



“Fire and rescue squads from Halstad and Hendrum responded to the call providing care to the firemen as they fought the blaze. The high temps and high humidity made it critical to keep the firefighters hydrated and cool.”



Owner Kevin Paulsrud uses his Bobcat to remove the sides of a building, allowing the firefighters access to the various hot spots throughout the building.

2007 August 6

“July 2007 Norman County Sheriff’s Report –

07-28-07 – Responded to a one vehicle rollover in Strand Township on CSAH #19. There was no one around the accident scene and there was damage in excess of \$1,000 to the vehicle. The Gary Fire Department and the Gary Rescue Squad as well as Polk County EMS from Fertile, MN, responded. (Halstad Valley Journal, August 6, 2007)

2007 October 22

“NCWE Field Trip –

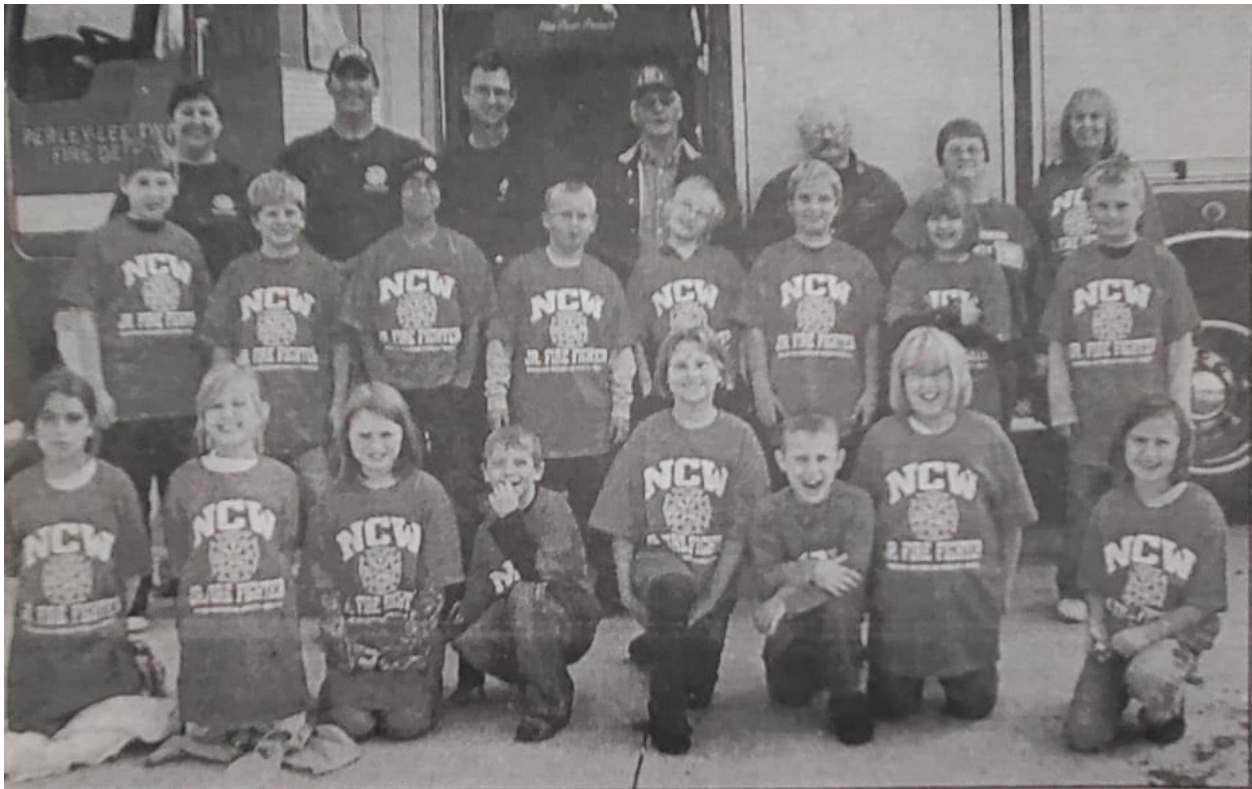
NCW Third Graders were invited to the Perley Fire department last week in connection with National Fire Prevention Week, October 7 – 13. Fire Chief Jeff Loe spoke to the students about fire safety and prevention, explaining to students what they should do in case of a fire. He also explained the role of the fire chief and other firefighters, and demonstrated the clothing and equipment used in fighting a fire.

The students were able to participate in a simulated search and rescue operation. Firefighter Wayne Radke, did a sweep of a darkened room looking for the students. They learned that they should not hide from rescuers, and that they should yell or make a noise so they could be found in a smoke-filled room. Chief Loe also demonstrated the water pressure of the fire hose. Students were able to crawl through the rescue vehicle and fire truck.

