

# HOT NEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MENOMONEE FALLS FIRE DEPARTMENT



## FIRE TRUCK ANNUAL MAINTENANCE SEASON

It's fire truck annual maintenance season. Our fleet of fire trucks is repaired and maintained by Reliant Fire Apparatus. Reliant staff's manufacturer trained Pierce Master Technicians who have additional training and certifications in other OEM parts of the fire trucks as well. These other OEM parts include the fire pump, foam system, suspension systems, as well as many others. While at Reliant, our fire trucks will start with a full DOT inspection. In addition, all Pierce manufacturer recommended annual services will be performed including chassis, pump, generator, foam system, and aerial service as required. Properly maintaining our fire trucks helps maximize our investment and keeps them working properly for our firefighters.

What does that mean for MFFD? Over the course of May, our fleet has been scheduled to rotate through Reliant, one truck at a time. Reliant will also completely service our two fire trucks that are not manufactured by Pierce. Our reserve fire engine has already completed this annual service, and will rotate through the stations while primary fire trucks are temporarily out of service for this annual maintenance.

- Deputy Chief Kevin Rokenbrodt

## MFFD MONTHLY INCIDENT COUNTS

### APRIL 2021

Station 1

- 160

Station 2

- 46

Station 3

- 94

Station 4

- 48

Station 5

- 21

Total Runs - 369

### APRIL 2022

Station 1 - 180

Station 2 - 43

Station 3 - 96

Station 4 - 53

Station 5 - 32

Total Runs - 404



**May is**  
Mental Health  
Awareness  
Month

## TRIVIA QUESTION

Who is responsible for establishing the first fire company?

- A. George Washington
- B. Thomas Jefferson
- C. Benjamin Franklin
- D. John Adams

(answer on page 4)

# CAP RETIREMENT



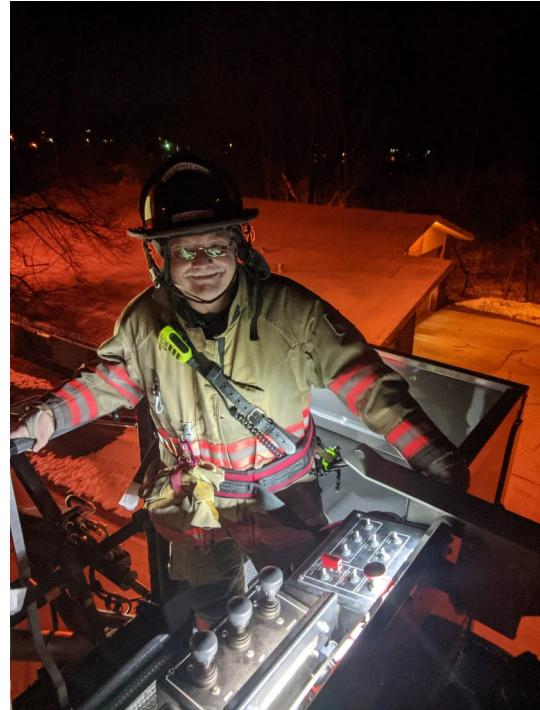
Congratulations to Captain Mark Franzowiak on his recent retirement and a BIG thank you from the MFFD for 33+ years of service to the Department and the citizens of Menomonee Falls!

A lot has changed in those 3 decades... for Mark, the MFFD and the firefighting profession. Mark has responded to incidents in one of the last open jumpseat engines (a 1974 Pirsch), the first engine with the much safer enclosed firefighter cab (a 1986 Mack/Marion) and most recently the modern Pierce engines. He's lived through multiple Chiefs and department reorganizations and has contributed much along the way.

Mark started as a firefighter at a Station #1 in 1987 and remained at that station throughout his career while being promoted to Lieutenant in 1993 followed by Captain in 2001. I had the honor to work alongside Mark at Station #1; first as a firefighter and later when I became a Lieutenant and Captain. As I moved on from Station #1, Mark and I shared the same swearing-in ceremony as he was promoted to Captain and I to Deputy Chief. It was comforting to know that I was leaving the apparatus, personnel and station in the capable hands of Captain Franzowiak.

