



August 2006

“MOTHER ALWAYS TOLD ME, IF YOU TELL A LIE, ALWAYS REHEARSE IT. IF IT DON'T SOUND GOOD TO YOU, IT WON'T SOUND GOOD TO NO ONE ELSE.” Satchel Paige

I have a couple of ideas where this mantra is being actively practiced. My guess is by groups opposing fire sprinkler activity in the code development process, those influencing state and local legislative bodies and in the sales room of certain entrepreneurial companies. Paige also said: “How old would you be if you didn't know how old you are?” To most, automatic fire sprinkler protection is new technology when in fact it is nearly 140 years old. I guess we can be a young industry creating opportunities for expansion. All the work of the pioneers and zealots looking to lower America's life and property loss to fire might finally be reaching the masses. We must be younger and more aggressive than our historic 140 years previous experience to get the quest done.

[Fire Survivor Settles Lawsuit Over Dorm's Lack of Sprinklers-Engineering Student Was Burned at University of Texas Towers](#)

Five years have passed and the memories of the fire that severely injured a former UT engineering student, Zawardy Ab Latiff, are finally being put to rest. It was in the early morning hours of May 1, 2001, when Ab Latiff's University Towers private dorm was allegedly set ablaze by his roommate, Anoor Hajee.

Hajee died in the fire, but Ab Latiff was able to escape when a security guard pulled him from the apartment. He was later treated at Brooks Army Medical Center in San Antonio for burns covering more than 40 percent of his body.

Shortly after the incident, Ab Latiff returned to his home in Malaysia to recover and eventually return to his studies there. He has recently returned to Austin for the settlement of his lawsuit against the management of University Towers in 2001, University Housing Corp. and AHW University Ltd. Management of the private West Campus dormitory has since changed.

The lawsuit accuses the University Towers of negligence for not equipping Ab Latiff's bedroom with a smoke detector and not providing a sprinkler system throughout the buildings, along with not informing the residents about the absence of a sprinkler system. The details of the legal proceedings against University Housing are not being disclosed by Ab Latiff's attorney, Robby Alden. Alden was unavailable for contact Tuesday, but the law firm handling the suit, Byrd, Davis, Eisenberg, Walter and Furman, L.L.P., confirmed that the case will be settled this week and that the settlement will hopefully compensate Ab Latiff's medical costs and other expenses.

University Towers would not comment on the suit.

University Towers was built before an ordinance passed in 1981 that required all new high-rise buildings to have a sprinkler system. The ordinance also states that all existing buildings must have pressurized stairwells, 24 hour alarm systems and a smoke detector in every sleeping room and every common room. Since the fire in 2001, Towers has not installed a sprinkler system. The residents are informed of this only when they inquire.

Currently, sprinkler systems are now required in any residential complex larger than a duplex. Don Smith from the Austin Fire Department stresses the advantages of sprinkler systems in controlling fires. Although the ordinance only applies to buildings constructed after 1981, many high rises have updated to include sprinkler systems. Of the 115 high rises in Austin, only 17 do not have sprinkler systems, three of those being residential, Smith said.

The law firm representing Ab Latiff said he is thankful to those who have helped him with his legal case and hopes that future accidents like this will be prevented. This is a major precedent in the argument that the technology exists and if a building is not protected the liability falls on the owner if there is a fire. The tort process has been established and may now be used in other occupancies, like apartments, condos, homes, etc.

[Online registration is now open for Campus Fire Forum 8 in Chapel Hill, NC!](#)

This year's Campus Forum conference promises to be the best one yet with a stellar lineup of presenters starting with a keynote address by **James Lee Witt, former head of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the International Code Council**. It will be held at the Sheraton Chapel Hill in Chapel Hill, North Carolina on November 7-9, 2006.

Throughout the three days there will be unparalleled educational sessions that will include:

Marketing Fire Safety to College Administrators

Greek Housing Triathlon, the Three E's of Education, Engineering and Enforcement

Water Mist Technology

Legislative Panel

Laboratory Fire Safety

Campus Fire Protection "Down Under" in Australia

Princeton Review Questions Workshop

ADA Compliant Systems Technology

Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of Installed Sprinkler Systems

Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of Installed Fire Alarm Systems

Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of Fire Extinguishers

A Fire Chief's Perspective of an American Campus

National Incident Management System (NIMS) – Implication of New Homeland Security Mandate for Campuses

"Climbing Inside Their Heads" – How to Effectively Reach College Students

In addition, there will be a Vendor Exhibit with over 30 companies on Wednesday. What a great opportunity to learn about the latest in campus fire safety products and services, all in one place!

