



# PRESS RELEASE

## Darien-Woodridge Fire District

7550 Lyman Ave  
Darien, IL 60561



### Contact Information:

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Fire Prevention Director Robert Morris 630-910-2207

April 6, 2006

### *For Immediate Release*

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## House Fire – Smoke Detectors Save Lives

On April 6, at 3:42 A.M., residents at 8354 Helen Ct. were awoken to the sound of smoke detectors. Not detecting any smoke, they went to investigate. Upon opening the basement door, smoke could be seen.

Fire units were on the scene six minutes later and found smoke throughout the two-story home and requested additional assistance. An occupant stated to arriving firefighters he believed the fire was in the basement tool room. Crews then used two hose lines to attack the fire, while other units ventilated the smoke from the building and made sure no one else was in the home.

The fire was extinguished in approximately 30 minutes. The fire was contained to a room in the basement and a small area of the first floor, where the fire burned through the floor. There was smoke damage throughout the building.

Fire investigators believe the fire was caused due to an electrical problem with a florescent light in the basement. Damage estimates are placed at \$25,000.

In addition to 16 members of the Darien-Woodridge Fire District, Downers Grove, Lisle-Woodridge, Romeoville, Lemont, York Center, Clarendon Hills, and Pleasantview fire departments assisted by responding to the scene or filling in Darien-Woodridge fire stations to handle any additional calls.

The family of five, and one dog, safely escaped the home, and no firefighters were injured. The home will be uninhabitable for a short period of time. The occupants will be staying with family.

The Fire District would like to stress the importance of *working* smoke detectors. Had this family not had interconnected, working smoke detectors, the outcome would have been much worse. Fire damage would be considerably more, and the family would have been trapped on the second floor, as the fire would not have been noticed until it was visible to someone outside the home – at 4A.M.

If you would like assistance in locating where smoke detectors should be placed, contact your local fire department.

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