Other emergency personnel were also on hand to supervise and teach students as they discovered what it was like to be a firefighter. They were Sandy Masche, EMT, Firefighters Dan Patenaude and Doug Ohren. The students received Junior Firefighter shirts from the volunteer fire departments of Perley, Hendrum, Halstad and Shelly.

Follow-up activities were assigned to help students practice what they had learned. Students and parents took the time to develop a fire escape plan for their family. The

students returned home escape plans to school and shared them with their classmates.”
(Halstad’s Valley Journal, October 22, 2007)



“The NCW 3rd graders and members of the Perley Department took time during their Jr. Fire Fighters Program last week for a picture.”



“This is NCW 3rd graders Amber Ostgaard taking her turn at the wheel of the Perley Fire department pumper truck during Fire Safety Week.”

2008

2008 January 7 “December 2007 Norman County Sheriff’s Report –
12-08-07 – Responded to a house fire in Wild Rice Township. A 27-year-old Twin Valley, MN, man was arrested for obstructing legal process – firefighting and upon further investigation it was determined the same 27-year-old man was responsible for setting the fire. The house was total loss.

12-09-07 – Responded to a garage fire in Good Hope Township. It is believed that the fire was the result of a wood stove or electrical.” (Halstad’s Valley Journal, January 7, 2008)

2008 January 26 “Hendrum Fire & Rescue to Hold Pancake Bruch January 27 –
The Hendrum Fire & Rescue Department will be holding a Pancake Brunch on Sunday, January 27, 2008, from 10 am. To 1 p.m. at the Norman County West Elementary Cafeteria, Hendrum, MN.

A freewill donation will be taken with all proceeds used for the purchase of an AED/ Heart Start unit.” (Halstad’s Valley Journal, January 26, 2008)

2008 February 11 “January 2008 Norman County Sheriff’s Report –
01-21-08 – Responded to a house fire in Bear Park Township. The Gary, Fertile and Mahnomen Fire Departments as well as the Gary Rescue Squad responded. The house was total loss.” (Halstad’s Valley Journal, February 11, 2008)

2008 March 31 (Halstad’s Valley Journal, March 31, 2008)





The Halstad Fire Department responded to a call at the Norman County West High School on Thursday, March 20th, just before 7 pm. A dirty sensor was to blame for the alarm.

2008 April 28

(Halstad's Valley Journal, April 28, 2008)



2008 May 26

"April 2008 Norman County Sheriff's Report –

04-10-08 – Responded to a structure fire at a McDonaldsville Township farm site with the Ada and Borup Fire Departments and Norman County Ambulance Service. A shed had fire and was a total loss." (Halstad's Valley Journal, May 26, 2008)

2008 June 16

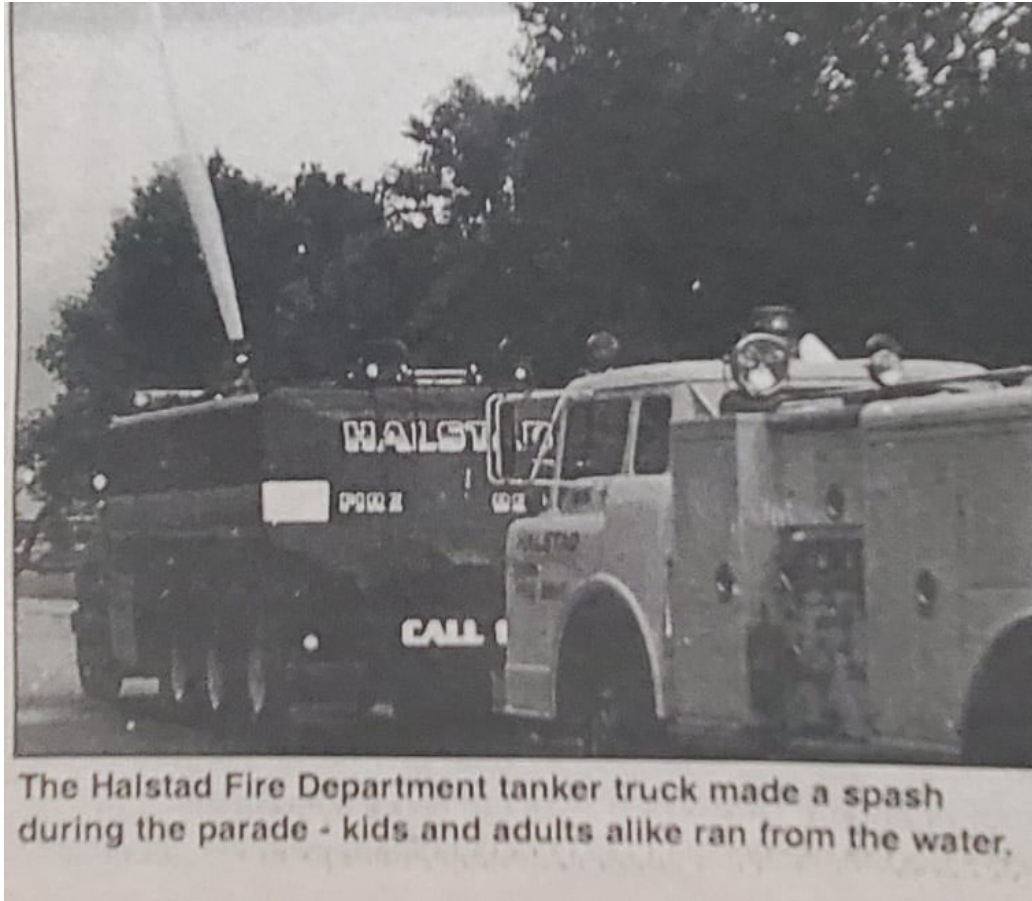
"May 2008 Norman County Sheriff's Report –