You can register online right now for only \$375 a person, which includes the three days of educational sessions, admission to the Exhibit Hall, lunch and dinner each day and all presentation materials.

The conference and lodging will be at the Sheraton Chapel Hill with a rate of only \$119 per night, including breakfast.

[Wisconsin Joins List of Campus Fire Safety Month Supporters](#)

Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle issued a proclamation designating September as Campus Fire Safety Month. Wisconsin joins Connecticut, Maine, Mississippi and Nebraska in stating that the month should be dedicated to educate students on fire safety, early warning, evacuation preparation and the installation of automatic fire sprinkler protection to help make campuses safe from the tragedies of fire.

Between January 2000 and May 15, 2006 the **Center for Campus Fire Safety** has identified 88 campus-related fire fatalities that include students, parents and children. Since these fires are identified by scanning the wire services, and not all fires are identified as student-related, it is believed that the actual number is higher.

The deadliest months are April and May, when 23 deaths have occurred, followed by August and September with 19 fire deaths. For the first time since January 2000, there were no fire deaths in August and September in 2005.

The Center for Campus Fire Safety is a nonprofit organization supported by the NFSA to facilitate the proper protection and education of our nation's college student population.

[NFSA to co-sponsor 1st Labor Management Caucus](#)

The USA Sprinkler Fitters Business Managers Association and the National Fire Sprinkler Association (NFSA) are pleased to announce their co-sponsorship of the 1st Labor Management Caucus being held October 15 – 16, 2006 in Tucson, Arizona at the Loews Ventana Canyon Resort.

The tentative schedule of events for the 1st Labor Management Caucus calls for a golf outing on the afternoon of Sunday, October 15th followed by a lavish welcome reception in the evening. The morning of Monday, October 16th begins with a continental breakfast. Speaker sessions will run until about noon. Tentatively scheduled presentations include an update on federal legislation affecting the fire sprinkler industry, building code updates on NFPA 5000 and the International Building Code, sprinkler markets of the future including residential and retrofit an NFPA 13 update and avoiding construction contract pitfalls.

The registration fee for the caucus is \$125.00 per person and \$165.00 per person for golf. Room reservations can be made within the NFSA block for \$195.00 per night by contacting the Loews Ventana Canyon Resort directly at 800.234.5117.

This will be a unique opportunity for leaders on both sides of labor and management to meet in a relaxed, informal atmosphere to discuss issues of mutual interest and hear informative presentations on the fire sprinkler industry's most pressing topics. For more information, contact **Lisa Dazi** at dazi@nfsa.org or call 845.878.4200 ext. 118.

[AWWA Manual M-14 – Recommended Practice for Backflow Prevention and Cross-Connection Control, 3rd Edition \(2004\)](#)

The following backflow requirements are generally for new systems. Existing systems usually do not require additional backflow protection if they already have some form of acceptable directional flow-control protection in place (ex: single check valve or alarm check valve) until the system is substantially altered. Requiring additional backflow prevention on existing systems can have a detrimental effect on the hydraulic capability of the system as well as the cost.

Commercial Fire Sprinkler Systems

M-14 recommends two approaches for backflow protection on commercial fire sprinkler systems. The 1st approach recommends a double check valve assembly (DCV) on all systems; unless there is a risk of a high hazard cross-connection, in which case reduced-pressure zone principal backflow prevention assembly (RPZ) is recommended.

The 2nd approach is to assess each type of system individually. For this approach, M-14 provides guidance on the following types of fire-suppression systems:

Wet-Pipe Fire Sprinkler Systems

These systems usually have stagnated water that may not be acceptable to drinking water standards.

For new systems a DCV is recommended on closed (nonflow-through) systems, unless there is a risk of a high hazard, in which case a PRZ or air gap is suggested.

For existing systems with a low hazard of cross-connection an existing modern UL listed alarm check valve (containing no lead) can continue to be used to control the direction of flow. Existing systems that have an alarm check valve that contains lead should consider protection using a DCV. If the existing system is significantly modified then the backflow protection should also be reexamined.

A fire department connection may also present a potential source of contamination based on the fire departments water supply and if additives are used.

Dry-Pipe Nonpressurized Fire-Suppression Systems (Deluge)

These systems are open to the atmosphere and generally do not require backflow protection unless chemicals will be added when water flows, in which case a RPZ is suggested.

Dry-Pipe Pressurized and Preaction Fire-Suppression Systems

Dry-pipe pressurized systems typically are pressurized with air or nitrogen. Preaction systems may or may not be pressurized. A DCV is recommended unless there is a risk of a high hazard (e.g. chemicals) in which case a RPZ or air gap is recommended.

