

# Park Ridge Fire Department

*OUR MISSION: TO LIMIT THE LOSS OF LIFE AND PROPERTY THROUGH  
PLANNING, PREVENTION AND RESPONSE*

On September 11, the Park Ridge Fire and Police Honor Guard members (pictured below) escorted the remnant from the World Trade Center, to Maine East High School. The day began with an opening ceremony including a memorial service and the unveiling of the steel beam. Directly after that, members of a number of churches and organizations participated in various events as a community outreach at Hopefest.



## September 2011

Volume XI Issue VIII  
[www.parkridgefd.org](http://www.parkridgefd.org)



**Highlight of the Month**  
Fire Administration

### 911 Memorial Service/Hopfest 2011



Bagpipers walked in front of Engine 35 as it carried the World Trade Center steel to the memorial service at Maine East High School.

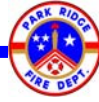


Engine 35 arrived at Maine east High School with the World Trade Center steel.



The unveiling of the steel was followed by a memorial service.





September 14, 2011

Dear Chief Michael Zywnanski,

We are filled with pride as we look at the picture of our 650 children standing silently on the Field School lawn, tiny hands over huge hearts in demonstration of respect for their school, community, and country. The "Celebrate America" flag raising was a memorable ceremony and a meaningful learning experience for each student. We are glad you contributed to the day!

Thank you for sending the fire truck and firefighters to help honor our day. We value your connection and commitment to our students, staff, and school projects.

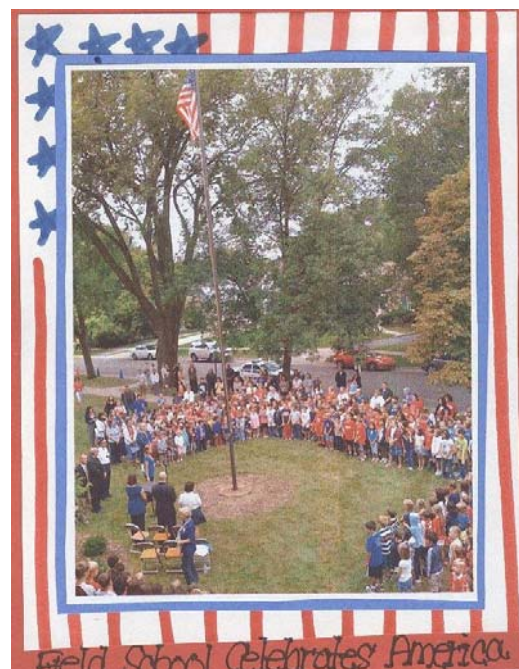
Thank you so much for showing that you care by assisting us with our special celebration. Thank you for being an inspiration to America's next generation of leaders!

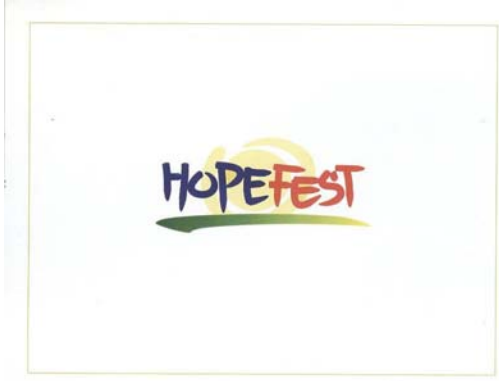
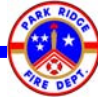
Sincerely,

*Jenny Johnson*

Jenny Johnson, representing  
The Field School Specials Team on behalf of Field School

Michaela Sorensen, Art Teacher  
Maryann Arsenijevic, Foreign Language Teacher  
Joani Heavey, Music Teacher  
Jenny Johnson, Music Teacher  
Maureen Borowski, Physical Education Teacher  
Jason Mata, Physical Education Teacher  
Samantha McDaniel, Physical Education Teacher





Dear Fire man,  
 Thank you so much for everything you do and the many lives you save. Without you we would have lost many loved ones. Thank you for putting your life at risks every time you respond to a fire. Your service, time and dedication is greatly appreciated!  
 Love,  
 Claudia