05-15-08 – Responded to a grass fire in Fossum Township along with the Twin Valley Fire Department and the Twin Valley rescue Squad.

05-20-08 – Responded to a grass fire in Shelly Township along with the Shelly Fire Department." (Halstad's Valley Journal, June 16, 2008)

2008 June 18 – 20

Halstad's 125th Anniversary Celebration, parade:



2008 September 8

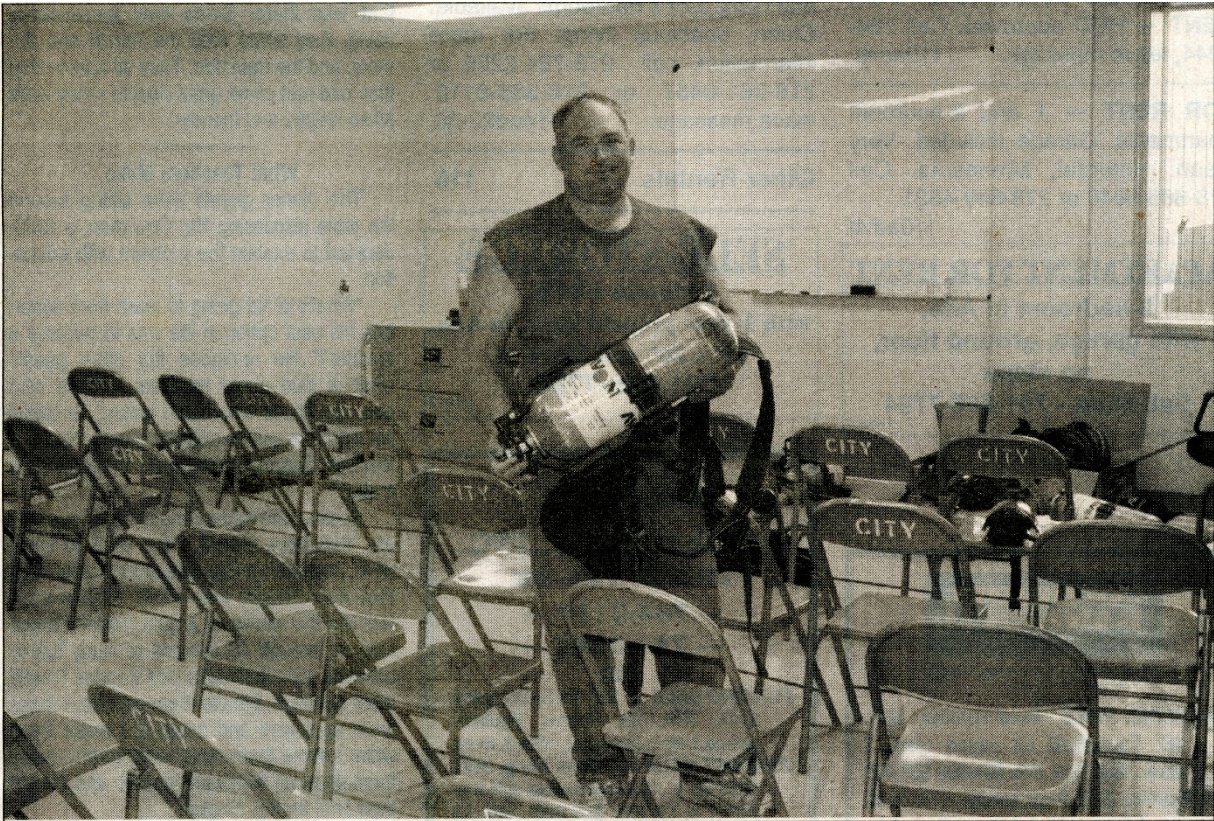
“August 2008 Norman County Sheriff’s Report –

08-09-08 – Responded to a City of Perley residence where a male individual had been burned as a result of someone throwing gas on a burning brush pile.

