

**We Salute Our Firefighters!**

**WE'RE COMMUNITY PEOPLE**

**The Sherwood State Bank**

Ridgeville Corners  
419-267-5555

Member FDIC

It's Fire Prevention Week  
**PREVENT HOME FIRES**  
October 5-11, 2008  
firepreventionweek.org

**SANJAN INC.**  
"DUMP TRUCK SPECIALIST"  
**419-267-3328**  
Ridgeville Corners

**We proudly support our local firefighters.**

**RIDGEVILLE TELEPHONE COMPANY**  
RTEC Communications  
"Traditional Service Values - Futuristic Services"  
105 East Holland St., Archbold  
**419-267-8800**

**Test Your Alarm for Life!** Your smoke alarm has the power to save your life. Or does it? If you haven't tested your smoke alarm lately, it may not be working. And that's a risk you can't afford to take. Working smoke alarms give us early warning of a fire, providing extra time to escape safely. But they can't do their job if we haven't done ours - monthly testing to make sure they're working. Test all the smoke alarms in your home. For the life of the alarm and for the lives of your loved ones.

**AUTOMATION, INC.**

**Overloaded Electrical Outlets Are Dangerous**

**YARK**  
Fuel for the Soul  
**GMC**  
We Are Professional Grade.

1910 South Defiance St., Archbold  
419-445-3581  
Toll-Free 1-877-329-1130  
www.yarkauto.com

Escape plans should be practiced at least twice a year.

**VIDEOS UNLIMITED**

1407 S. Defiance St.  
Archbold  
(in Wyse Book & Office Bldg. next to Scrapbook Korner)  
**419-445-5433**

# National Fire Prevention Week



## Ridgeville Twp. Volunteer Fire Department

**Front row, from left:** Dave Rohrs; Chris Von Deylen, captain; Dennis Sonnenberg, captain; Dave Hancock, assistant chief; Dexter L. Benecke, chief; Ken Freytag, assistant chief; Daniel Benecke, captain; Michael Weber, captain; Jeff Rentz, captain; Dave Stough. **Middle row:** Kim Kruse, Travis Behnfeldt, Austin Genter, Josh Rufenacht, Mike Ruby, Phil E. Miller, Todd Ranzau, Josh Behnfeldt, Matthew Hancock, Jason Wendt. **Back row:** Rick Hamlin, Brandon Rosebrock, Jeff Rathge, Ben Gerken, Kyle Norden, Terry Bostelman, Adam Meyer. **Absent:** Dan Hurst, Wilbur Wesche, Tony Wiemken, Steven Bostelman, Ashley Hurst, Trisha Hancock. -photos by Mary Huber

"It's Fire Prevention Week-Prevent Home Fires!" is the Fire Prevention Week theme for 2008. Simple precautions can prevent home fires and reduce the injuries, fatalities, and property damage they cause.

Becoming too complacent about fire safety can lead to big trouble. Check your home, barn, shed, property, and practices for potential risk of fire and fire-related injury, paying special attention to space heaters, fireplaces, furnaces, kitchen and cooking safety, electrical outlets, extension cords, light bulbs, flammable liquids and candles, to name a few.

Have you installed a working smoke alarm? Test your smoke alarm today and once a month hereafter - a good rule is to remember to change these batteries when the time changes in the spring and fall.

Do those in your household know what to do when fire strikes? Fire safety advocates stress the importance of having a **Home Escape Plan** and practicing it with everyone in your household. The speed and power of fire and smoke, and the danger they pose, is too often underestimated. Practicing your home fire escape plan is key in preparing everyone so they can escape quickly and safely. Contact either fire department if you would like help in setting up a safety plan.

The Ridgeville Township Volunteer Fire Department service

area is approximately 54 square miles, or 900+ homes and businesses. When schools are in session and businesses are running at capacity, RFD's census is about 8,000 residents.

The Ridgeville Township Volunteer Fire Department has 31 active members-30 firefighters, one cadet, 21 certified emergency medical technicians, three "first responders," and three are currently taking the 140-hour EMT course. All are volunteers.

The RFD's current project is replacing the tanker, which is a 1975 body and tank on a 1984 Ford chassis. The estimated cost is \$265,000. The department committed \$60,000 toward the purchase. These funds are from fund-raisers, gifts, donations, and memorials. The RFD also recently received a 10-year, \$200,000 interest-free loan from the State of Ohio for this project. In addition, the department continues to submit grant requests to help pay for training and equipment upgrades that keep it in compliance with the National Fire Protection Association and Insurance Service Organization.

The Ridgeville Fire Department appreciates your continued support.