Dear Mr Firefighter!  
 Thank you so much for all the risks you take. I'll pray for you & your family that God is with you always - Patti

Sept. 9, 2011  
 Dear Fireman,  
 Hi! My name is Elen Tejero, and I'm 16 years old. I came from Iraq to the USA on 8/27/2010. I'm a student at Main East High School in Park Ridge, Illinois. I'm learning English, this is the second year in this school.  
 The reason why I'm writing this letter is to thank you for your hard work to save us from fire disaster. Your work is very important to us because you risk your life.  
 One day, I was walking on the street and I saw a house burn. There were a lot of firefighters tried to rescue the people who were in the house. They tried to put out the fire. And they did a great job so the fire didn't spread to other buildings.  
 I would like to ask about your work. Is it hard or easy to be a fire fighter. Do you miss your family when you work 24 hour shifts.





Hopefest took place directly after the memorial service. Members from a number of churches and organizations participated in various events as community outreach. Throughout the day, firefighters and police officers from Park Ridge were on hand. The Salvation Army provided meals to all. Over 700-dozen home baked cookies were included in thank you packets containing thank you notes and prayer squares. Members of three churches delivered the packets to area first responders. The previous page contains some touching thank you notes received.



*Deputy Chief Sorensen*



*Senior Administrative Assistant Jennifer Steurer*

On September 26, 2011, staff members from the Fire Department read to the children at the Park Ridge Public Library.





 Advocate  
Lutheran General Hospital  
Lutheran General Children's Hospital

1775 Dempster Street || Park Ridge, IL 60068 || T 847.723.6522 F 847.696.3394 || [advocatehealth.com](http://advocatehealth.com)

Department of Surgery Trauma Surgery

September 26, 2011

Michael Zywanski  
Fire Chief, Park Ridge Fire Department  
901 W Devon  
Park Ridge, IL 60068

Dear Chief Zywanski,

It is with my great appreciation that I send this letter of thanks for the Joint Command Operations class run and taught by John Hanson. This introductory course offered to Advocate Lutheran General Hospital staff on 9/19, 9/23, and 9/26 was very well received and I hope a great "opener" to more advanced training between the hospital and fire department staff.

We have worked well with the Park Ridge Fire Department for many years on drills and real incidents, but this class will hopefully help bring the scene leaders from both organizations together for a seamless Unified command when truly needed.

John was an excellent teacher and offered real life scenarios, and I cannot thank you and the City of Park Ridge enough for allowing him the time to come to our facility and run this exciting program. I look forward to the future trainings to enhance our interoperability!

Sincerely,

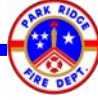
A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "M. Cari Selzer".

M. Cari Selzer, RN, MS, ACNP-BC  
Trauma Nurse Practitioner  
Chair Emergency Plans Committee

A faith-based health system serving individuals, families and communities

Recipient of the Magnet award for excellence in nursing services by the American Nurses Credentialing Center





The Village of  
**Glenview**



September 13, 2011

Park Ridge Fire Department  
Fire Administrator Michael Zywanski  
901 W. Devon  
Park Ridge, IL 60068

Dear Fire Administrator Zywanski:

On behalf of the entire Village of Glenview I would like to thank you for your participation in our evening of remembrance, reflection, and commemorative activities held on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 9-11 attacks on our Nation. Although the ceremony was to remember the tragedy suffered by all in this country on 09/11/01, it also emphasized honoring local first responders, and for that reason your involvement was a natural. Your participation underscores one of the keys to delivering effective emergency service in the ability to call on neighboring departments for assistance when necessary.

Whether it is during an emergency incident or simply a special community event it is gratifying to see that the shared spirit of cooperation and support forged through the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System is alive and well in our region.

I truly appreciate the fact that you took the time out of your weekend to support our event. I assure you that I, as well as my entire department stand ready to reciprocate should ever the need arise.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wayne A. Globerger".