08-12-08 – Responded to, and investigated a house fire at a City of Gary residence. The Department of State Fire Marshal was contacted and will be assisting in the investigation as to the origin of the fire.” (Halstad’s Valley Journal, September 8, 2008)

2008 September 2

(Norman County Index, September 2, 2008)



The training/meeting room at the emergency services building was recently used for a training session with the new self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), which was purchased with the help of a 2007 FEMA Fire Department grant. The tanks, like the one held

by Bruce Visser, are made out of a composite material, and are much lighter than the old metal tanks. Each of the SCBAs were about \$5,000, and the department purchased eight of the new air packs. KC 9.2.08

2008 October 13

Fire Prevention Week, Halstad

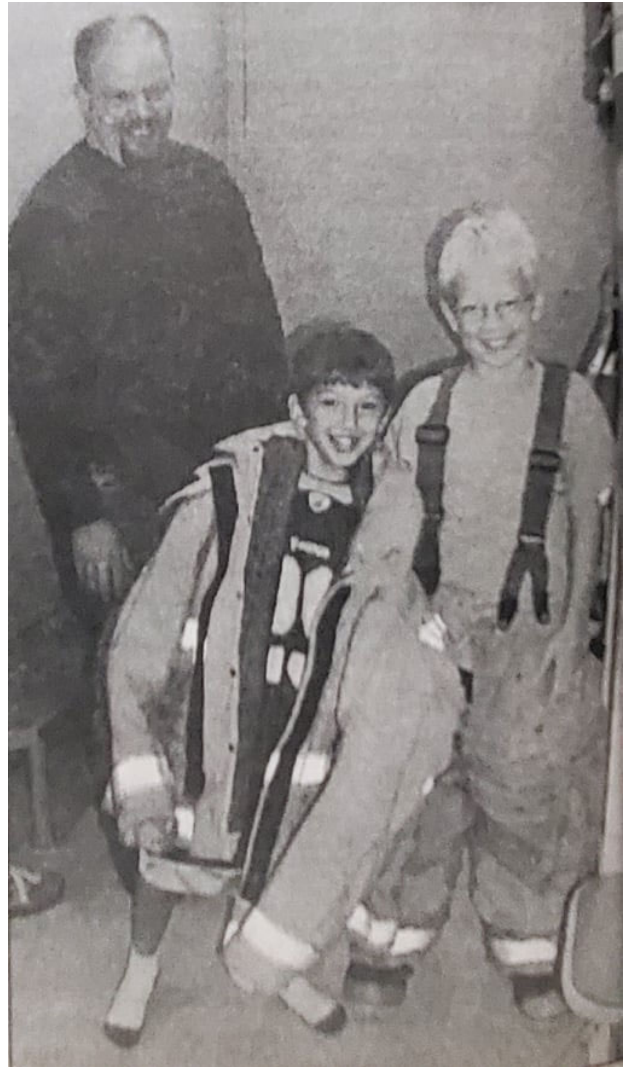
“Our local fire fighters do many things. Most recently they were called to the scene of a beet truck accident outside of Halstad. They work as a team to ensure the safety of those and others. Our community relies on the Halstad Fire Department and other emergency personnel. THANK YOU for your hard work and dedication!”



Above: Here comes the water! Steve Sortland works with NCW 3rd graders to spray the hose outside of the Halstad Fire Department building on Tuesday afternoon.

Below: Shane Carlson explains the importance of the oxygen masks and tanks while students give them a try inside one of Halstad Fire Department's Vehicles.





Above left: Sortland holds the hose as Kianna Paulsrud works hard to pull the hose wide open during her fire department tour. Above right: Rick Leiser laughs as a couple of eager boys try on some official fire gear during their tour.



2008 December 15 “Nov. 2008 Norman County Sheriff’s Report –
 11-26-08 – Responded to a combine fire in the Lee Township along with the Perley Fire
 department.” (Halstad’s Valley Journal, December 15, 2008)

2009

2009 January 12

“Halstad Volunteer Fire Department receives FEMA grant –

The Halstad Volunteer Fire Department recently received a \$24,096 grant which is to benefit the operations and safety portion of the department.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) awarded \$1,132,739 from the Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) program to local fire departments and organizations in the state of Minnesota. Nationally, the fiscal year (FY) 2008 AFG awards will provide approximately \$500 million to fire departments and nonaffiliated emergency medical service organizations throughout the country.

‘The Assistance to Firefighters grant programs are the result of a major effort by the federal government to ensure the provision of a solid foundation for local fire and emergency response services. These grants help to ensure the nation’s firefighters have the basic tools and resources necessary to safely perform their responsibilities, and therefore ultimately save lives and continue to protect all residents from fire,’ said Greg Cade, administrator of the United States Fire Administration.