Residential, Single-Family Fire Sprinkler Systems

No backflow assemblies are required on systems that are constructed of approved potable material and are designed to flow water so it does not become stagnate. A DCV is suggested on other systems unless there is a risk of a high hazard cross connection in which case a RPZ or air gap is recommended

Other Fire-Suppression Systems

Since system design can vary the level of backflow protection should be based on the type of cross-connection and the degree of hazard. The local plumbing code could regulate systems connected to private plumbing systems.

Fire Hydrants

Fire hydrants are used to supply water for fighting fires, but can also be used for other purposes such as temporary water service lines or testing and flushing water mains. Both the water purveyor and the fire authority should monitor fire hydrants. If backflow prevention is recommended it will depend on the degree of hazard presented by the use of the hydrant.

[NFSA Endorsed Dental Plan Available to Membership-Save Your Teeth Campaign Initiated](#)

HealthFlex Dental is a fixed-fee program designed to make dental care affordable for more Americans. With over 60,000 participating dentists nationwide, employees of NFSA member companies participating in the program can visit participating dentists as often as they like and save up to 60% off dental bills for themselves and eligible family members. HealthFlex Dental includes virtually everything from routine check-ups, to fillings, crowns, braces and even cosmetic work. NFSA has negotiated a special rate of just \$49.95 per family per year, a rate not available anywhere in the country.

Participating dentists and specialists who participate in the HealthFlex Dental Plan have agreed to accept a discounted fee as payment in full for each service performed. For more information or to register in the program, visit the special NFSA HealthFlex Dental program website at <http://www.ndhslc.com/dental/nfsa> - because smiling is something that should never be taken for granted.

[NAHB Survey Sent to Members – Gathering Defense Strategy?](#)

The following was sent recently to the membership of the National Association of Home Builders:

Dear NAHB builder member -

The NAHB Construction Codes and Standards Committee has undertaken a new study of residential fire sprinkler systems to better understand their costs and installation in jurisdictions where they are mandated. This is a request for your help in compiling data on how fire sprinklers are actually being installed in new homes including design, permitting, inspections and costs.

Your data will help NAHB with responding to emerging regulatory issues and also identify opportunities to simplify and lower the cost of fire sprinklers where they are now mandated. The survey is conducted online and will take approximately 20 minutes to complete.

Before starting the survey - please consider who in your organization would be best suited to answer the questions. The person filling out the survey will need the following information. Gathering this information in advance will shorten the time to complete the survey:

- * Number and type of housing units constructed and average sales price,
- * Building jurisdiction where fire sprinklers are installed,
- * Fire sprinkler installation details including water supply, design and inspection requirements and costs, and
- * Average cost per square foot for the fire sprinkler system.

Thank you in advance for your support. Your response is greatly appreciated and a notice will be emailed to each respondent when the summary report becomes available.

If you have questions about the survey please contact Amber Wood (800-638-8556 x6309, awood@nahbrc.org) at the NAHB Research Center. Contact Larry Brown (800-368-5242 x8565, lbrown@nahb.com) at NAHB if you would like more general information on residential fire sprinklers. Sincerely,

A. Buck Roberts, Chairman, Construction Codes and Standards Committee

[Noteworthy Sprinkler Saves](#)

[Fire In Chicago Hilton & Towers: No One Hurt](#)

Fire broke out Sunday in the Chicago Hilton & Towers Hotel, but no one was injured. **Chicago Fire Department Chief Bob Hoff** says they got a call just before 11:30 a.m. of a report of water flow in the Hilton at 720 South Michigan Avenue. When they arrived, they found a fire in a steel linen container in a linen room on the 22nd floor.

Hoff says they evacuated people on the 22nd floor and everyone above that. He says the evacuation went very well. That section of the hotel has 25 floors. **Firefighters put out the fire, but sprinklers in the linen room kept the fire in check.**

Hotel staff told guests they could come back in shortly before 1 p.m. Hoff says the building was fully occupied at the time. He says smoke was minimal in the hallway on the floor where the fire broke out. Minimal water damage was reported. The cause remains under investigation.

Fire in Electronics Parts Company Extinguished

A fire in a parts washing machine inside an electronic parts company was extinguished, with no injuries reported. The machine that was burning was on the first floor of a two-story, tall, roofed industrial building at Millennium Electronics Inc. at 300 Millennium Dr., according to **Crystal Lake Fire Department Assistant Chief Tom Pollnow**.

The company's alarm system, as well as a passerby, alerted authorities to smoke and the fire at 7:14 p.m. according to Pollnow. The passerby noticed smoke or haze coming from the top of the building, caused by the ventilation system pushing smoke out the top. The machine, which is used for washing electronic parts, was on fire when firefighters made forced entry, but they were able to extinguish it quickly because the sprinklers worked well at keeping the fire in check, said Pollnow.

