

Safety first

A publication of
**SOUTHERN
LAKES
NEWSPAPERS**
OCTOBER 2024

Fire Prevention

NATIONAL
FIRE
PREVENTION
WEEK

Lakes Area

GARAGE DOOR, LLC

Elkhorn, WI.

ELKHORN: (262) 742-3159

WHITEWATER: (262) 473-3400

FAX: (866) 804-1463

www.lakesareagaragedoor.com

P.O. Box 406
Elkhorn, WI 53121

424950

We Appreciate Our Fire Fighters
Heyer

True Value
Hardware

FAMILY OWNED • SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1868

200 Hwy. 67 & B, Walworth, WI

(262) 275-6133 • Fax: (262) 275-9467

www.heyerhardware.com

461333

SALEM AUTO SERVICE



Tim & Danny & Josh

(262) 843-3636

8515 Antioch Road (Hwy. 83), Salem, WI
Since 1951

425183

A.O. Bauer Glass

262-728-4262



For All Your Glass Needs

903 E. Geneva Street • Delavan, WI

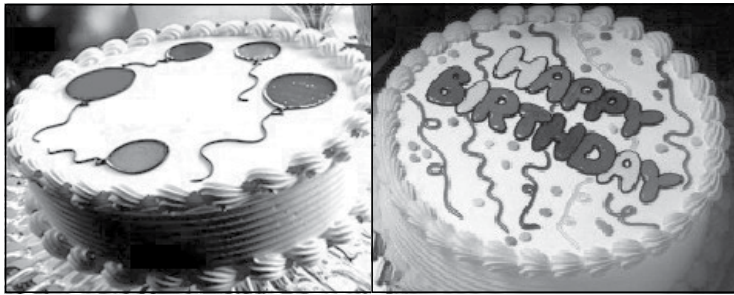
email: glass@aobauer.net

www.aobauerglass.com

461397



for Every Occasion...



COUPON

DQ FROZEN CAKES
\$3.00 OFF



ANY 8" ROUND OR LARGER WITH THIS COUPON
Limit one coupon per customer. Limit one cake.

Offer good at Burlington Dairy Queen. Offer good through Oct. 31, 2024.

Burlington Dairy Queen

324 S. Pine St., Burlington • 763-9385

461394

**Toynton's
Walworth
Funeral Home
& Crematory**



Toynton Funeral Home provides personalized and compassionate burial and cremation service in the Walworth, WI area. Our team is available to assist you with all your service needs. We maintain a personal commitment to a standard of excellence in serving you.

328 Kenosha St., Walworth, WI

262-275-2171 • www.toyntonfuneralhome.com

443973



Having me as your agent means having a real person there to help you when you need it. So when accidents happen, you have someone who can get the job done right, and right away.

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®

CALL FOR A QUOTE 24/7.



Bill Czaja Ins. Agcy. Inc.

Bill Czaja, Agent

411 E. Main St.

Waterford, WI 53185

Bus/: 262-534-5195

Fire Prevention Week theme focuses on smoke alarms

The National Fire Protection Association chose "Smoke alarms: make them work for you!" as the official theme for this year's Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 6-12. This year's focus on working smoke alarms comes in response to NFPA data, which shows that the majority of U.S. home fire deaths continue to occur in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.

"Smoke alarms can make a life-saving difference in a home fire, but they have to be working in order to deliver the needed protection," said Lorraine Carli, vice president of the Outreach and Advocacy division at NFPA. "This year's Fire Prevention Week campaign reinforces the critical importance of smoke alarms and what's needed to install, test, and maintain them properly."

Having working smoke alarms in the home reduces the risk of dying in a home fire by more than half (54 percent). However, roughly three out of five fire deaths occur in homes with either no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms. More than one-third (38 percent) of home fire deaths result from fires in which no smoke alarms are present.

"People tend to remove smoke alarm batteries or dismantle them altogether when they don't know how to fix the issue. These actions put them at serious risk in the event of a home fire," said Carli. "This year's Fire

SMOKE ALARMS
Make Them **WORK** For You!™

fpw.org

NFPA FIRE PREVENTION WEEK™

©2024 National Fire Protection Association | Sparky® is a trademark of NFPA

Prevention Week campaign gives people the tools and know-how to keep their smoke alarms in working order."