This round of national fire grants amounts to nearly \$21 million and includes grants provided to the following fire departments in Minnesota: (other cities omitted)

The AFG program is an important component of the administration’s larger, coordinated effort to strengthen the nation’s overall level of preparedness. The program is designed to enhance response capabilities and to more effectively protect the health and safety of the public the health and safety of the public with respect to fire and other hazards. The grants enable local fire departments and emergency medical services organizations to purchase or receive training, conduct first responder health and safety programs, and buy equipment and response vehicles.

FEMA coordinates the federal government’s role in preparing for preventing, mitigating the effects of, responding to, and recovering from all domestic disasters whether natural or manmade, including acts of terror.” (Halstad’s Valley Journal, January 12, 2009)



“The Halstad Volunteer Fire Department recently received a \$24,096 grant from FEMA to benefit their operations and safety divisions. Equipment managers for the department are Tony Wolff (left) and Bron Lucas.”

2009 March 2 Norman County Township One-Fund Drive. The breakdown of contributions to charitable agencies included: Rescue squads:

Shelly	\$118.00	Halstad	\$521.00
Borup	\$551.00	Perley	\$464.00
Twin Valley	\$615.00	Gary	\$615.00
Hendrum	\$427.00		

(Halstad’s Valley Journal, March 2, 2009)

2009 April 13 “March 2009 Norman County Sheriff’s Report –

03-04-09 – Received a report of a fire that occurred over the last week at a bin site in Shelly Township.

03-17-09 – Responded to a house fire in Spring Creek Township where two victims were located in the house. The matter remains under investigation by the Minnesota State Fire Marshal’s Office and the Norman County Sheriff’s Office.” (Halstad’s Valley Journal, April 13, 2009)

2009 June 16 “Norman County Sheriff’s Office, Sheriff’s Report – May 2009 –

05-18-09 – Responded to a pickup fire in Mary Township where a 2004 Dodge pickup was a total loss.

05-29-09 – Received a report of a large wildfire in Spring Creek Township. Upon investigation, it was found that the fire had been started and the matter remains under investigation.” (Halstad Valley Journal, June 16, 2009)

2009 July 13

“Fire Destroys R&S Equipment –

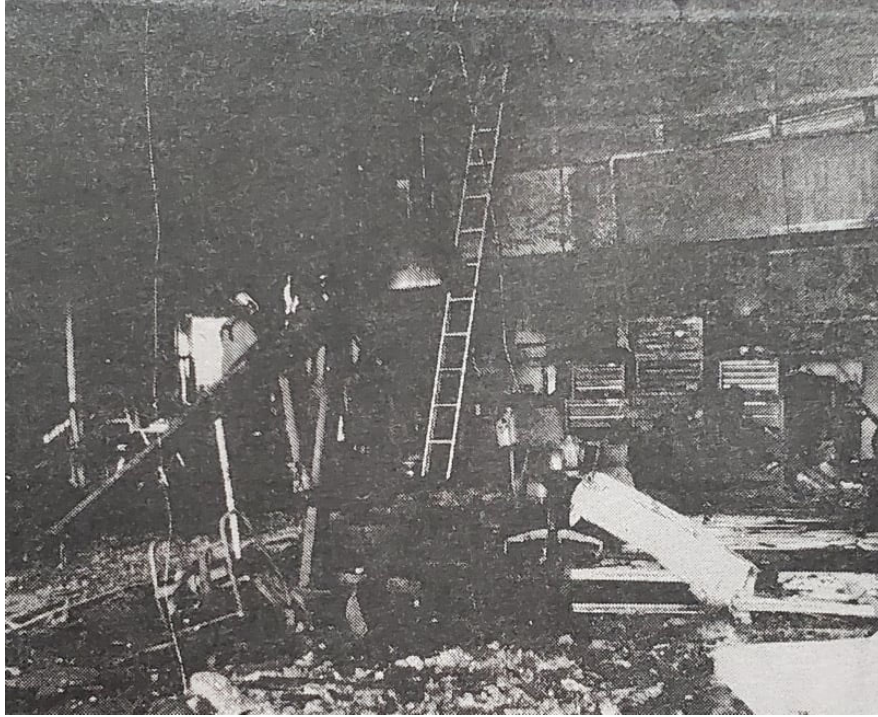
R&S Equipment pf Halstad was heavily damaged by fire early Wednesday morning. The crews from Halstad, Hendrum and Shelly responded to the fire call at 2:20 a.m. only to find the structure fully engulfed in flames.

For the firemen’s safety, the power needed to be cut to the building in two spots before they could actually fight the fire. The fire was extinguished between 5:30 and 6:00 a.m. and the Deputy State Fire Marshal was on the scene shortly after.