If you are interested in becoming a firefighter/EMT on either the Archbold or Ridgeville Fire Departments, contact Andy Brodbeck, AFD chief, at 419-445-9506, or Dexter Benecke, RFD chief, at 419-267-3684 or 267-3328.

It's Fire Prevention Week  
**PREVENT HOME FIRES**  
October 5-11, 2008  
firepreventionweek.org

It's Fire Prevention Week  
**PREVENT HOME FIRES**  
October 5-11, 2008  
firepreventionweek.org

Sauder Woodworking Co. values the community we are privileged to be a part of. We support efforts to improve safety and quality of life. Please take care at home when cooking, using candles, or space heaters. Your life depends on it!

**SAUDER**

www.sauder.com

If you have a fire tonight, will you get out safely? You'll have a better chance of getting out safely if you've planned ahead. Develop a fire escape plan and practice it with the whole family. Everyone should know two ways out of each room and know where to meet outside. Make sure everyone understands that getting out is the first priority. And remember, once you're outside, stay out.

**The Home Restaurant**  
218 N. Defiance St.  
Archbold • 419-445-6411

2008 Ridgeville Twp. Volunteer Fire Department		
Wilbur Wesche.....60 years	Kim Kruse.....12 years	Jeff Rathge.....5 years
Dexter Benecke, Chief.....46 years	Dan Benecke, Captain.....11 years	Josh Rufenacht.....5 years
David Stough.....36 years	Matt Hancock.....10 years	Tony Wiemken.....5 years
David Hancock, Assistant Chief.....28 years	Chris Von Deylen, Captain.....10 years	Adam Meyer.....4 years
Jeffrey Rentz, Captain.....28 years	Michael Weber, Captain.....9 years	Travis Behnfeldt.....3 years
Rick Hamlin.....24 years	Josh Behnfeldt.....9 years	Kyle Norden.....1 year
Dave Rohrs.....24 years	Jason Wendt.....6 years	Ben Gerken.....1 year
Terry Bostelman.....23 years	Austin Genter.....6 years	Mike Ruby.....1 year
Ken Freytag, Assistant Chief.....23 years	Brandon Rosebrock.....6 years	Trisha Hancock.....1 year
Phillip E. Miller.....16 years	Alita Bowers.....5 years	Ashley Hurst.....new
Todd Ranzau.....14 years	Dan Hurst.....5 years	Steven Bostelman.....cadet

2007: 119 rescue runs, 59 fire calls      As of October 1, 2008: 81 rescue runs, 49 fire calls

Remember, at Terry Henricks **ONLY YOUR VEHICLE GETS MORE ATTENTION THAN YOU.**

**TERRY** Your Local Five-Star Dealer  
**HENRICKS**  
CHRYSLER-DODGE-JEEP  
1935 South Defiance St., Archbold

419-445-2576  
Toll-Free  
1-800-445-6576

www.terryhenricks.com

**Change the batteries in your smoke detectors when you change the clocks Sunday, Nov. 2!**

**Ned L. Wyse**  
Jeff Neff  
301 Ditto St.  
Archbold, OH  
419-446-4619  
1-888-446-4670

Auto • Home • Life

**JOE SHORT Insurance**

**Joe Short Insurance**  
317 Stryker St.  
Archbold, OH 43502  
**(419) 445-3786**

It's Fire Prevention Week  
**PREVENT HOME FIRES**  
October 5-11, 2008  
firepreventionweek.org

**SAUDER MANUFACTURING COMPANY**  
Sauder Manufacturing Co.  
930 W. Barre Road  
Archbold, OH 43502

80 Years

**RICH**  
FORD-LINCOLN-MERCURY

904 Stryker St., Archbold  
419-445-7460 (800) 682-7460  
RichFordDirect.com

How much time do you have to get out of a fire? Not as much as you think. Real fires are hot, smokey and dark. You may have only a very few minutes to safely escape from fire. If you're ever in a fire, don't spend time getting dressed or trying to gather valuables. Just get out and stay out. Then call the fire department from a neighbor's telephone.

**Black Swamp Equipment**  
700 E. Lugbill Rd., Archbold  
www.blackswampequipment.com

**auto images**

Brad Grime - Chris Grime

Complete Collision & Body Repair  
Complete Mechanical Repair & Service

- "Shark" Computerized Frame & Utilized Measuring
- "Hunter" Computerized Wheel Alignments
- Blowtherm Downtraft Bake Cure Spray Booths
- Air Conditioning Service
- Brakes, Shocks, Exhaust, Tires
- Computerized Engine Diagnostics
- Complete Engine And Transmission Service

ASE CERTIFIED TECHNICIANS

2201 S. Defiance St., Archbold, OH  
**419-446-2391**