr. Shepherd—4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday @ 1700  
National EMS Week—May 15-21—Stay tuned for more information  
Live Burns—October (dates TBD)

Take a few moments to review the following links about current events.

#### READ:

Fire Law Blog  
[Court Refuses to Dismiss Ketamine-Related Claims in South Carolina Suit - Fire Law Blog](#)

#### WATCH:

FE Talk—Fire Engineering  
[Calling the Mayday - YouTube](#)

#### REVIEW and DISCUSS:

NIST  
[Firefighter Fatality & Injury Studies | NIST](#)

#### FREE TRAINING:

FEMA  
[National Fire Academy \(fema.gov\)](#)

#### RECHARGE:

LinkedIn  
[Why We All Need to Recharge: The Importance of Taking Time to Recharge to Prevent Burnout in the Workplace \(linkedin.com\)](#)



You can't help but smile when Charity visits! Charity is a Golden Retriever comfort dog who is trained to be a friend and brings a calming presence when she visits.

## STATEWIDE TORNADO DRILL ON APRIL 7

Tornado and Severe Weather Awareness Week in Wisconsin will take place April 4-8 this year. This annual campaign encourages everyone in the state of Wisconsin to prepare for the tornadoes and severe storms the state frequently experiences during the spring and summer months. During the drill, everyone in the state is encouraged to discuss and practice their plans on what to do during a tornado warning. For many people, this includes going to their designated tornado shelter, whether they are at school, work or home.

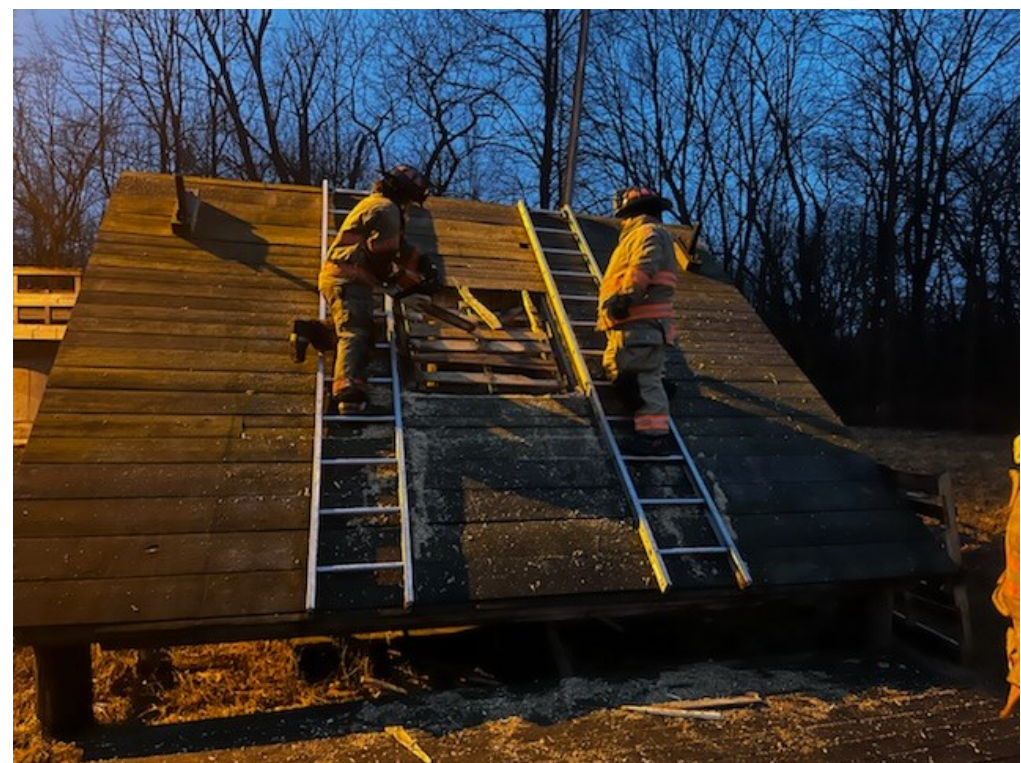
Due to concerns about the technical limitations of the drill, a decision has been made by Wisconsin Emergency Management, the National Weather Service, the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association, and Wisconsin Emergency Alert Systems (EAS) Committee to permanently discontinue the EAS live code test portion of the drill. Other aspects of the drill, including associated public messaging safety campaigns encouraging people to practice their plans will proceed as planned on April 7, 2022.

Visit the [National Weather Service website](#) for more information on Wisconsin's Tornado and Severe Weather Awareness Week.





2012 Waste Management Fire



Chainsaw training on peaked roof

## TRIVIA ANSWER

**B. 821**

As of April, 2021 there are a total of 821 fire departments in the state of Wisconsin. This includes Career, Combination, Volunteer, Federal/State/Military/Tribal and Private Fire Departments.

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

### BIRTHDAYS

- 4/6 Robert Marki
- 4/7 Nick Coon
- 4/8 Drake Barczak
- 4/12 Joseph Virnig
- 4/15 DC Nick Boehlke
- 4/16 Breanna Adams  
Brandon Mumm
- 4/17 Jim Creggan
- 4/24 Antonio Salerno
- 4/26 Daniel Neary
- 4/27 Chief Gerard Washington
- 4/29 Cody Porter





## HAPPENINGS OF INTEREST

**3/4/22**—Dispatched to a structure fire at Marcus Cinema. Updated to a vehicle fire with other vehicle exposures and near buildings. Upon arrival found a vehicle fully involved and surrounding cars exposed. A reduced line was laid and extinguished fire. Car operated normally on the way to the theater. Video from security shows the car pulling into a parking spot and then starting to smoke approximately two minutes later. No suspicious activity occurred around the car. Fire was very hot, consuming the hood and all non-metal parts under the hood, also melting the driver's side bumper extension and the motor mounts. Cause and origin is being listed as undetermined due to extensive damage.

**3/15/22**—Dispatched for possible gas leak in a residence. 2761 made entry with the gas track and quad gas meters. There were no immediate readings in the house and no one stated they felt sick. 2761 made their way upstairs to where the resident stated they smelled the gas. Readings of natural gas started to rise and the highest reading was found in the master bedroom at 200 ppm. There were also elevated readings in the hallway and second bedroom. The gas was shut off at the meter. The rest of the house was checked with no other readings found on the first floor or the basement. WE Energies was requested to the scene. Once the gas was shut off, reading started to decline. Windows were opened to clear the bedroom faster. Once the reading was down to 0 ppm and We Energies was on scene, the scene was turned over to them.

**3/31-22**— Dispatched to residence for possible carbon monoxide leak. Truck 73 met with occupant who stated they had their carbon monoxide detector go off multiple times. They had done laundry and cooked food which set off the alarm each time. 73 entered the house and encountered 50 ppm CO. 73 then exited the building and masked up. The building was re-entered and readings were taken throughout the house. The highest reading was in the first floor at 50 ppm. The basement was at 15 ppm. An old stove was found upstairs. The stove was lit on the top with no increase in CO. The oven was then turned on and was found to have rapid growth of both CO and natural gas. CO stayed at 50 ppm while natural gas went up to 2% LEL. 73 turned off the stove, exited the house and called WE Energies.

# HAPPY SPRING!