The fire was under control as of 8:09 p.m. "The building was charged with smoke," Pollnow said. "The sprinkler system did its job," Pollnow added.

No injuries were reported, and the company was not open at the time, said Pollnow. It was unknown how the fire began, and it is under investigation by Crystal Lake Fire Department and the state fire marshal, who also came to the scene, said Pollnow. Power and gas were shut off to the building. The building sustained about \$15,000 in structure damage, and the machine sustained about \$10,000 in damage, said Pollnow.

Sprinkler Save In Wauwatosa

Reported by **Wauwatosa, WI Assistant Fire Chief Jeff Hevey**: A fire occurred on January 18, 2006 in a bio-mechanical lab in the lower level of a 9-story hospital. The fire was extinguished by one sprinkler head. Estimate loss was \$200,000.00. The only personnel in the hospital aware of this fire incident were maintenance, supervisory and security personnel. All other functions continued on normally.

The Wauwatosa Fire Department arrived on the scene at to an active flowing sprinkler and an extinguished fire. The sprinkler system was turned off 4 minutes after the WFD arrived.

Sprinkler System Saves Mill Valley House

A sprinkler system was credited for helping snuff out a fire in a Mill Valley house early last month. The fire, which may have been caused by construction work, was reported at 262 Summit Ave., said **Mill Valley Fire Capt. Michael St. John**.

When firefighters arrived they found the vacant house filled with smoke and the interior sprinkler system operating. The fire was extinguished within 20 minutes, St. John said. Because of the sprinkler system, fire damage was limited to the bottom floor and a wall and ceiling area, St. John said.

Since the late 1980s, several cities in Marin County, including Mill Valley, have required all new construction and major remodeling projects to include sprinkler systems, St. John said. He said the cause was still under investigation, but evidence points to combustible sheeting that might have ignited during exterior welding. The fire smoldered for about 10 hours before igniting, St. John said.

Smoke Seen for Miles in Cudahy-Sprinkler Helps Save Meatpacking Plant

A major industrial fire challenged hundreds of firefighters in Milwaukee County. The fire, in Cudahy sent huge smoke plumes into the sky, snarled traffic and shortened some work days, but caused no injuries.

Full production was to resume this morning at the **Patrick Cudahy Inc.** meatpacking plant at One Sweet Applewood Lane in Cudahy after a three-alarm fire in a piece of equipment forced the evacuation of 1,000 first-shift workers. The company said it was too early to estimate damage but said the blaze was confined to the refinery in the oldest part of the factory, where fats and oils are processed for sale to other users.

"Other than some water damage caused when the sprinklers went off, it looks like it was **contained** in the deodorizer," **Vice President of Human Resources Dan Habighorst** said, referring to the giant vat of grease that was ignited by a welder's torch Wednesday morning.

Firefighters from 10 departments, including those stationed at Mitchell International Airport and the U.S. Air Force Reserve 440th Airlift Wing were called to the scene off Layton Ave. around 10:10 a.m. They spent five hours putting out a blaze. **Cudahy Fire Lt. Jeff Bloor** likened to a colossal kitchen fire in a three-to-four-story vat of grease.

Patrick Cudahy workers watched from the ground as firefighters scrambled atop a three-story section of the building, smoke billowing from its windows and doors. First-shift workers were sent home around 12:45 p.m. when it became clear that production could not resume. However, second-shift workers were allowed into all areas, except the refinery, around 2 p.m., Habighorst said.

Sprinkler Saves - WE NEED THIS INFO TO HELP PROMOTE THE INDUSTRY!

Contact me **A.S.A.P. at (262) 245-5255 or e-mail: dannfsa@aol.com** if you have information regarding a Major Fire or Sprinkler Save. A major fire is defined as "one where there is extensive property loss, multiple death or injury to citizens or firefighters, or any other significant circumstances regarding fire sprinkler protection or lack thereof." Our goal when the appropriate fire scenario occurs is to influence immediate post-media coverage regarding the application of fire sprinkler protection, or lack of protection." Sprinkler Saves will help inform others that the systems do work and will provide life and property saving values.

When forwarding information of a major fire include; date, time, city, state, address, sprinkled, non-sprinkled, injuries, deaths and any other fire related particulars that may be available. Also, contact me if your company replaces a sprinkler head(s) due to activation by fire.

NFSA ENGINEER OF THE DAY –Some of Your Competition is getting Great Advice!