According to the Deputy State Fire Marshal, the cause of the fire appears to be a possible overload of electrical panels and there is nothing suspicious associated with the fire. No injuries were reported and its possible the owner may be able to salvage some of the tools.”



“Halstad Utility Director, Dave Meyer, prepares to cut the electrical power to the R&S building before fire crews could safely extinguish the blaze.”



2009 August 10

“R&S Equipment Building a TOTAL Loss –

Only a bare lot remains of the restaurant and car wash that had been attached to the R&S Equipment shop buildings. The fire and smoke on Wednesday morning, July 8, caused more damage than was earlier estimated.

According to Robert Benson, owner of R&S Equipment, ‘We were only able to salvage very little, and unfortunately, the items we were able to pull out (some fishing rods, impact wrenches, and an antique tea kettle which belonged to my grandfather) were taken by unknown hands.’

Benson estimates that the replacement cost of a new structure would run almost a quarter million dollars. Unfortunately, due to cost, he will not be able to rebuild.” (Halstad’s Valley Journal, August 10, 2009)



2009 August 10 “Norman County Sheriff’s Report, July 2009 –
07-08-09 – Responded to a fire in the City of Halstad where the R&S Equipment building
burned down. A Deputy State Fire Marshal’s Office investigator was called in to assist.”
(Halstad’s Valley Journal, August 10, 2009)

2009 September 21 “New Hendrum Fire Truck purchased with \$248,375 Grant –

In 2004, the Hendrum Fire Department applied for and received a grant for turnout gear, hose and communication. In 2006, they were able to apply in two categories, personal protective equipment and a truck grant and received funding for air packs. Becky Harrington volunteered to write the 2008 grant for the Fire Department and made an application for a new fire truck. In August, 2008, the Hendrum Fire Department received a grant for it.

Congressman Collin Peterson announced that the Hendrum Firefighters Grant Program.

‘These grant awards are crucial to our smaller fire departments that are in need of a new vehicle,’ Peterson said. ‘The fire department and the volunteers who cover the Hendrum area are a vital part of public safety. Area residents are fortunate to have this critical service by dedicated volunteers.’

The Firefighters Grant was awarded in August 2008 and the new fire truck became a reality for the City of Hendrum on Thursday, September 3, 2009. The new truck was built by Forster Fire Apparatus in Madelia, MN. It is a Pumper-Tanker on a 2009 Kenworth chassis equipped with a 2,500-gallon tank and a 1,250-gpm pump, which allows it to be used for both water supply and as a fire attack apparatus when water supply is not an issue. The ‘new’ Pumper-tanker replaced the ‘old’ 1977 Chevrolet tanker.

The conditions of the grant required all firemen to take a 4-hour classroom course and an Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (EVOC) before the new fire truck could be used and Saturday, September 12th, was the date set up for the behind the wheel testing. Eleven firemen have taken the classroom course and were on Main Street in Hendrum on Saturday. The remaining will be trained at a later date.

Behind the wheel training was a long process with each fireman doing a behind the wheel on three vehicles (new fire truck, grass rig, old pumper). The Rescue Squad also went through the behind the wheel with the ambulance. Mike Smart was in charge of the Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (EVOC) held on Saturday. It was a timed course with the firemen being informed that it was safety over speed. Even though the streets were set up for the testing, to watch out for people. Accidents do happen.

