



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

LOCAL EVENTS – 2018

Hometown Holiday
Saturday December 1, 2018
5:00PM – 9:00PM

LA GRANGE FIRE DEPARTMENT NOVEMBER 2018



Engine Co. 326 is a 1951 American La France pumper with a left side mounted pump panel. The ladder rack on top is not original. It was added later to carry additional ladders. This vehicle served the residents of La Grange until it was retired in 1981. Photo courtesy of J. Regan.

A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF

Holiday Safety Tips

Keep your family and overnight guests safe with a working smoke detector on every level of the house, in every bedroom, and in the halls adjacent to the bedrooms. Test smoke alarms monthly and replace batteries at least once a year.

Keep cooking areas clean and cleared of all combustibles that could ignite if placed too close to the stove area such as boxes, towels, pot holders, or holiday decorations.

Keep the kitchen off-limits to young children and adults that are not helping with food preparations to lessen the possibility of kitchen mishaps. Never leave cooking unattended. If you must exit the kitchen while cooking, turn off the stove or have someone else watch what is being cooked. Unattended cooking is a leading cause of home fires. If a fire does occur, put a lid on it! Pan fires are best extinguished by covering the pan with a lid or a cookie sheet to smother the flames.

Candles are often part of holiday decorations. Candles should never be left burning when you are away from home, or after going to bed. Candles

should be placed where children will not be tempted to play with them, and where guests will not accidentally brush against them.

A candle holder should be completely noncombustible and difficult to knock over. Candles should not have combustible decorations placed around or near them.

Before choosing a tree for the holidays, shake it to make sure it's not dropping needles. Limbs should be flexible. Trees with thicker needles, such as a noble fir, last longer. Place Christmas trees away from fireplaces, radiators and other heat sources. Do not use lighted candles on the tree.

Turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to sleep. Faulty or unattended lights cause most Christmas tree fires.

When using your fireplace, remember to open the flue before you begin. Start with a small fire and select firewood to minimize smoke. Make sure your fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room.

Always extinguish the fire before leaving home or going to sleep. Ashes should be allowed to cool before placing them in a metal container and storing them a safe distance from your home.

Here is a special fire safety and prevention message from the National Fire Protection Association and the U.S Fire Administration;

The risk of having a home fire increases during the winter months: December, January, and February. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) have teamed up to promote "Put a Freeze on Winter Fires," to help teach the public about winter fire hazards and ways to prevent them.

For additional fire safety and prevention information, visit the [U.S. Fire Administration](#).

From all the members of the La Grange Fire Department, we wish you all, a Happy and Safe Holiday Season.

Calls of Note:

On November 9, 2018, at 2126 hours, La Grange companies responded to the 00 block of West Burlington for the vehicle accident. Upon arrival, crews found one vehicle that traveled through pedestrian walkway and onto train tracks. All rail traffic was stopped. The driver was assessed and refused further medical treatment. Vehicle was stabilized and cribbing was used to protect rails as vehicle was removed by tow company.

On November 10, 2018, at 2249 hours, La Grange companies responded to the 600 block of south Madison for the smell of gas in the home. Upon arrival FD entered home with gas meter that immediately indicates 120 ppm of carbon monoxide (CO). Further investigation found the boiler in the basement pushing out 420 ppm of CO. The boiler was shut down and the home was ventilated. Homeowners were allowed back in after FD found zero CO readings throughout the home. The homeowner stated that he would be contacting a repair service first thing in the morning.

On November 12, 2018, at 0445 hours, La Grange Co. 1111 responded to the 600 block of S. Kensington for the CO detectors activating with no illness. Upon arrival, homeowner advised crew that the alarm was not constantly going off, and was just an occasional chirp sound. Crew checked entire home for CO and found zero readings throughout. Homeowner was advised that the intermittent chirps were an indication that the detector needed to be replaced. This information can be found on the back side of individual CO detectors along with an expiration date for the detector.