Wayne A. Globerger  
Fire Chief

Fire Department ♦ 1815 Glenview Road ♦ Glenview, Illinois 60025 ♦ (847) 724-2141 ♦ [www.glenview.il.us](http://www.glenview.il.us)





Did You Know...



# Your Fire Department Could Win a \$10,000 Grant ?

Liberty Mutual Insurance is proud to partner with local fire departments to launch our annual Be Fire Smart Fire Safety Pledge program, where fire departments can compete to win one of ten \$10,000 awards.

### How Can My Fire Department Win?

Awards will be offered to participating fire departments whose community members compete to demonstrate their commitment to fire safety by taking an online fire safety quiz and crediting their local fire departments—the top 10 fire departments who generate the most credits win!

### Get Started Today—Participating is Easy!

- Step 1** From now until October 31, firefighters and community members can visit [www.befiresmart.com/pledge](http://www.befiresmart.com/pledge) to take the Be Fire Smart Fire Safety Pledge, a quiz designed to provide education on fire prevention
- Step 2** Complete the quiz and credit your local fire department
- Step 3** Spread the word! Rally colleagues, family and friends to take the quiz and help your fire department win a grant!

At Liberty Mutual, we believe the Be Fire Smart Fire Safety Pledge not only provides a great opportunity to raise awareness around the importance of fire safety, but is a great way to further support the mission of firefighters everywhere who are dedicated to fire prevention. To learn more about the Be Fire Smart Fire Safety Pledge and take the Fire Safety quiz, please visit [www.BeFireSmart.com](http://www.BeFireSmart.com).



No fee or purchase of a product, good, or service is required to participate. Communities will compete in three divisions: small, medium, and large. Results will be announced no later than November 21, 2011. Entry limited to one completed quiz per email address.

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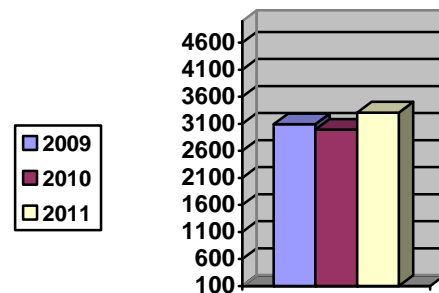
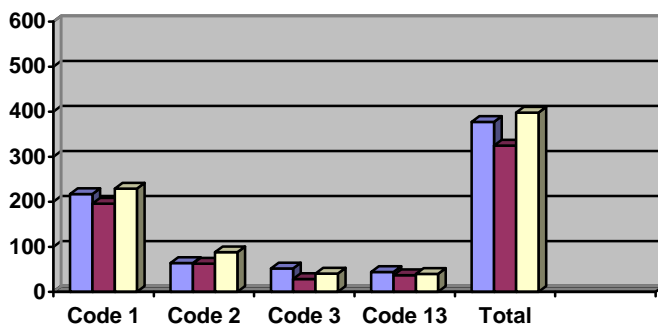


**World Trade Center Steel Update**  
Fire Administration

The Public Art Commission members are reaching out to architecture contacts and it looks like they have three firms who are willing to donate their efforts to design a memorial free of charge! This is great news! We look forward to the designs that will be submitted by the three firms. We have a good feeling that their designs will be respectful and the City will have the opportunity to have a beautiful memorial.

**Response Statistics**  
Fire Administration

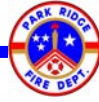
CODE	MONTHLY REPOSES 2010	MONTHLY REPOSES 2011	MONTHLY PERCENT 2010	MONTHLY PERCENT 2011
1- ambulance	196	229	60%	58%
2- single vehicle	63	88	19%	22%
3 - full fire	29	41	9%	10%
13 - mutual & auto aid	37	40	11%	10%
<b>TOTAL RESPONSES</b>	325	398	100%	100%



