



A SERVICE  
PUBLICATION  
OF THE  
LAGRANGE  
FIRE DEPARTMENT  
708-579-2338

### LOCAL EVENTS – 2016

#### **Farmers Market**

May- October  
Thursday  
7:00AM – 1:00PM

#### **La Grange Craft Fair**

July 9 – 10, 2016

#### **Endless Summerfest**

August 5 – 7, 2016

#### **West End Arts Festival**

September 17 – 18, 2016

#### **Fire Department**

**Annual Open House**  
Saturday October 8, 2016  
11:00AM - 3:30PM

#### **Halloween Walk**

October 29, 2016

#### **Hometown Holiday**

December 3, 2016  
5:00PM – 9:00PM  
**25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

# LA GRANGE FIRE DEPARTMENT JUNE 2016



Above is a 1968 American LaFrance fire engine that served the Village of La Grange from 1968 until it was replaced in 1991.

## **A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF**

### **Backyard Fire Pit Safety**

Fire pits are known to be a great source of warmth and ambience. But, with the popularity of fire pits increasing, fire safety has become even more important. There are many things you should consider while setting up and using a fire pit.

Any time you're dealing with an open flame you should always be responsible and take the necessary precautions to avoid any accidents. An open fire is a beautiful, warming accent to any yard or outdoor setting. It is inviting and invigorating as a central point of congregation and socialization. Make sure it is also safe so that you are free to enjoy it without the worry of an unforeseen accident.

Wood burning fire pits give the most authentic outdoor fire experience. The smell of the smoke, the crackling of the logs and the glowing embers combine to create an atmosphere that is magical, one that makes you feel like you're deep in the woods though you're only in your backyard. However, a wood burning fire also requires the most attention. Be sure to clear away brush and dead or dry vegetation in a 10'-20' circle around your fire pit and don't place your fire pit under a covered porch or under any low hanging trees where errant sparks and heat might ignite dry foliage and branches. ALWAYS use a spark screen so that sparks cannot escape the fire (especially with wet or sappy wood). Keep a fire extinguisher or garden hose with a

spray nozzle nearby so that if anything does escape the fire area you can extinguish it quickly and effectively.

Finally, be sure to protect yourself. Use a poker or log grabber to move and arrange logs and never try to move a portable fire pit if it's hot. Another way to protect yourself and your investments is to not use lighter fluids or other flammable liquids to start your fires. They can be unpredictable and dangerous; instead, use kindling and build your fire up slowly so that it is always under control and manageable.

Be courteous and thoughtful of your neighbors. Any burning that causes noxious smoke, toxic odor, or smoke of significant quantity or quality to be released so as to inhibit the use and enjoyment of neighboring property is hereby declared a nuisance and is strictly prohibited. If the fire department responds, the responding personnel have the authority to have the fire extinguished.

Backyard fire pits are lovely additions to any outdoor décor. With a little care and forethought they can be safe, almost worry free additions that will bring you warmth and joy for years to come. Protect yourself, your family and your home by using safe fire practices and a little common sense.

Should you have any questions or further concerns regarding fire pits and their use, please do not hesitate to contact the fire department for more safety tips at 708-579-2338.

#### **CALLS OF NOTE**

On June 6, 2016 at 1009 hours, La Grange Co. 1111 responded for the barbecue grill on fire. Co. 1111 arrived on scene and upgraded the alarm to a full still with change companies. Crew stretched a 1-3/4" pre-connect to the rear of the building and began extinguishments of the fire. Crews began overhaul operations on the exterior near the area of origin to check for fire spread. After salvage and overhaul operations were complete a final wash down of the area was performed. Origin and cause determination was performed by A/Lt. Cramer. Homeowner arrived to the scene and was updated regarding the incident.

On June 8, 2016, at 1140 hours, La Grange Co. 1113 and Chief 1101 responded auto-aid to the 4000 block of Gage Avenue in Lyons for the reported structure fire. Upon arrival, crews completed their assigned tasks and 1101 also assisted with the origin and cause of the fire.