The NFSA Engineering Department has established a new email address for requests of the Engineer of the Day. The new address is_eod@nfsa.org. Don't miss this opportunity to change your bottom line!

The National Fire Sprinkler Association has for over a year offered the "Engineer of the Day" service to its' membership. Every business day, a member of the NFSA Engineering Department is assigned the duty to handle incoming technical questions of the day. The rotation assignment is scheduled so that all members of the engineering division have an opportunity to interface with the membership and this service shares the load of more than 1200 requests for assistance that occurred in 2004.

The average time between receiving the request for information and sending out the response by phone, fax or email was one-third of a business day. Phone call requests are handled by a return phone call, email requests by a return email and faxes by a return fax. In order to ensure that the request is handled as quickly as possible, members should send the request in the correct manner.

This service has been an outstanding success as members are receiving timely information that significantly helps throughout the entire fire sprinkler engineering/contracting discipline. You can check-out NFSA Engineer of the Day at their website and read what our members are saying about this invaluable service. (<http://www.nfsa.org/news/articles/eodnews.pdf>)

For more information, contact: NFSA, PO Box 1000, Patterson, New York, 12563; by telephone at (845) 878-4200, by Fax at (845) 878-4215 or at our website: www.nfsa.org

[NFSA Academy Trains You at Your Desk](#)

To answer the call for a quality distance-learning program, NFSA has introduced the **NFSA Academy**. With 80 modules to pick from, dealing with beginner to advanced training, the Academy has something for everyone! Save on lost billable hours and travel expenses by getting your continuing education needs right from your own desktop. Log onto www.nfsa.org and click on the banner below and sign up for the NFSA Academy, your competition is! **Wisconsin contractors, get your CEU's here!**

SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW EVERYTHING?

The words 'racecar,' 'kayak' and 'level' are the same whether they are read left to right or right to left (palindromes). (Yep, I knew you were going to "do" this one.)

There are only four words in the English language which end in "dous": tremendous, horrendous, stupendous, and hazardous. (You're not doubting this, are you?)

There are two words in the English language that have all five vowels in order: "abstemious" and "facetious." (Yes, admit it, you are going to say A e I O U)

This little tidbit was sent by an observer of different behavior: When my husband and I arrived at an automobile dealership to pick up our car, we were told the keys had been locked in it. We went to the service department and found a mechanic working feverishly to unlock the driver's side door. As I watched from the passenger side, I instinctively tried the door handle and discovered that it was unlocked. "Hey," I announced to the technician, "it's open!" To which he replied, "I know - I already got that side." This was at the Ford dealership in Canton, Mississippi!

*They walk among us and REPRODUCE. Scary, isn't it???

ILLINOIS

Fire Team USA to be Presented in Countryside

Mailings are out for the August 9-10, 2006 presentation of the Fire Team USA program in Countryside. The Holiday Inn William Tell will be the location of this very influential NFPA13D program. **Dan Gengler, NFSA Midwest Regional Manager**, has been working with the **Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal** to host the day and half program. Partners from the fire service and code officials will help make the program a success. Fire chiefs and local legislators will be invited free for the program that will educate these decision makers about the value of

protecting one- and two-family homes with residential fire sprinklers. For more information, go to the FTUSA website: www.fireteamusa.com.

Glenwood Joins Zero Threshold Group

Glenwood passed a -0- square foot commercial fire sprinkler ordinance last night under the direction and guidance of Fire Chief Kevin Welsh and Building Department Director David Lynch. The vote was 6-0!

In addition they also passed a NFPA 13D ordinance for new single family homes becoming the 37th Chicago area community to do so. They join south side suburbs of Oak Forest, Matteson, and Sunnycrest FPD (Unclassified Flossmoor).

Glenwood was not even listed on the list of 154 communities before this code upgrade and now have moved to #9 as far as progressive fire sprinkler requirements. If a building remodels over %50 of the assessed valuation and if there is a change of owners fire sprinklers will also be required.

Sprinklers in Homes Urged

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP — Fire officials put out the safety message Thursday detailing the advantages of a fire sprinkler system in residential homes — particularly those in areas with no fire hydrants. The Newport Township Fire Protection District hosted an open house in a home under construction in Wadsworth that includes fire sprinklers. A fully installed and functional sprinkler system was on display in the home, minus wall coverings to allow better inspection. Among those conducting the tour and explaining the system were Newport fire department officials, **homeowner and builder Rick Bergstrom and Thomas Lia, executive director of the Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board.**

Newport Fire Marshal John Brewer said the open house is part of an awareness campaign by fire departments and fire safety organizations to promote the use of the residential fire sprinkler systems. Lia said a major safety factor in a sprinkler system is that it lessens the chance of a fire flashover in a room. He explained a flashover occurs "when every combustible item in a room reaches its ignition temperature and it ignites; and fire consumes the whole room. It's a terrible event; and you're not going to get out of there."