TOTAL ALARMS YTD

CURRENT MONTH



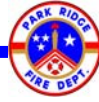


## Incident Response

Deputy Chief Sorensen

- September 4            Companies responded to an activated fire alarm in the 1400 block of Renaissance Drive. Upon making entry, companies were met with light smoke on all four (4) floors and heavier smoke emitting from the HVAC vent on the second floor. Four fire companies searched all of the floors and roof for signs of a fire, and discovered a fire inside an office behind a locked door. All four companies worked to establish an attack line using the standpipe in the stairwell between the first and second floor, and had the fire under control within five minutes of its discovery. The fire was contained to the office unit. Damage is estimated to be less than \$35,000, with the entire structure valued at \$2,500,000. No injuries were reported. The cause of the fire is under investigation. The Park Ridge Fire Department received assistance at the scene from the North Maine Fire Protection District, with the Niles Fire Department providing coverage for a subsequent EMS call in Park Ridge.
- September 17           Companies responded to a medical building for two workers who developed shortness of breath while in a room with some hazardous medical waste. The workers had self-evacuated prior to the arrival of fire companies. After investigating, it was discovered the medical waste was not the cause of the sudden illnesses. There was a garbage bag in a regular garbage can that contained a chlorine bleach bottle along with a floor-buffing pad that may have been contaminated with ammonia in the same room with the medical waste. The medical waste was properly stored and not leaking. Once the refuse was removed to an alternate location, the building was ventilated and returned to service.
- September 24           Special event standby – No incidents were reported at the Park Ridge Charity Classic race. Three paramedics were at the event as a precaution.
- September 30           Companies responded to a motor vehicle crash in Uptown, at Touhy Avenue and Northwest Highway. There were multiple patients who refused service. Ambulance #36 transported one patient to Lutheran General Hospital.



**FIRE INVESTIGATION**

Lieutenant Derek Decker

**Investigation Summaries**

September 3 Engine 35 responded for a reported outside fire on the 1300 block of South Vine. Upon arrival, Engine 35 found a utility pole, along with electrical equipment burning. Personnel stood by until Com Ed could secure the power. A pre-connected hoseline with tank water was used to extinguish the fire once it was safe.

The cause for the fire was determined to be a failure of a pole-mounted transformer. No loss estimates were provided. The fire was classified as accidental.

September 4 Engine 36 responded for a reported car fire along the 500 block of West Touhy. A working car fire was confirmed upon arrival. The fire, involving the engine compartment, was quickly extinguished with a dry chemical extinguisher and a single 1- $\frac{3}{4}$ " pre-connected hoseline. The loss was estimated to be \$2,000.

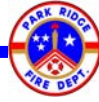
Investigators determined the fire originated in the engine compartment while the car was in use. The actual cause has not been determined. The fire has been classified as undetermined.

September 9 All Park Ridge Fire equipment along with the Engine 1 from North Maine, responded for an automatic fire alarm activation on Renaissance Drive. Initial responding companies were investigating the origin of the alarm when light smoke was found on the first floor of the 4-story office building. Further investigation found heavy smoke on the second floor that was coming from a HVAC vent. The building's air handling units were shut down and the push of smoke stopped. As companies were working to confirm the origin of the smoke, it was determined there was actually a working fire on the second floor.

Fire companies initiated suppression operations by utilizing the standpipe system. An all clear was immediately confirmed in the fire unit. Fire control and loss stop were quickly secured and the fire was confined to the room of origin. The fire loss to the structure and contents was estimated to be \$35,000.

Investigators determined the fire's origin was on the top of an office desk where an all-in-one fax, printer and copier was sitting. The cause was determined to be an electrical failure of the printing machine. The fire was classified as accidental.





September 30 All Park Ridge Fire equipment along with Engine 1 from North Maine responded for a possible structure fire on the 1200 block of Crain. Upon arrival, Battalion 35 reported the fire had been extinguished. No loss estimates were provided.

Investigators determined the fire, which occurred in a house that was being renovated, involved a can of acetone that was being used for construction. The source of heat for ignition could not be identified; therefore, the fire is being classified as undetermined.

