



PRESS RELEASE

Darien-Woodridge Fire District
7550 Lyman Ave
Darien, IL 60561



Contact Information:

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Date: March 19, 2009

For Immediate Release

House Fire

On March 18, 2009 at approximately 11:19 PM, a report was received of a house fire at 5537 Pershing Ave, in unincorporated Downers Grove. Fire units arrived on the scene four minutes later and observed fire in the area of the fireplace chimney.

A hose line was pulled and the fire was quickly extinguished. Fire units remained on the scene for about two hours overhauling the fire area, to make certain the fire was out, and salvaging the contents of the building.

The owner reports that they had been using the fireplace earlier in the evening. They had just gone to bed when they smelled smoke and heard a crackling noise. They then noticed the fire and called 9-1-1. Both occupants and their dog safely escaped the building.

Fire investigators have determined that the earlier fire ignited nearby structural wood, and began to spread. There were no reported injuries, and the initial fire loss estimates are placed at \$125,000. The home will be uninhabitable for some time.

Darien-Woodridge personnel were assisted at the scene by Downers Grove, Lisle-Woodridge, and Pleasantview.

The Darien-Woodridge Fire District reminds everyone who uses a woodburning fireplace that they should be checked and cleaned on an annual basis to remove any creasote build-up. Also only hard, seasoned wood should be burned.

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