

HOT NEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MENOMONEE FALLS FIRE DEPARTMENT

FROM THE CHIEF'S DESK

Well, it's hard to believe that the year is coming to an end, as 2022 has flown by. We started off the year in COVID protocols and eased our way into a new-found appreciation for remaining physically and mentally healthy. We have accomplished so much this year and I could not be prouder of this team. We have a lot to be pleased about and should be. Though you and I will say, "we're just doing our job," it goes well beyond that. There were expectations and high hopes we would have added fourteen full-time firefighters to our staff this year. It hasn't happened yet but you continue to be professional and dedicated, when most would have given up physically and emotionally. For that, I'm forever grateful to all of you. We were given the directive to reallocate our personnel and resources to respond from three fire stations, while still ensuring first class service delivery. You have met that challenge with integrity and honor. You continue to train like no other department in the state. Your commitment to serve as role models and actively participate in our community continues to grow. Your understanding the importance of diversity and inclusion is noticed by me and our community partners, and most importantly you have shown your willingness to support a peer when they are having a difficult time.

I know it does not always appear or feel like we are making progress as a department, but we have come so far in a short period of time. I know it's because of your willingness to join in and be a part of something bigger than you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

I don't know what 2023 has in store for the MFFD, but I'm truly excited about the challenges and opportunities that await our team.

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year,

Fire Chief Gerard Washington



MFFD MONTHLY INCIDENT

NOVEMBER
2021

Total Runs - 466

NOVEMBER
2022

Total Runs - 572

TRIVIA QUESTION

Where is the largest urban fire department in the world located?

- A. Russia
- B. United States
- C. India
- D. Japan

(answer on page 2)

THANK YOU
FOR THE
AMAZING
JOB YOU DO
EVERY DAY!

STATION 3 RENOVATION

The first-floor renovation is planned to have an addition of roughly 1500 square feet on the west side of the building, and will include the new bedrooms. The current three bunk rooms will be turned into private bathrooms to support these new bedrooms. The workout area and larger bunk room on the east side of the building will be turned into an in-station only laundry area and two larger bedrooms, with work space and private bathrooms. The renovation will also support an increase in the kitchen/dayroom area. The kitchen will flip from one side of this room to the other, and have an island with four chairs.

The laundry area will become a turnout gear locker area. The turnout gear storage area will become the laundry area, where we plan to have two gear washers and dryers, as well as a regular washer and dryer. The supplies storage room will become a small tool/work room and the extinguisher room will become a bathroom for the apparatus bay. The decontamination area is left unchanged. There is also an EMS area in the area between the laundry and the apparatus bay.

To make room for all of this, some current areas will be moving downstairs. Part of the scope of work will repair the drainage issues that have caused water issues in the basement. Climate control for the basement will also be incorporated. The workout room, turnout gear storage, and EMS storage will all move to the basement. In addition, a bathroom will be added to the basement to support these areas.

The construction schedule is still fluid, but work is anticipated to begin late spring, lasting somewhere between 6 and 8 months to complete. As the process continues, we will be able to work with the contractors to determine the most advantageous way to house our crews while work commences. Feel free to stop by or give me a call if you have questions or would like to discuss.

-Deputy Chief Kevin Rokenbrodt



THOUGHT OF THE MONTH

You have never really lived until you have done something for someone who can never repay you.

TRIVIA ANSWER

D. Japan

The Tokyo Fire Department covers 23 districts and has a total of more than 50,000 staff and volunteers. They have the skills to deal with fires, earthquakes, and floods.

RIDDLE OF THE MONTH

The more of this there is, the less you see. What is it?

(answer on page 4)



FROM THE TRAINING BUREAU

EMS & Training Upcoming Events

Training with Dr. Shepherd—CANCELLED for December

Company Training Session 16—Oceanid Rapid Deployment Craft Operations

Training Division Session 22—Conventional Forced Entry

READ:

Fire Law Blog

[11th Circuit Rejects Cobb County Firefighter's First Amendment Claims - Fire Law Blog](#)

Fire Engineering

[CO Firefighters Suspended](#)

WATCH:

Rescue Methods

[Rescue Methods FR1 Ice Rescue](#)

REVIEW and DISCUSS:

CDC

[42-Year-Career Firefighter-Paramedic Died at Home after Leaving Work Following Transient Chest Pain - Missouri \(cdc.gov\)](#)

FREE TRAINING:

FEMA

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

[FEMA's Premier All-Hazards Training Center - Center for Domestic Preparedness \(dhs.gov\)](#)

RECHARGE:

YouTube

[How to Master the Art of Leadership](#)

- Deputy Chief Nicholas Boehlke



Congratulations to our newly sworn-in MFFD members!



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

12/13 Steve Rehse
12/17 Christopher Piette
12/18 BC Kurt Harthun
Alison Velcheck
12/20 BC Jared Klug

DECEMBER WORK ANNIVERSARIES

41 years

12/1/1981 DC Don Umhoefer

35 years

12/1/1987 Mark Franzowiak

4 years

12/3/2018 Daniel Corbin
Taylor Knaebe

1 year

12/5/2021 Abigail Fritz

12/22/2021 Joseph Virnig

RIDDLE ANSWER

Darkness



Vegetable Barley Soup

1 lb ground beef
½ cup chopped onion
1 clove garlic, minced
5 cups water
1 (14.5 oz) can unsalted whole tomatoes, undrained, cut into pieces
¾ cup quaker quick barley
½ cup sliced celery
½ cup sliced carrots
5-6 beef bouillon cubes
½ tsp dried basil, crushed
1 bay leaf
1 (9oz) pkg frozen mixed vegetables

In a 4 quart saucepan, brown meat. Add onion and garlic, cook until onion is tender. Drain. Stir in remaining ingredients except frozen vegetables. Cover, bring to a boil. Reduce heat, simmer 10 mins, stirring occasionally. Add frozen vegetables, cook about 10 mins or until vegetables are tender. Additional water may be added if soup becomes too thick upon standing.

From the Firehouse to your House, enjoy!

- Submitted by Steve Schmitz