## Training

Battalion Chief Scott Sankey

### Quick Drill

Throughout the month the training division assigns various quick drills to be discussed at the morning roll call. The quick drills for September included a review of the *USAR Building Marking System* and the *USAR Victim Marking System*.

### Report of the Week

Each week the shifts are assigned a report from the National Firefighters Near Miss web portal. The site provides firefighters a place to anonymously document and share their close calls and near miss experiences with other firefighters around the country. By sharing these reports, we hope to prevent similar situations from happening in the future. The reports reviewed in September were *Back-up Line did its Job, Where Did Everybody Go, and Drywall and More From Above*.

### Word of the Week

Each week a shift member at each station is assigned a word. The member researches the word as it relates to the fire service and presents his/her findings to the rest of his station during the morning roll call meeting. The words for September included *Angle of Repose*, *LEL (Lower Explosive Limit)*, *Joule*, and *NFIRS (National Fire Incident Reporting System)*.

### Tool of the Month

All department members reviewed the operation of our various power saws.

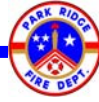
### Target Safety Online Training

All department personnel completed an online review of updated policy #700.04 vehicle maintenance program and policy #800.01 incident reporting.

### Tower 36 Operations Training

Chief Zywanski met with each shift and presented the new company manual for Quint Operations.





**MABAS Division 3 Joint Training**

The Park Ridge engine, tower, and battalion chiefs participated in three weeks of joint training with the other MABAS Division III departments at NIPSTA. The fall training scenario was a large-scale incident based on a natural disaster.

**Blue Card Incident Command**

All department lieutenants continued working towards completion of the 50-hour Blue Card Incident Command online training program.

**MABAS Division III Special Teams**

Members of the Fire Investigation, HAZMAT, URRT (Dive), and TRT teams participated in Division III training drills.

**Outside Training**

Lieutenant John Boeringa	Blue Card Incident Command Practical	24 hrs.
FF/PM Bill Smaha	Swift Water Rescue	24 hrs.

**Special Teams**  
Battalion Chief Scott Sankey

**Hazardous Materials Team (HAZMAT)**

Members of the Park Ridge Hazardous Materials Team participated in a three day drill with MABAS Division III in Glenview at the Northeastern Illinois Public Safety Training Academy (NIPSTA). Team members responded to multiple hazardous materials incidents with MABAS Division III fire suppression units.

**Underwater and Rescue and Recovery Team (URRT)**

On September 2, members of the dive team responded to an Evanston request for a MABAS Division III dive box for the report of a missing swimmer in Lake Michigan. Park Ridge divers assisted in the search of the missing swimmer until the operation was called off when the person was found uninjured in a nearby boathouse.

Divers from the team also participated in a training session hosted by Winnetka Fire Department. The drill was held at Tower Road Beach on Lake Michigan. Dive team members practiced search pattern skills and boat operation off the lakeshore.

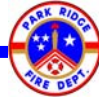
**Technical Rescue Team (TRT)**

Division III TRT and Park Ridge members participated in a confined space rescue drill in Winnetka. The drill was held at their old electric production plant. This was a rescue scenario involving the rescue of an injured worker from within a large coal hopper.

**Apparatus & Equipment**  
Battalion Chief John Hanson

Due to the high amount of miles and the stresses that the vehicles are put under, it is critical that we perform routine and emergency maintenance in cooperation with the City Garage. Below is a list of the maintenance completed for the month.





F-26	1998 Command Van	- Replaced rear amber strobe
F-32	2005 Ambulance	- Master emergency switch replaced - Exhaust switch replaced
F-33	2005 Ambulance	- A/C clutch replaced
F-41	1995 Engine	- Pump transfer valve lubricated - Replaced rear perimeter light - Replaced connections and valve from water tank to pump
F-43	2005 Engine	- Replaced coolant hoses that were causing leaks