On June 9, 2016, at 1522 hours, La Grange Co. 1113 and Chief 1101 responded auto-aid to the 3800 block of Morton Avenue in Brookfield for the report of a kitchen fire. Upon arrival, crews completed their assigned tasks and assisted with placing Brookfield engine back in service before being released.

On June 12, 2016, at 0842 hours, La Grange Co. 1113 responded auto-aid to the 4500 block of Elm in Brookfield for the porch fire. Upon arrival, the crew completed its assigned tasks. La Grange 1107 assisted with the cause and origin determination.

On June 13, 2016 at 0902 hours, La Grange Co. 1113 responded auto-aid to Ogden and Raymond Avenues in Brookfield for the ruptured high pressure gas main. Upon arrival, the crew was assigned to assist with obtaining gas readings in homes. The crew also assisted Brookfield with equipment pick up before being released by Brookfield command.

On June 14, 2016 at 1601 hours, La Grange Chief 1101 and Co. 1113 responded to the 5000 block of Wolf Road in Western Springs for the reported structure fire. Upon arrival, 1101 was assigned as interior chief and Co. 1113 was assigned to supply the Western Springs truck with the remainder of crew reporting to the front of the building. After the fire was extinguished, 1101 assisted with the cause and origin determination.

On June 24, 2016 at 1416 hours, La Grange companies responded to the Stone Avenue train station, Hillgrove side, for the possible train engine fire. Train engineer shut down train engine, electric and fuel prior to discharging ansul extinguisher where he saw black smoke coming from under the front right side of the engine. Train conductors safely evacuated all passengers prior to FD arrival. Fire crews remained on the scene to ensure there was no fire, wait for train mechanics and assist with passengers. All remaining passengers were assisted FD and Metra personnel through the inoperable passenger car to the Burlington Avenue side of the Stone Avenue station to wait board new westbound train.

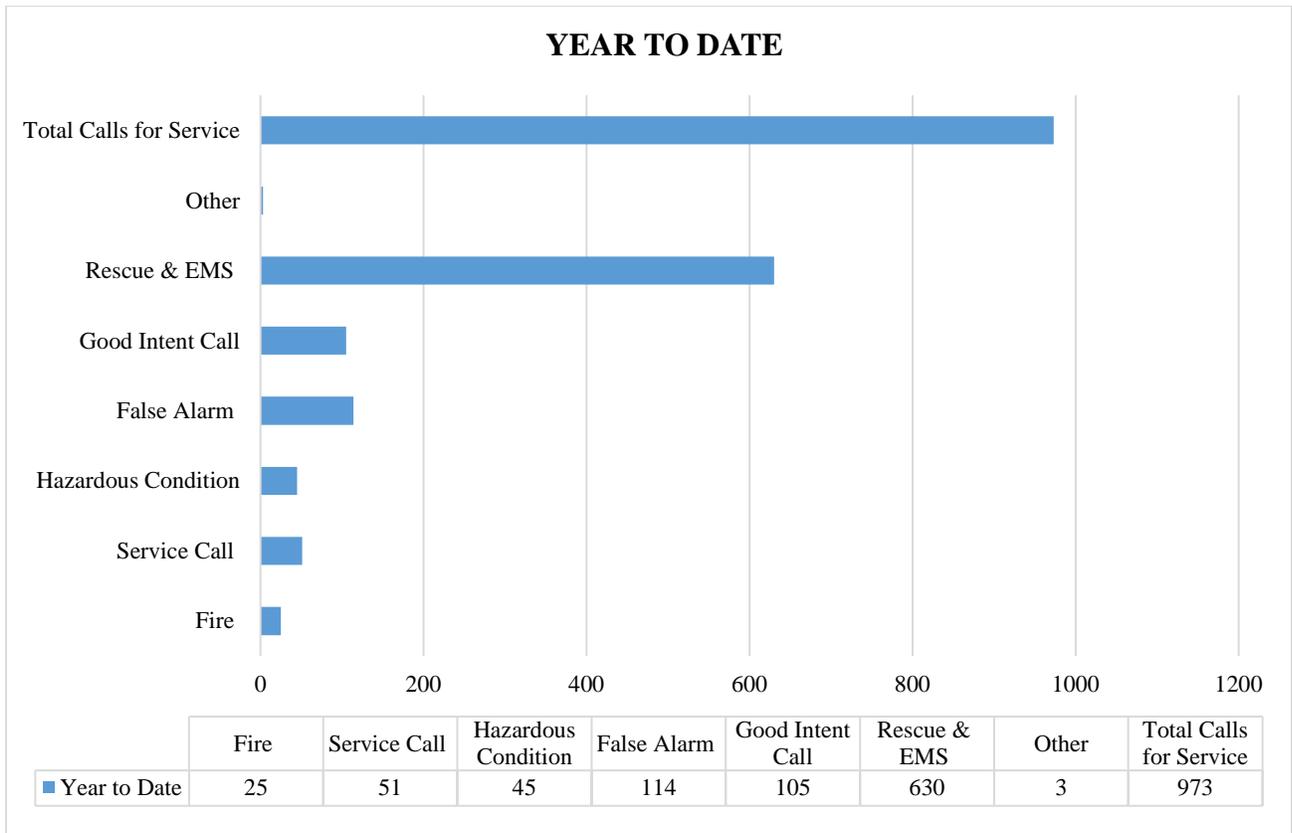
On June 24, 2016 at 1752 hours, La Grange Co. 1111 responded to the 1400 block of west Cossitt for the report of a possible natural gas odor in the building. Upon arrival, crews checked the building with department meters and were able to locate a stove burner in unit 3E that was in the 'on' position with no flame present. Crew ventilated area until gas levels decreased to less than 1%. Tenant stated she may have bumped into the stove earlier in the day.