Brewer said one of the problems in fighting fires in rural areas is the lack of a nearby supply of water. "We have to rely on tanker trucks and ponds," Brewer said, adding that it takes time set up such a system. He also pointed to the obvious value of home sprinklers that "keep the fire in check and reduces property damage." For these reasons, he said, the home sprinkler system is valuable in homes that are served by a municipal water supply.

Brewer said the fire department will continue its efforts to promote the home sprinkler system in surrounding communities through public gatherings and appearances before village boards.

Lia said there are about 37 communities in northeastern Illinois — Barrington and Long Grove for example — that require sprinklers in new homes. A county planning department spokesman said Lake County does not have an ordinance requiring the sprinklers in new homes.

Lia said the cost of installing a sprinkler system is generally 1 to 1.5 percent of the construction cost. The National Fire Protection Association said sprinkler systems "remain especially rare in homes." It estimates sprinklers are present in less than 1 percent of the reported fires that occur in one- and two-family dwellings.

"Where sprinklers are present in homes, their impact on life safety is as large as it has been in other properties where sprinklers have been long-established," the association said.

The **Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board** notes:

- Eighty-three percent of the 3,900 fire deaths recorded annually in the United States occur in homes.
- Sprinklers will extinguish a typical residential fire in less than one minute to dramatically improve survival rates.
- Sprinklers prevent the fast-developing fires of intense heat which are capable of trapping and killing the occupants of a home.
- Sprinklers can be concealed out of sight until needed. They are available in a wide range of sizes and colors to blend into the background of almost any room.
- During a fire, only the sprinklers closest to the fire are activated which limits the total amount of water needed to suppress a fire.

Wisconsin

Commerce Building Code Revision Continues to be Delayed by Research

Recent conversations with the Wisconsin Department of Commerce (DOC) indicate that a public hearing regarding the proposed adoption of the International Building Code – 2006 will be put off until September. This would mean the results of the hearings and final package presented to the state legislature would not happen until the next session. Fall elections are stated as a major reason the legislation would not be passed this session. DOC officials are still in the process of compiling research at the request of **Commerce Secretary Mary Burke**. The industry has attempted to get as much pertinent information to the department in efforts to help them present a valid case for the multifamily provisions of the IBC and its Wisconsin adoption. .

DOC Gets 60-Day Extension on Campus Emergency Rule

Because the state legislature wouldn't have acted on the administrative rule package for Act 78, The Campus Fire Sprinkler Act, the Wisconsin Department of Commerce asked for a sixty day extension on acceptance of their language. This only means that if the legislature did not act for passage, the package would have gone backwards. The DOC was granted their request and now has until September 15, 2006 to get legislative approval. All provisions of the Act remain and it should move peacefully. There have been two questions raised to date on compliance; one from Ripon College regarding the housing of several fraternities and sororities in dormitory buildings and one from Marquette University on the classification of one of their apartment buildings. Both situations are being addressed at this time.

Green Bay Side-by-Side Demonstration Huge Media and Local Success

The **Green Bay Fire Department Captain Larry Wilson** says fewer than 500 of the tens of thousands of homes and businesses in the city have fire sprinkler systems. By 6 p.m., firefighters are going to set fire to two rooms. One has sprinklers, the other does not. Firefighters hope the demonstration opens some eyes about the importance of installing sprinkler systems in businesses.

Working with the Green Bay Fire Department and the **Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, Midwest Regional Manager Dan Gengler and NFSA Wisconsin Chapter Director Kathy Muelemans**, the demonstration was a huge success. Several local legislators and a number of fire departments witnessed the power of fire and the powerful influence to stop flashover by a single sprinkler. Green Bay televisions three main stations captured the event and very responsibly reported it for the next day. One station aired a story about a condo fire that devastated and scared occupants, then aired the fire sprinkler demo. Great press!

Two stations continued coverage stating that fire sprinklers in Brown County is a trend that is just starting to catch on. At St. Norbert College in De Pere, you can easily spot sprinklers in every dormitory room, hallway, and lobby of two of the seven residence halls. No law or city ordinance told the school to install them, but the school realized nearly 225 students sleep in the 64-year-old wooden building every school night.

"No question about it, [sprinklers] are effective and they do give us peace of mind," **John Barnes, director of facilities**, said. "We would like to get through all of our residence halls eventually."