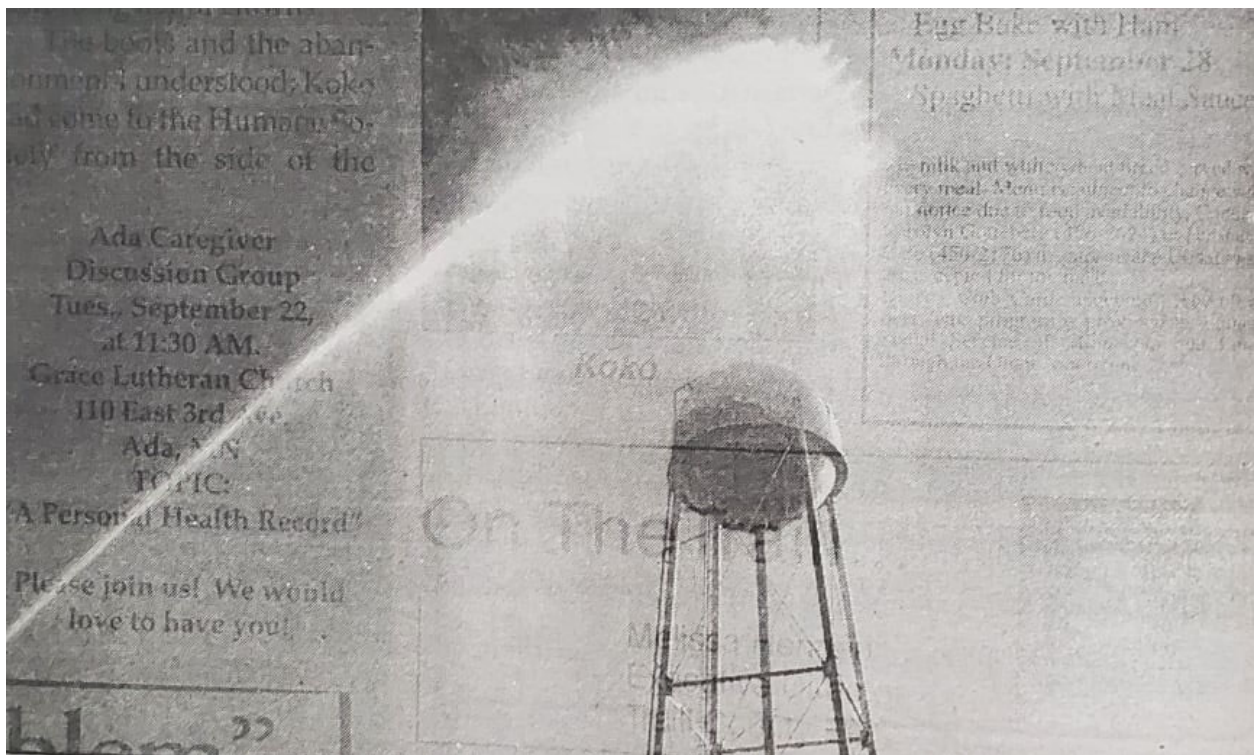
In the next couple weeks, instructions on the new fire truck regarding pump operations will be given to three firemen at a time. There is only room for an instructor and 3 other people at one time to learn. They would like each of the firemen to go through the learning process so that there will always be a back-up person.

The course started on Main Street with firemen driving 1. straight between the orange cones set up 200 feet long by 8'6" wide and then backing up between the cones; 2. set of cones were serpentine, drive through the cones and then back through them; 3. another set of cones – diminishing clearance obstacle (9 ft. 6 inches on the south end of it and it narrows down to 8 ft. 2 inches on the north end of it and that's narrower than the runner boards on the truck so you will have to watch your cones so you are right up against the cones on the left side. 4. After the drive through, come back and parallel park and, 5. end up with the simulated loading dock. Back around the orange cones and up to the barricade. Back into the loading dock. Stay between the cones and as close to the barricade as you can. Docked for distance more than 6 inches; more than 10 inches; more than 12 inches away; increased dockage points the farther away from the barricade.

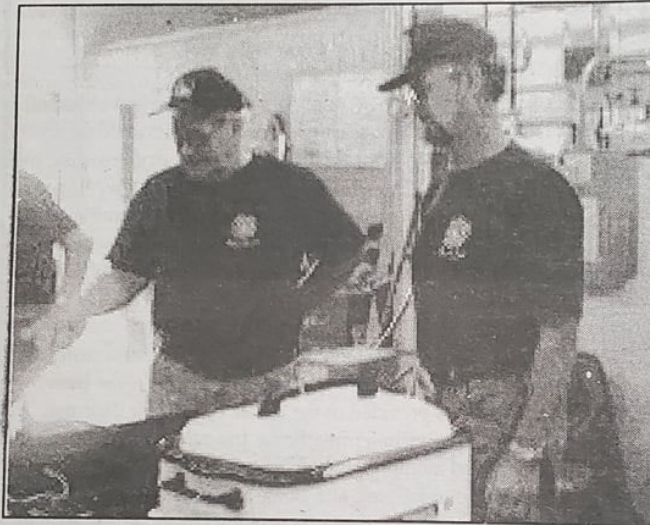
The EVOC Training ended about 5 p.m. and verification of class participation was sent to FEMA putting into service the new Hendrum fire truck. Some of the firemen stayed after the training and emptied the water from the old pumper into the drop tank and drafted that water into the new fire truck. While in the process of transferring the water, they decided to test out the deluge gun. They could see water shooting over the water tower. They knew it would be good for elevator fires and felt that if the water tower ever needed a wash job, it could be done, without a scrub brush." (Halstad's Valley Journal, September 21, 2009)



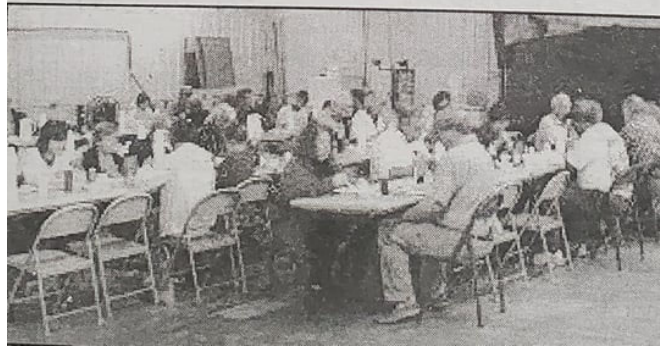
HENDRUM VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT: l/r: Bob Berg, Tod Harrington, Jeff Johnson (current fire chief), Paul Luoma, Mike Smart, Del Schnabel (front), Craig Balvik, Chris Jaklovich (behind Del), Troy Rudnik, Mike Person; Not pictured: Kelly Kjersten, Gary Ueland, Brian Schlapkohl, Brent Vanderplaats, Curt Johannsen, Darryl Torgerson, and Jacob Nelson.