### **La Grange Firefighters say THANK YOU for helping 'Fill the Boot'**

In cooperation with the Muscular Dystrophy Association, the La Grange Firefighters IAFF Local 2338 held their annual Fill the Boot Drive fundraiser on June 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> at the intersection of La Grange Road and Ogden Avenue. The generosity from the public was overwhelming. The Local collected over \$4,100 for MDA. For more than 60 years, the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) has remained a national partner with the MDA. Together, IAFF local's like La Grange have raised more than \$585.5 million to help kids and adults with muscle-debilitating diseases live the life they've always imagined and experience the world without any limits



**INCIDENT CALLS FROM JANUARY 1, 2016 – JUNE 30, 2016**



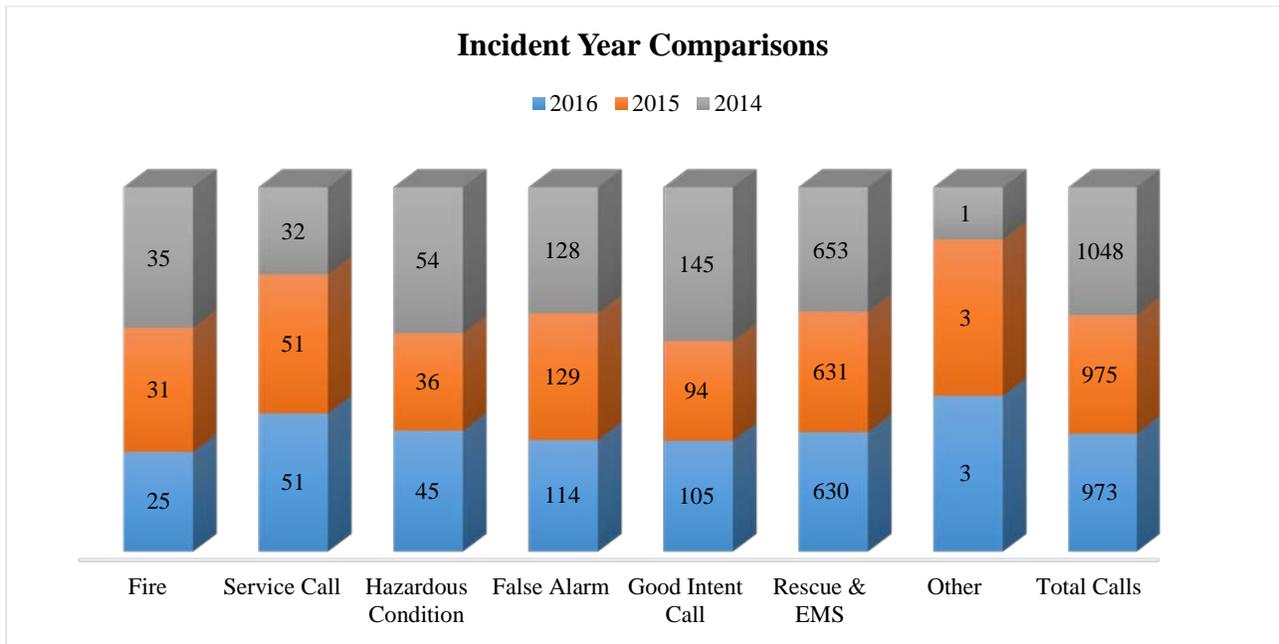
**Number of Incidents by Month:**

|                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| <b>January</b>   | <b>169 Incidents</b> |
| <b>February</b>  | <b>191 Incidents</b> |
| <b>March</b>     | <b>136 Incidents</b> |
| <b>April</b>     | <b>143 Incidents</b> |
| <b>May</b>       | <b>173 Incidents</b> |
| <b>June</b>      | <b>161 Incidents</b> |
| <b>July</b>      | <b>--- Incidents</b> |
| <b>August</b>    | <b>--- Incidents</b> |
| <b>September</b> | <b>--- Incidents</b> |
| <b>October</b>   | <b>--- Incidents</b> |
| <b>November</b>  | <b>--- Incidents</b> |
| <b>December</b>  | <b>--- Incidents</b> |