Mackinaw's Grill & Spirits on Green Bay's east side is a restaurant full of wood. It doesn't have a sprinkler system yet but one is on the way. "The specific areas that we want to cover are the kitchen area, at this point our bar area, and our prep area. Those are areas that are cumbered with any potential for fire-type materials that could start something," **Mackinaw's Pat Quinn** said.

Both places have done all they can with fire prevention. They say not having sprinklers is like not doing everything they can to protect their students or customers. "A sprinkler system is the equivalent to having a firefighter on premise at a moment's notice with a hose in his hand, and it does make sense," Quinn said.

18th Annual BCGI – Last Chance

Invites are out for the **18th Annual Burn Center Golf Invitational**. Scheduled for August 28th, this year's event promises to be as exciting as ever. For the fourteenth year, the invitational will be played on the beautiful and challenging Brute and Highland Courses of the **Grand Geneva Resort & Spa in Lake Geneva, WI**. The **Midwest Sprinkler Industries** and the **Milwaukee Fire Department** sponsor the outing while the **Wisconsin Alliance for Fire Safety (WAFS)** is the presenter. The evening offers a gracious European style dinner with live and silent auctions to highlight the festivities.

The seventeen-year total for the event has surpassed \$1,392,000. Profits are forwarded to **St. Mary's Regional Burn Center and the WAFS Camp for Burn Injured Youths**. Some monies dedicated for the annual WAFS Newspapers in Education Program, the St. Mary's Burn Prevention Educational Program, the National Fire Sprinkler Association Education Fund and the George Collentine Scholarship Fund started with proceeds from last years outing.

We're looking for Diamond (\$6,000), Gold (\$3000), Silver (\$1,500), Champion Circle (\$500) and Tee & Green (\$200) sponsors. There are plenty of benefits to our sponsors. **For information contact me at: (262) 245-5255 or Co-Chair Kay Luedke, Freedom Fire Protection (262) 253-9300.**

NFSA News

Check the NFSA web site, www.nfsa.org, for more information on these valuable industry issues. The topics may save you money or they may put money in your business.

[Sprinkler Pre-Op Survey-Help Us Help Protect the Integrity of the Industry-Help Us Help the Industry](#)

[Contractor's Forum Email Program Helpful for NFSA Members](#)

[NFSA Adds NFPA 13 Update Seminars to Sprinkler Academy](#)

[Inspection and Testing Certification Review Seminar](#)

[APS – Foremen and Construction Supervisors-Contract Programs- In Today's Industry Environment, You Need an Advantage and We Have it for You](#)

[NFSA Online Interactive Seminars Schedule - *Get Wisconsin CEU's](#)**

The first of the 2006 On-line Technical Seminars have been scheduled. All seminars are conducted by NFSA staff or consultants on Tuesdays and will start promptly at 10:30 A.M. Eastern Time and run approximately 1.5-hours. Seminar topics are designed to different levels of understanding, Basic (B), Intermediate (I) and Advanced (A) levels. There are several seminars that cross two levels.

Date	Topic	Instructor
Aug 22	Sprinkler Obstructions	Victoria B. Valentine, P.E.
Sept 12	Concealed Spaces	Cecil Bilbo, Jr.
Sept 26	Commissioning of Systems	Victoria B. Valentine, P.E.
Oct 10	Draft Stops and Closely-Spaced Sprinklers	Russell P. Fleming, P.E.
Oct 24	Confusing Aspects of Storage Protection	Kenneth E. Isman, P.E.
Nov 7	Emerging Issues for Residential Sprinkler Systems	Kevin J. Kelly, P.E.
Nov 21	Protective Coatings for Piping	Cecil Bilbo, Jr.
Dec 12	Other Problem Areas/Frequently Asked Questions	Kenneth E. Isman, P.E.

NFSA Member Cost: \$125.00* per seminar per computer

Non-member Cost: \$250.00* per seminar per computer

Members Participation Verification w/Certification: \$25.00

Members Participation Verification w/Certification: \$50.00

The On-Line Seminars have been approved for 1.5 –hours CEU credit in Wisconsin. This is monumental because those needy contractors/fitters not finding the availability to get away from the workplace or jobsite will find this opportunity quite convenient. From the desktop of an office or the comforts of a home, one can watch the 1½-hour live-interactive seminar and receive credit. When registering for the seminar, the registrant needs to inform the NFSA that they are in need to receive Wisconsin CEU's.

NFSA is offering to all AHJ's the member rate for these live on-line seminars. Order all 10 and save 30%. For more information on this offer and information on these seminars contact Dawn at Dawn@nfsa.org or 845-878-4200 x133.