Key messages for this year's Fire Prevention Week theme, "Smoke alarms: Make them work for you!" include the following:

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area (like a hallway), and on each level (including the basement) of the home.
- Make sure smoke alarms meet the needs of all family members, including those with sensory or physical disabilities.
- Test smoke alarms at least once a month by pushing the test button.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old or don't respond when tested.

About Fire Prevention Week

Fire Prevention Week is celebrated throughout North America every October and is the oldest U.S. public health observance on record. For more than 100 years, Fire Prevention Week has worked to educate people the risk of home fires and ways to minimize them.

Local fire departments, schools, and community organizations play a key role in bringing Fire Prevention Week to life in



their communities each year and spreading basic but critical fire safety messages.

About the NFPA

Founded in 1896, NFPA is a global self-funded nonprofit organization devoted to eliminating death, injury, and property and economic loss due to fire and electrical, and related hazards. The association delivers information and knowledge through more than 300 consensus codes and standards, research, training, education, outreach,

advocacy, and partnering with others who share an interest in furthering the NFPA mission.

For more information, visit www.nfpa.org.

To learn more about Fire Prevention Week and this year's theme, "Smoke alarms: Make them work for you!" visit fpw.org. Additional Fire Prevention Week resources for children, caregivers, and educators can be found at sparky.org and sparkyschoolhouse.org.



Thank You Firefighters & First Responders



Safety First

 Fire Prevention Awareness 2024

A publication of Southern Lakes Newspapers LLC
1102 Ann St., Delavan, WI 53115 • (262) 728-3411

EDITOR: Heather Ruenz
CREATIVE DIRECTOR: Heidi Schulz
PAGE DESIGNER: Jennifer DeGroot
ADVERTISING DIRECTOR: Vicki Vanderwerff

FOR ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES: Call (262) 725-7701 EXT. 134

Prevent home electrical fires

There are several steps homeowners can take to reduce the risk

A person's home should be a safe haven. Too often, however, there may be dangers lurking in a home that can compromise the safety of residents.

Electrical fires are no joke. The Hartford insurance company says electrical failure or malfunctions account for almost 34,000 home fires per year.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, they can contribute to 440 deaths and \$1.3 billion in direct property damage annually.

Older homes may be most vulnerable to electrical fires, as such structures were not designed to handle the demands of modern living.

The insurance experts at Nationwide say half of all homes in the United States have electrical systems that were installed before garage door openers, high-tech coffee makers, and many computers became must-have items.

The Electrical Safety Foundation International says homes built before 1973 with overloaded electrical systems pose a number of safety threats.

Overloaded circuits are not the only contributor to electrical fires. Damaged wiring characterized by worn, frayed, or loose wires can cause fires.

Malfunctioning appliances or those improperly maintained also can create home fires. Another contributor is poorly installed extension cords and power strips, as well as

faulty outlets and switches around homes.

Homeowners can take various steps to reduce the risk of electrical fires at home, including the following tips.

Install arc fault circuit interrupters

AFCIs are special types of circuit breakers that help prevent fires caused by nicked or frayed wiring. An AFCI gets tripped and cuts off power when an electrical problem is detected, before a fire can start.

The National Electric Code now requires AFCIs in bedrooms, and they have been mandated throughout homes.

Conduct a home electrical inspection

All homes more than 40 years old should be inspected to ensure their electrical systems can handle modern demands, says Nationwide.

A qualified electrician can make recommendations regarding replacing breakers and suggest other modifications to improve safety.

Utilize a monitor

Ting from Whisker Labs monitors a home's electrical network using a smart plug-in sensor that is designed to detect hazards. The company indicates micro-arcs and sparks that develop are precursors to electrical fires.



Electrical fires account for almost 34,000 home fires per year, but there are steps that can be taken to help prevent them.

METRO CREATIVE Fire Prevention

• CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

*HAASE
LOCKWOOD
& ASSOCIATES*

*FUNERAL HOMES
& CREMATORY INC.*



Elkhorn
730 N. Wisconsin St.
(262) 723-6390

Genoa City *Twin Lakes*
113 Freeman St. 620 Legion Drive
(262) 279-5933 (262) 877-3013

www.haaselockwoodfhs.com



DELAVAN
HEALTH SERVICES

**Long Term &
Short Term Care**

905 East Geneva Street
Delavan, WI 53115

Tel: 262-728-6319
Fax: 262-728-6693

VA Contracted



Learn the sounds of smoke alarms vs. CO detectors

Knowing the difference between the sound your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors make can save you, your home, and your family.

