



Village of Medina Fire Department

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Press Release

Fourth Alarm Fire Keeps Local Departments Busy

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*** For Immediate Release ***

Warm weather and a stubborn fire kept crews from 10 fire departments, and two counties, busy Thursday.

Just before 4pm, the Medina Fire Department was dispatched for a reported structure fire at 429 Park Avenue in the Village. During the dispatch, Fire Captain R.J. Morgan was passing the scene and immediately called on location and established command. Morgan declared a working fire in a two and a half story, wood frame, multi-family dwelling and requested a second alarm.

Fire crews worked tirelessly to extinguish the fire which traveled quickly through the structure. "The building is of balloon-frame construction, which means fire can travel from the basement to the attic space very rapidly," said Fire Captain R.J. Morgan. "It appeared the fire extended into the attic space before crews were able to reach it, and caused fire conditions to progress rapidly."

The rapidly progressing fire conditions caused the second floor and attic space to become fully involved in fire and forced firefighters to evacuate the structure and perform defensive operations.

During the evacuation, a firefighter became separated from his partner. Following protocol, a "Mayday" was issued and a Personnel Accountability Report (PAR) was taken. All firefighters were accounted for and the "Mayday" was cancelled.

"Not only were we faced with a stubborn fire, but the warm weather also added to the need for additional manpower at the scene," said Fire Captain Michael Maak.

In all, the fire reached a fourth alarm, bringing a total of 10 departments to the scene and many more departments were on stand by at the Medina Fire Station and various other stations throughout the county.

The fire was declared under control at 5:33pm.

Assisting at the scene were crews from Shelby, Lyndonville, Ridgeway, East Shelby, Middleport, Albion, Holley, COVA, and Tri-Town Ambulance.

The fire was investigated by Fire Investigators from the Orleans County Emergency Management Office Fire Investigation Unit. Fire investigators have deemed the fire is accidental in nature, but the investigation to the exact cause is still on going.

All occupants of the structure were able to exit the building safely. One resident was transported to Medina Memorial Hospital for evaluation. One firefighter was also transported to Medina Memorial Hospital for evaluation after over-exertion. The occupants of the structure, which is uninhabitable, were assisted by members of the American Red Cross of Orleans County.

All fire units were clear of the scene shortly after 10pm.

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For More Information:

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