NFSA to Launch “Business Thursday” Online Seminars

Building on the success of the “Technical Tuesday” online seminars that the NFSA has been conducting for many years, the NFSA will be presenting a series of ten “Business Thursday” online seminars for the second half of 2006. Aimed at the contractor or project manager rather than the technician, these seminars will follow the same format, starting at 10:30 am Eastern time and continuing for 1 to 1-1/2 hours. The schedule of dates and topics is as follows:

Date	Topic	Instructor
August 10	Change Orders	Michael Friedman, P.E.
August 24	Insurance “Wrap-Up” Programs	Buddy Dewar, MBA
September 14	Pre-Job Planning	Michael Friedman, P.E.
September 28	Mold Remediation	Buddy Dewar, MBA
October 19	Project Scheduling	Michael Friedman, P.E.
November 2	Prompt Pay / Retainage	Buddy Dewar, MBA
November 16	Water Charges – Impact and Standby Fees	Dominick Kass
December 7	AHJ Relationships	Jeffrey Hugo and Robert Trotter

Information and registration for this seminar series is available at www.nfsa.org. A 30 percent discount is available when signing up for all ten seminars in the series.

You can attend a NFSA Seminar without traveling to a classroom. For more information and to view a demonstration, visit our Website at www.nfsa.org, or call Dawn at (845) 8784200 x 133. Check these on-line programs:

SIX WEEK ON-LINE PROGRAMMING:
NEW HYDRAULICS FOR FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS,
PUMPS FOR FIRE PROTECTION
RESIDENTIAL SPRINKLERS HOMES TO HIGH-RISE
INSPECTION, TESTING & MAINTENANCE OF WATER BASED FIRE PROTECTION
SYSTEMS

NFSA Midwest Regional In-Class Seminars

The Carol Stream, IL Fire Department is co-sponsoring Two-Day Plan Review & Inspection and One-Day Hydraulic seminars August 30-31 and September 1, 2006 at their 1045 W. Lies Rd. station. Get Wisconsin CEU's for attending if you are willing to travel.

Your Regional Manager is looking to schedule 2007 programming, **Contact Dan Gengler (262) 245-5255 or dannfsa@aol.com** for information or registration. Check the NFSA web site to register and to link to our other regions for seminars that may fit your educational needs.

Special Discounts:

Register 5 Attendees for One Class; get a 6th Free for that Same Class.

Non-Member Fire & Building Officials:

When a building or a fire official wants to take an NFSA "full-day in-class" seminar, they can get a special discount package that pays for the seminar and also gives them a one-year membership in the NFSA. The regular seminar fee is \$99.00 dollars and the regular one-year subscriber membership is \$85.00 dollars. That totals \$184.00 but when you join the NFSA as a subscriber member when you register for the NFSA seminar, you only pay a combined fee of \$149.00 dollars which saves you \$35.00 dollars on the total package.

Just make sure you check-off the "F&B" box with red pricing on the seminar registration form.

By becoming a member and taking an NFSA seminar all at the same time, you're getting valuable industry information both ways.

NFSA Honor Role

C.L. Doucette Inc.
Chicago, Illinois
(8/19/65) 341years

Cardinal Fire Protection, Inc.
Lilly Lake, Illinois
(8/06/04) 2 years

Complete Pump Service Company, Inc
Addison, Illinois
(8/01/96) 10 years

F.J. Murphy and Son, Inc.
Springfield, Illinois
(8/25/70) 36 years

Kane Mechanical & Fire Protection
East Alton, Illinois
(8/25/03) 3 years

Thanks for your industry support!

Don't wait to schedule your calendars. Make plans to attend the NFSA conventions of the future. They promise to offer insight and profit potentials.

**NFSA Annual Seminar & Exposition
Red Rock Station Resort Casino
Las Vegas, Nevada
May 2-5, 2007**

**NFSA Annual Seminar May 14-17, 2008
Atlantis Paradise Island
Bahamas**

Registration materials for both the 2007 conference will be available in Winter 2006.

[NFSA Code of Ethics Preamble](#)

The members of the National Fire Sprinkler Association recognize that their work has a direct, as well as indirect, impact on the quality of life for all humanity. Accordingly, the services provided by NFSA members require honesty, impartiality, fairness and equity, and must be dedicated to the preservation of life and property and the further enhancement of the public safety, health and welfare. In practice of their profession, members of the National Fire Sprinkler Association must maintain and constantly improve their competence and perform under a standard of professional behavior, which requires adherence to the highest principles of ethical conduct with balanced regard for the interests of the public, clients, employees, colleagues and the greater fire protection community they serve. Members of the National Fire sprinkler Association are expected to act in accordance with the provisions of this code of ethics and all applicable laws, and actively encourage others to do the same.