As Captain of Station #1 Mark was the caretaker of the old Station #1 until August of 2015 when he orchestrated a fitting retirement ceremony for the building that the MFFD had known as home for 85 years. Mark and the final crew at Station #1 left behind a signed note stating "Station #1, We closed the Hot House". I'm sure they never thought that would become the name of the new restaurant!

- Deputy Chief Don Umhoefer



My first interaction with anyone at the Menomonee Falls Fire Department was with Lieutenant Mark Franzowiak in 1999. I was hired full-time, having never been employed here before and honestly not knowing much about the department. I arrived for my interview and came to the front desk at Station 3. Lt. Franzowiak greeted me at the door and asked if I needed help. When I said I was there for interviews, his mood ticked up and he welcomed me to the department. His pride in the department showed through immediately. You could see the excitement he had about the hiring process. He showed me where to wait, and wished me well. I know I have forgotten details about the interaction, but I remember the feeling he gave me and the positive impression I had about the department. He was absolutely the right person for me at that time, and as I reflect he really made my decision to come here a comfortable one.

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# CAP RETIREMENT continued

When I was a firefighter, full-timers worked daytime hours (0600-1800). Lieutenant Franzowiak was paid on call, working the opposite shift. It was very rare we ended up on calls together, but one call comes to mind. It was a daytime house fire near Station 1, and he had been promoted to Captain by this time. If there was a fire, you could count on him to come in to help. I was the driver for his engine. His communication with me lead to a smooth call - from the time we left the barn to the time the call was over. It was like we had run 1000 calls together, even though it was more realistically less than a handful. I never once felt that he wasn't "my" captain. I would be amazed if everyone who worked with him didn't feel the same.



As I transitioned through the ranks, Captain Franzowiak was the first to congratulate me each time with an exuberance that was so genuine it was contagious. I consider him one of my mentors, and will miss having him on our department.



As a battalion chief I finally got the chance to work on the same shift with Captain Franzowiak. Having someone with his experience put me at ease for the calls he ran. However, that experience and ability wasn't the most valuable asset he brought to shift. The excitement and love for MFFD that he can't help but show was far and away the most valuable asset. Details fade, but people remember how you made them feel. Captain Franzowiak always seemed to make people feel good about themselves and MFFD.

Captain Franzowiak is one of many people in the history of MFFD who have been instrumental in keeping tradition while moving the department forward as the Village continues to grow and expand. Many of you may have heard the saying that we are all replaceable. While generally this may more or less be true, in the case of Captain Franzowiak I don't believe it applies. We can find another person to be a Captain, but we cannot replace what he brought to our department. My hope is that a little bit of that love and exuberance was planted as a seed in those of us who worked with him and it will continue on to others throughout our careers.

Cap - I know you are at peace with your decision to retire from MFFD. I hope that you enjoy the new found spare time with your family doing other things that you love and enjoy. Know that the door is always open and my phone will always get answered. If I see you out in the yard, I'll take you up on your offer and stop by to say hello. Thank you to the Franzowiak family for all you have done for the Menomonee Falls Fire Department.

- Deputy Chief Kevin Rokenbrodt



Throwback to 2005

## THOUGHT OF THE MONTH

Bravery is not the absence of fear but action in the face of fear.

## MAY BIRTHDAYS

5/1	Jesse Holmes
5/10	Julianne Stuht
5/12	Nicole Porter
	BC Rae Ann Schone
5/13	Duane Kantowski
5/22	Heather Gunderson
5/24	Alexander Luger
5/27	Julie Wagner

## 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)

EMS Recruit Academy—five new members are currently participating in the EMS Recruit Academy and are expected to finish by late May. They will then complete four weeks of ride-along time by the end of June.