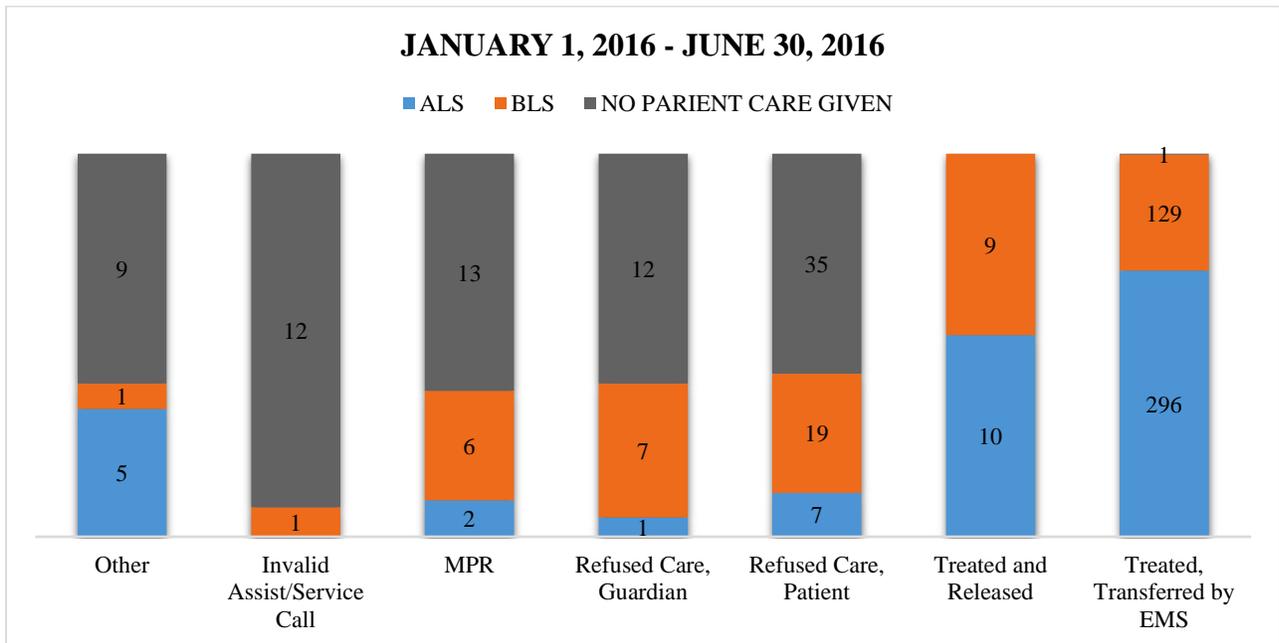
**Total Estimated Loss YTD \$64,100**

**Total 973 Incidents**

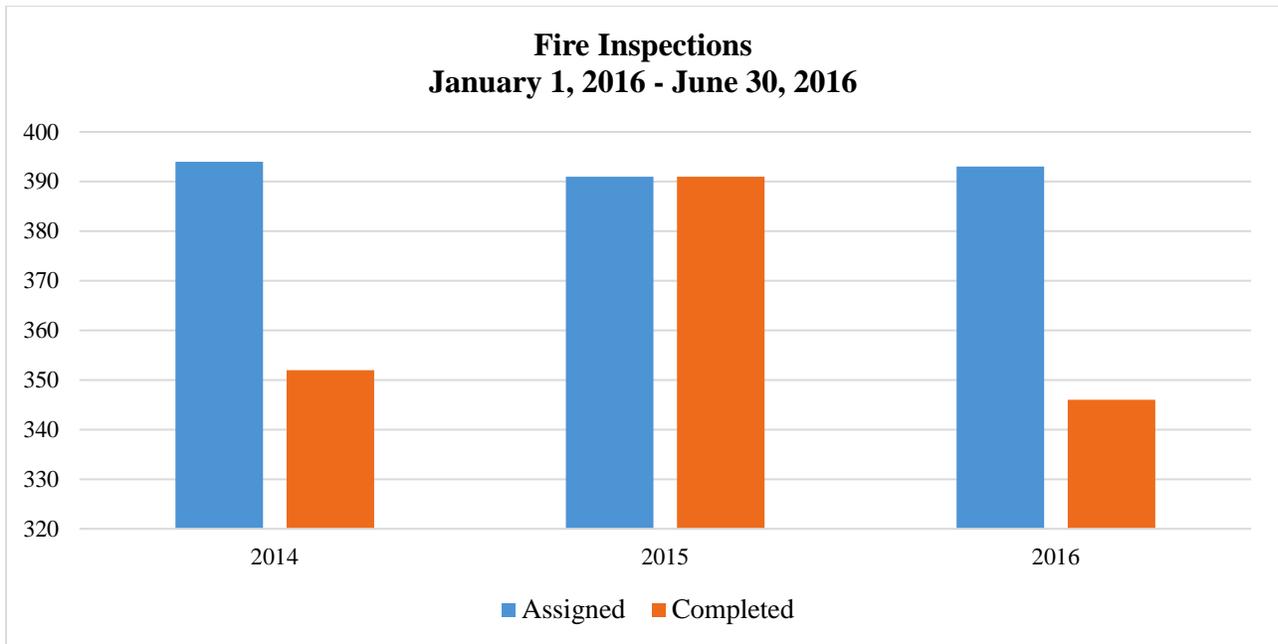
## INCIDENT CALL COMPARISONS YTD FOR 2014-2016



## LEVEL OF CARE SUMMARY



## FIRE PREVENTION



## TRAINING DIVISION

### TRAINING HOURS FROM JANUARY 1, 2016 – June 30, 2016

| 2014       | 2015       | 2016 - YTD |
|------------|------------|------------|
| 2815 Hours | 2781 Hours | 1360 Hours |

*Fire Chief*