On November 12, 2018, at 1322 hours, La Grange Co. 1111 responded to the 800 block of S. La Grange Rd for the cat stuck above a ceiling. Upon arrival, cat was located above a ceiling in the home but was not within arms-reach. Food was placed near the opening and the owner was advised to re-contact FD if the cat did not come out by next day. Homeowner was also advised to cover opening to prevent another such occurrence.

On November 13, 2018, at 1844 hours, La Grange Co. 1112 responded auto-aid to the 3900 block of Franklin in Western Springs for the structure fire. Upon arrival, crew was assigned to assist with water supply. Crew was then assigned to prepare a back-up line and bring it to the front door. Crew was then assigned to assist with salvage, overhaul and extinguishment. No further assignments, crew was released and returned to quarters.

On November 22, 2018, at 1731 hours, the fire department was requested to the 400 block of S. 9th Avenue by the resident looking for assistance with removing fire extinguisher powder from the residence. The homeowner stated that the turkey in the oven caught fire and he put it out using a fire extinguisher. The oven was checked and was found with no obvious heat or fire damage, no evidence of scorching or burning under, above, or behind the stove.

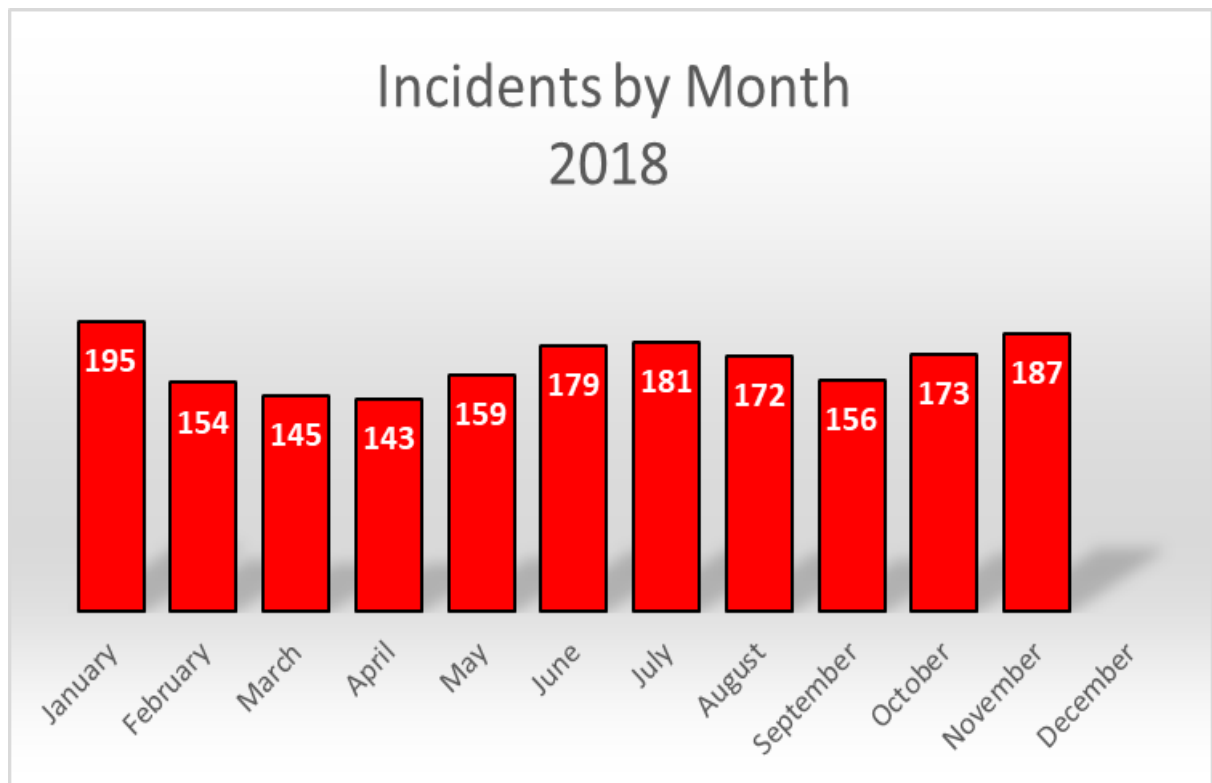
On November 22, 2018, at 2232 hours, La Grange and auto-aid companies responded to the 1000 block of S. Ashland for the report of an oven fire. Upon arrival units found no fire in the oven, no damage to oven or surrounding cabinetry. Homeowner stated that they were cooking lobster tails in the oven when they began to catch fire. They turned off the oven and kept the door closed as they called 911 and evacuated.