## Fire Prevention

Lieutenant Kevin Plach

Activity	Monthly Totals 2010	Monthly Totals 2011
Initial Inspections	83	99
Re-Inspections	55	36
Pre-Permit Meetings	2	2
Construction Visits	8	7
Final Inspections	2	2
Plan reviews	23	11
Sprinkler Hydros	2	3
Storage Tank Installs	0	0
Storage Tank Removals	0	0
Residential Sprinklers	0	0
Fire Flow Tests	1	2
Fire Alarm Tests	2	0
Fire Pump Tests	1	0
Key Box Insp./Installs	4	2
Hood Test	0	0
Single Family Home Inspections	0	0
Citations	0	0
Meetings	10	13
Fire Drills	10	3
Seminar/Schools	0	3
Complaints	4	1
Shift Tours	2	1
Public Education Tours	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>185</b>
<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>722</b>	<b>698</b>





## Public Education

Lieutenant Kevin Plach

### Car Seat Safety Checks

19 car seat safety checks were performed in September.

### CPR and First Aid classes

23 people attended CPR and First Aid classes in the month of September.

### The following classes were provided:

- 1 Health Care Provider class
- 1 Heart Saver First Aid and CPR classes
- 1 Heart Saver AED class

### CPR and First Aid training was provided to:

- 11 faculty and staff from Sugar Plum Preschool
- 9 people in our 2 public classes
- 3 employees from Advanced Physical Therapy

### Park Ridge Fire Explorer Post 3536

The first meeting of the month was held on September 7 where 10 Explorers participated in more team building exercises. The last meeting of the month was held on September 21 where it was announced to the post that Jeremy Knautz would be taking over as lead advisor. The remainder of the meeting was used to brainstorm for the schedule for the upcoming year, but the direction of the post for the years to come. On the September 19, 2011, the Police and Fire Explorers (once again with the help of JD Kadd's), hosted its annual pig roast. Despite the poor weather, the Fire Explorers were able to raise over \$450. A special thanks to the following organizations for their help: JD Kadd's, Park Ridge Police and Fire Departments, City of Park Ridge, Arc disposal, Jewel, and Dominick's.

The Park Ridge Fire Department would like to thank FF/PM Aaron Blane all for his time, effort and commitment as the previous lead advisor to the Fire Explorer's!

### Monthly Tip

### The Office of Illinois State Fire Marshal Promotes Fire Safety Campaign for College Students.

*Students encouraged to "Look Up" to make sure smoke detectors are in working order and properly installed in housing.*

**SPRINGFIELD** – As thousands of college students are heading out to different campuses across the state, the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal is reminding parents and students to keep fire safety awareness in their list of priorities, even after they completed their fall 2011 housing contracts. To build awareness about campus fire safety, Governor Pat Quinn has





proclaimed **September as Campus Fire Safety Month and September 22, 2011 as the “LOOK UP! Pay It Forward” Day in Illinois.**

Administered through the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal (OSFM), the awareness campaign seeks to inform all college students about fire safety and to prevent serious injuries and fatalities.

“LOOK UP!, Pay It Forward” Day was created in 2005 by Kathleen Moritz after her 22-year-old son, Tanner Osborn, and two other students died during an off-campus apartment fire in Chicago. The tragedy inspired state officials to pass legislation last year requiring the installation of sprinkler systems in fraternity and sorority housing units.

“College life could be a very busy period for students; therefore they need to be reminded about fire safety and prevention,” said Larry Matkaitis, Illinois State Fire Marshal. “Students and parents need to ‘LOOK UP!’ to ensure that smoke detectors are properly installed and operational in every single unit.”

The Governor’s proclamations highlight safety information related to smoke detectors, cooking, use of candles, and electrical outlets used by college students. Once a year, OSFM and LOOK UP! work in cooperation with Illinois colleges, universities, and fire departments to spread the message of fire safety to college students.

This year the OSFM and LOOK UP! have designated September 22, 2011 as the “Pay It Forward Day” at DePaul University in Chicago. Part of the day includes distribution of free smoke detectors to off-campus housing students. Volunteers will canvass all off campus housing areas with fire safety information. Over the course of this program, more than 3,000 posters and additional information have been distributed to Illinois colleges and universities.

<http://www.sfm.illinois.gov>