### READ:

Fire Law Blog

[Court Rules Against Alabama Firefighter's Discrimination Suit - Fire Law Blog](#)

### WATCH:

FE Talk—Fire Engineering

[Expectations of the First-Due Company Officer - YouTube](#)

### REVIEW and DISCUSS:

FEMA

[Firefighter Fatalities in the United States in 2020 \(fema.gov\)](#)

### FREE TRAINING:

FEMA

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

### RECHARGE:

Flashpoint

[Chief Rick Lasky - Let's Talk Leadership - YouTube](#)



## TRIVIA ANSWER

C. Benjamin Franklin

Benjamin Franklin established the first fire company in 1736.

# MEET MFFD's NEWEST MEMBERS

Name: Sam Goldner



Where do you live? Milwaukee's NW side near St. Joe's hospital

Why did you join MFFD? The opportunity to do physical therapy (PT), strength and conditioning (S&C), and nutrition for tactical athletes, while also being able to go on Fire/EMS runs myself, was a unique and exciting opportunity,

What classes have you taken related to Fire or EMS? EMT Basic and Fire I

Have you been on any other depts or in a related field? Bell Ambulance for about 2 years and the Mequon Fire Department for about 3 years.

Family/Pets? Wife Rachel, Daughter Sally (5), Daughter Rosalie (3.5) and son Todd (6 months)

Are you employed somewhere besides MFFD? Completing my Doctorate of Physical Therapy (DPT) at Concordia University, graduating May 12.

Any hobbies? I've been training MMA for the past 15ish years, and I occasionally have free time to hang out with my family.

Anything else you would like to tell us about yourself? I've been an S&C and nutrition coach for 5+ years as a Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist (CSCS) and a Precision Nutrition Level 1 coach (Pn1). I specialize in working with tactical and combat sports athletes, two populations that are difficult for an outsider to understand. We are under very unique demands and stressors that we need to be physically capable of tolerating with ease, even on our worst days. My goal is to help enable the department to operate at our highest level of performance through improving fitness, health, and longevity; preventing injuries; and returning from injuries as quickly as possible and in even better condition.

Name: Jenni Lloyd



Where do you live? Fredonia

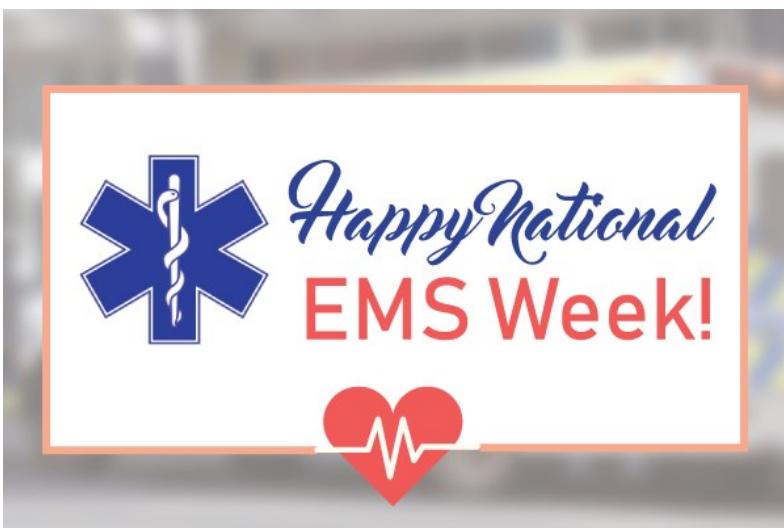
What is your role here? I provide assistance to the Deputy Chief of Administration or anywhere else I'm needed.

Family/pets? My husband, Mike, and I have seven children. Austin (22), Hayden (19), Jack (18), Sophia (15), Josephine (14), Jonathan (8) and Benjamin (6). We live on a hobby farm with chickens, ducks, cats and two huge dogs!

Any hobbies? I enjoy camping and taking road trips with my family. I also have fun decorating cookies and swing dancing.

Anything else you would like to tell us about yourself?

My dad was on the MFFD for 35 years, so I'm excited to be a part of it myself now!



May 16-21, 2022