On November 23, 2018, at 1522 hours, La Grange Co. 1112 responded auto-aid to the 9500 block of Henrietta in Brookfield for the garage fire. Upon arrival crew was assigned to assist with water supply and extinguishment. Crew assisted Brookfield with re-bedding hose before returning to quarters.

On November 25, 2018, at 1435 hours, La Grange Co. 1111 responded to the 800 block of S. Madison for the irritating odor. Upon arrival, Crew found homeowner had broken a compressor line on an old refrigerator in the basement of the home. Crew immediately recognized the odor as ammonia and donned SCBA as they entered basement. Crew removed the refrigerator to the rear yard of the home. Crew ventilated basement and then requested McCook FD to respond non-emergency with ammonia meter. Crew used ammonia meter to ensure the home was clear of ammonia. Both companies returned to quarters.

On November 29, 2018, at 1738 hours, La Grange companies responded to the 00 block of E. Ogden for the report of a vehicle versus building. Upon arrival, crews found significant damage done to the building. Paramedics obtained refusals from all drivers and passengers involved. Building department was notified and fire crews returned to quarters.

Incidents by Month 2018

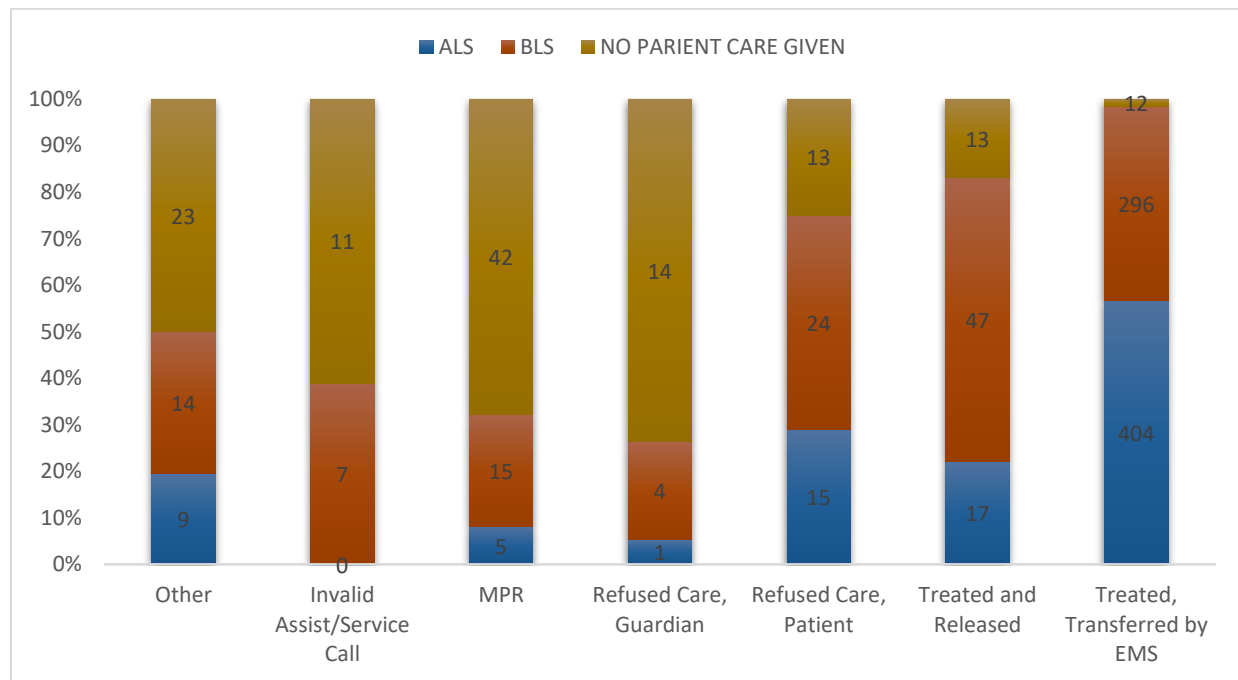


Total Estimated Loss YTD: \$235,000.00

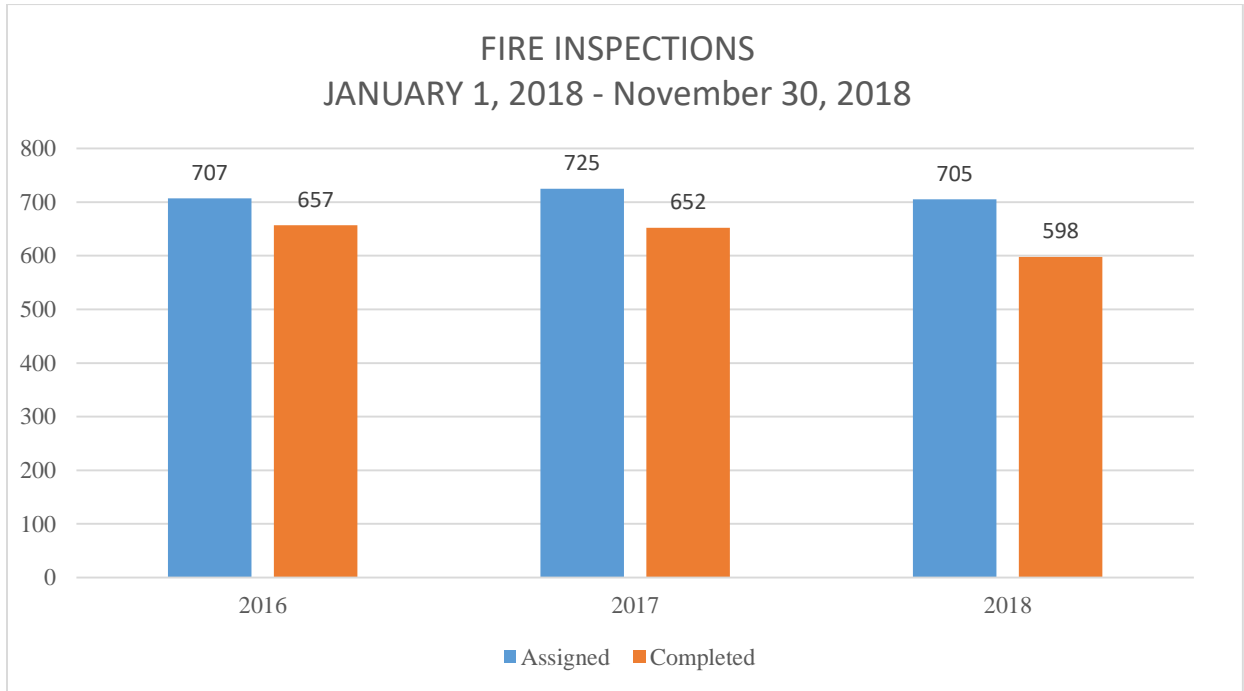
Total: 1844 Incidents

LEVEL OF CARE SUMMARY

JANUARY 2018-NOVEMBER 2018



FIRE PREVENTION



TRAINING DIVISION

TRAINING HOURS FROM JANUARY 1, 2018 – NOVEMBER 30, 2018

2016 Total	2017 Total	2018 - YTD
2,239.83 Hours	2,813.21 Hours	3559.25 Hours

Fire Chief