Make sure everyone in the home understands the sounds and knows how to respond.

Smoke alarms

- A continued set of three loud beeps – beep, beep, beep – means smoke or fire. Get out, call 9-1-1, and stay out.
- A single “chirp” every 30 or 60 seconds means the battery is low and must be changed.
- All smoke alarms must be replaced after 10 years.
- Chirping that continues after the battery has been replaced means the alarm is at the end of its life and the unit must be replaced.

Carbon monoxide detectors

- A continuous set of four loud beeps – beep, beep, beep, beep – means carbon monoxide is present in your home. Go outside, call 9-1-1 and stay out.
- A single chirp every 30 or 60 seconds means the battery is low and must be replaced.
- Carbon monoxide (CO) detectors also have “end of life” sounds that vary by manufacturer. This means it’s time to get a new CO alarm. You’ll know that it is an end-of-life warning and not a low battery warning because replacing the batteries will not stop the unit from chirping.

Some tips

- Make sure your smoke alarms and CO detectors meet the needs of everyone in your home, including those with sensory or physical disabilities.
- Install a bedside alert device that responds to the sound of the smoke alarm and CO detector. Use of a low frequency alarm can also wake a sleeping person with mild to severe hearing loss.
- Sleep with your mobility device, glasses, and phone close to your bed.
- Keep pathways like hallways lit with night lights and free from clutter to make sure everyone can get out safely.

SMOKE ALARM Safety Sheet

Families: Smoke alarms save lives. Make sure the smoke alarms in your home are working. Hang up this handy chart to remind you to test your smoke alarms every month.

MONTH	TESTED SMOKE ALARMS	SMOKE ALARMS WORKED
OCTOBER		
NOVEMBER		
DECEMBER		
JANUARY		
FEBRUARY		
MARCH		
APRIL		
MAY		
JUNE		
JULY		
AUGUST		
SEPTEMBER		

sparky.org

NFPA Kids

©2022 National Fire Protection Association®. Sparky® is a trademark of NFPA®

Safety tips on home smoke alarms

Smoke alarms are a key part of a home fire escape plan. When there is a fire, smoke spreads fast. Working smoke alarms give you early warning so you can get outside quickly.

Safety tips

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom. They should also be outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home. Install alarms in the basement.
- Large homes may need extra smoke alarms.
- It is best to use interconnected smoke alarms. When one smoke alarm sounds, they all sound.
- Test all smoke alarms at least once a

month. Press the test button to be sure the alarm is working.

- Current alarms on the market employ different types of technology, including multi-sensing, which could include smoke and carbon monoxide combined.
- Today’s smoke alarms will be more technologically advanced to respond to a multitude of fire conditions yet mitigate false alarms.
- A smoke alarm should be on the ceiling or high on a wall. Keep smoke alarms away from the kitchen to reduce false alarms. They should be at least 10 feet from the stove.
- People who are hard-of-hearing or deaf can use special alarms. These alarms

have strobe lights and bed shakers.

- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.

Facts

- A closed door may slow the spread of smoke, heat, and fire.
- Smoke alarms should be installed inside every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level. Smoke alarms should be connected so when one sounds, they all sound. Most homes do not have this level of protection.
- Roughly three out of five fire deaths happen in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.

Guest column

Increasing awareness about home fire sprinklers

Efforts are helping to build momentum from national to grassroots levels

I was at the Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition booth at a recent conference when I met a fire marshal. He told me that he'd picked up the HFSC brochure a few years before and used the information to require a developer to include sprinklers in new homes, in exchange for allowing a single entrance to the development.



By
LORRAINE CARLI
Contributor

By equipping the homes with an affordable, effective means of fire protection – one that dramatically reduces the fire risk for residents and firefighters – the developer was able to reduce costly infrastructure associated with the project.

The fire marshal's story is one of many indications that we're starting to see a shift in momentum for home fire sprinklers. More and more, we hear of fire officials and authorities having jurisdiction (AHJs) who are working with developers, planners, and other stakeholders to provide cost-saving trade ups or incentives when the development is protected using HFSC's developer incentive program. (It's up to AHJs to determine which incentives are appropriate for their communities; while the single-entrance development worked in the example the fire marshal provided, it might not be an option for communities with a high risk of wildfire.)

