



DARIEN-WOODRIDGE

Fire Protection District

7550 Lyman Avenue ▪ Darien, Illinois 60561 ▪ (630) 910-2200 ▪ Fax (630) 910-2203

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 20, 2006

Contact: Chief Robert Tinucci

Smoke Detector Saves lives and home

On January 20, 2006 at 2:59 AM, the Darien-Woodridge Fire District received a report of a structure fire located at 8608 Main Street, in unincorporated Downers Grove. Upon arrival, the fire crews found the residents out of the house and a small fire in the basement. The crews made an aggressive attack and were able to extinguish the fire within minutes of their arrival. The fire was confined to the basement area and caused some damage to the electrical wiring and building structure.

A working smoke detector in the vicinity of the fire awakened the residents and provided for their early notification of the fire. The residents promptly called 911 and were able to safely exit the home. **THE WORKING SMOKE DETECTOR IS DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR SAVING THE OCCUPANTS LIVES AND LIMITING THE FIRE DAMAGE**

The fire was investigated and caused by spontaneous combustion of some rags that had soaked in linseed oil. The fire was confined to the area where the rags were being stored along with other decorating supplies.

Darien-Woodridge Fire District was assisted by fire companies from Lisle-Woodridge, Lemont, Tri-State and York Center Fire Districts and Downers Grove, Westmont, Romeoville and Clarendon Hills Fire Departments.

The Darien-Woodridge Fire District would like to remind all homeowners that the use of drying type oils such as linseed and tung oil for woodworking and staining must be used with care. These oils generate heat as they dry. It is strongly recommended that rags used with these type oils be stored in containers designed for that use. If the oil soaked rags are not properly stored in an airtight metal container they can cause fires.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Fire District at the above address and phone number.