This is encouraging, because we all know the challenges that come with

raising awareness around the need for home fire sprinklers. Fire safety advocates and fire departments must combat persistent sprinkler myths with the facts about why fires in unprotected homes become deadly so quickly and how home fire sprinklers work to save lives.

That's why the fire service is such a valuable ally in this work. At that same conference, leaders of all the major fire service organizations including NFPA participated in a "Fire Service One Voice" panel where home fire sprinklers were a key point. Fire Service One Voice is an effort led by the U.S. Fire Administration to share the same messages about today's fire challenges and their impact on the fire service, and the message around sprinklers and home fires is clear.

Homes present the greatest fire risk to residents and responding firefighters. Home fires can become deadly in as little as two minutes because of modern construction methods, the use of synthetic materials and furnishings, and emerging technologies such as lithium-ion batteries.

Home fire sprinklers are the only proven technology that can deploy immediately and stop a fire from becoming deadly. Yet jurisdictions are allowing substandard homes to be built when they omit sprinklers from the code, putting residents and firefighters at risk.

At the grassroots level, HFSC offers local fire departments powerful support through its Built for Life

Fire Department Program, which supports department efforts to educate communities about home fire sprinklers and to achieve community risk reduction goals. More than 3,600 fire departments nationwide have pledged their involvement, with program participation steadily increasing.

HFSC's relationship with these departments is collaborative; HFSC offers opportunities including stipends to support grassroots programs and community outreach, and participating departments share success stories and provide feedback on new resources.

At this year's NFPA Conference & Expo, I look forward to hosting a

workshop featuring panelists from a range of disciplines who will discuss proven strategies to increase the number of homes built with sprinklers. They will highlight successful approaches that keep sprinklers in the codes when local codes were being updated and ensured that new ordinances required sprinklers, and they will offer details and insights on other scenarios involving developer incentives.

With your help, we'll soon see more homes nationwide with fire sprinklers, protecting residents and firefighters.

Lorraine Carli is the vice president of Outreach & Advocacy for the National Fire Protection Association.



ELECTRICAL FIRES • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Use automatic shut-offs

Homeowners can utilize appliances and additional devices that automatically shut off after a set period of time. This can reduce the risk of overheating.

Rely on timers or smart devices

Timers and smart home devices can give homeowners control of electrical components like appliances or lights from a remote area. This enables users to turn an appliance on or off to reduce overheating or avoid additional risk factors for electrical fires.

Don't go DIY

Choosing to work with a professional electrician rather than doing electrical work oneself can help reduce electrical fire risk considerably.

Electricians know how to work on electrical systems safely to prevent damage to wires and components and also safeguard themselves against shock.

Risk for electrical fires at home can be reduced with technology as well as several other strategies.

(METRO CREATIVE)

**BUMPER
= TO =
BUMPER**
Auto Parts Specialists

**Burlington
Auto Parts**

mybumpertobumperstore.com

burlingtonautopart@sbcglobal.net



Hours:
Monday-Thursday 8 a.m.-6 p.m.
Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

701 N. Pine Street
Burlington, WI 53105
Phone: 262-763-9184
Fax: 262-763-5290

461393

Thank You, Firefighters



**PENTAIR
FLOW**

Celebrating 90
Years In The
Community

From our residential and commercial water solutions, to industrial water management, and everything in between, Pentair is focused on smart, sustainable water solutions that help our planet and people thrive.

461416

Consider investing in fire extinguishers

An extinguisher rated “A-B-C” is recommended for home use. Many fire extinguisher models are designed for one-time use and cannot be recharged.

Get training from your local fire department or a fire extinguisher manufacturer. Fire extinguishers from various manufacturers operate in different ways and there is no time to read directions during an emergency. Only adults should handle and use extinguishers.

Install extinguishers high on the wall, near an exit, and away from heat sources.



Install extinguishers high on the wall, near an exit, and away from heat sources. Extinguishers should be easily accessible to adults trained to use them and kept away from children’s curious hands.

FILE PHOTOS Fire Prevention

Extinguishers should be easily accessible to adults trained to use them and kept away from children’s curious hands. Heat may make the contents less effective or cause the extinguisher to lose its charge more quickly.

If you try to use a fire extinguisher on a fire and the fire does not immediately die down, drop the extinguisher and get out. Most portable extinguishers empty in 8 seconds.

Look at your fire extinguisher to ensure that it is properly charged. Fire extinguishers will not work correctly if they are not properly charged. Use the gauge or test button to check that there is proper pressure.

Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for replacing or recharging fire extinguishers. If the unit is low on pressure, damaged, or corroded, replace it or have it professionally serviced.

Before you begin to fight a fire with a fire extinguisher, be sure that:

- Everyone has left or is leaving the home.
- The fire department has been called.
- The fire is small and not spreading.
- Your back is to an exit you can use quickly.
- There is not much smoke in the room.

Remember the word **PASS** when using a fire extinguisher:

Pull out the small pin that prevents the fire extinguisher from accidentally being used.

Aim low. Point the extinguisher at the base of the fire.

Squeeze the lever slowly and evenly.

Sweep the nozzle from side to side.

HOW TO USE A FIRE EXTINGUISHER

PASS SYSTEM

P

Pull the pin

A

Aim

S

Squeeze the handle

S

Sweep

Fire Risk Assessment

NETWORK

SAFETY TIPS FOR OLDER ADULTS

Knowing what to do in the event of a fire is particularly important for older adults. At age 65, people are twice as likely to be killed or injured by fires compared to the population at large. And with our numbers growing every year - in the United States and Canada, adults 65 and older make up about 12 percent of the population – it’s essential to take the necessary steps to stay safe.

To increase fire safety for older adults, NFPA offers the following guidelines:

Keep it low

If you don’t live in an apartment building, consider sleeping in a room on the ground floor in order to make emergency escape easier. Make sure that smoke alarms are installed in every sleeping room and outside any sleeping areas. Have a telephone installed where you sleep in case of emergency.

When looking for an apartment or high-rise home, look for one with an automatic sprinkler system. Sprinklers can extinguish a home fire in less time that it takes for the fire department to arrive.

Sound the alarm

The majority of fatal fires occur when people are sleeping, and because smoke can put you into a deeper sleep rather than waking you, it’s important to have a mechanical early warning of a fire to ensure that you wake up.



Adults 65 and older make up about 12 percent of the population, according to the National Fire Protection Association. It’s essential to take the necessary steps increase fire safety for older adults.

STOCK PHOTO Fire Prevention

If anyone in your household is deaf or if your own hearing is diminished, consider installing a smoke alarm that uses a flashing light or vibration to alert you to a

fire emergency.

Do the drill

Conduct your own, or participate in,

regular fire drills to make sure you know what to do in the event of a home fire. If you or someone you live with cannot escape alone, designate a member of the household to assist, and decide on backups in case the designee isn’t home.

Fire drills are also a good opportunity to make sure that everyone is able to hear and respond to smoke alarms.

Open up

Make sure that you are able to open all doors and windows in your home. Locks and pins should open easily from inside. (Some apartment and high-rise buildings have windows designed not to open.)

If you have security bars on doors or windows, they should have emergency release devices inside so that they can be opened easily. These devices won’t compromise your safety, but they will enable you to open the window from inside in the event of a fire.

Check to be sure that windows haven’t been sealed shut with paint or nailed shut; if they have, arrange for someone to break the seals all around your home or remove the nails.

Stay connected

Keep a telephone nearby, along with emergency phone numbers so that you can communicate with emergency personnel if you’re trapped in your room by fire or smoke.

Sugar Creek Mutual Insurance Company
Elkhorn 262-723-3244

Banco Insurance Agency
Palmyra 262-495-2118
Whitewater 262-473-7334

Breck Ward
Elkhorn 262-215-5633

Patricia Lauderdale
Elkhorn 262-742-3818

Daniels Insurance Agency
Burlington 262-537-2677

Grams Insurance Agency
Edgerton 608-884-3304
Evansville 608-882-6515

Schaal Agency LLC
Waterford 262-534-7801

**“I CHOOSE MUTUAL INSURANCE
BECAUSE I KNOW WE’RE
IN THIS TOGETHER.”**

Policyholders who work with a mutual insurance company have a shared purpose: getting the best coverage and protection available. And mutual insurance delivers because mutuals serve policyholders, not shareholders. Our decisions are always based on what’s best for you. Plus local agents offer customized solutions for all your insurance needs. Find out how mutual insurance can work for you.

Member of the National Association
of Mutual Insurance Companies

“SHARED PURPOSE. MUTUAL VALUES”™ is a registered trademark of
the National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies. All rights reserved.
© 2012 National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies.



SHARED PURPOSE. MUTUAL VALUES.™