**7th Annual Pancake & Sausage Feed
at the Perley Fire Hall
Sunday, September 27**



Marvis Thompson and Roger Meline were serving the sausages at the 7th Annual Pancake & Sausage Feed held at the Perley Fire Hall. Seated below are diners enjoying a superb breakfast.



2009 October 19
Week –

“NCW 3rd graders visit Halstad Fire Dept. during Fire Prevention

Fire Prevention Week was established to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire, the tragic 1871 conflagration that killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 7,400 structures and burned more than 2,000 acres. The fire began on October 8, but continued into and did most of its damage on October 9, 1871.

According to popular legend, the fire broke out after a cow, belonging to Mrs. Catherine O’Leary, kicked over a lamp, setting first the barn, then the whole city on fire. Chances are you’ve heard some version of this story yourself; people have been blaming the Great Chicago Fire on the cow and Mrs. O’Leary, for more than 130 years. But recent research by Chicago has helped to debunk this version of events.

While the Great Chicago Fire was the best-known blaze to start during this fiery two-day stretch, it wasn't the biggest. That distinction goes to the Peshigo Fire, the most devastating forest fire in American history. The fire, which also occurred on October 8, 1871, and roared through Northeast Wisconsin, burning down 16 towns, killing 1,152 people, and scorching 1.2 million acres before it ended.

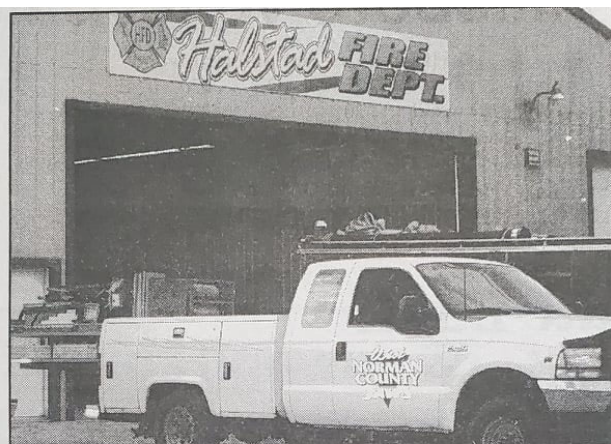
Historical accounts of the fire say that the blaze began when several railroad workers cleared land for tracks unintentionally started a brush fire. Before long, the fast-moving flames were whipping through the area 'like a tornado,' some survivors said. It was the small town of Peshigo, Wisconsin that suffered the worst damage. Within an hour, the entire town had been destroyed.

Fires can be broken down into different categories, with cooking fires being the number one starter of home fires and home injuries. Electrical distribution and lighting equipment were involved in an estimated 20,900 reported home fires in 2005. These fires resulted in 500 civilian deaths and 1,100 injuries, with an estimated \$862 million in direct property damage per year.

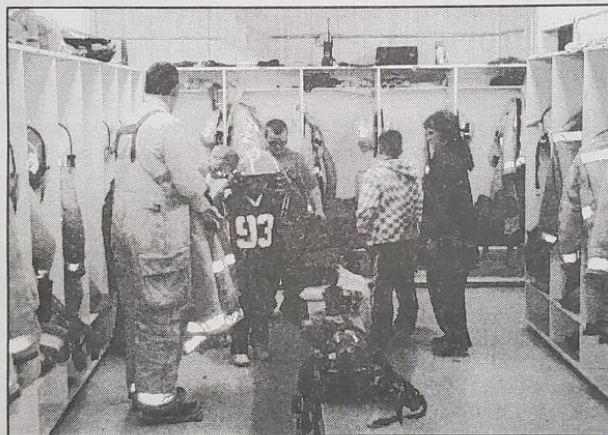
Smoking materials (i.e., cigarettes, cigars, pipes, etc.) are the leading cause of fire deaths in the United States. Roughly one of every four fire deaths per year in 2002 – 2005 was attributed to smoking materials.” (Halstad’s Valley Journal, October 19, 2009)



“Halstad Fire Chief Todd Westcott and volunteer firemen Dave Meyer, John Hinkley, and Jim Suda were visited by Mrs. Locken’s 3rd Grade Class on Friday, October 9th, during National Fire Prevention Week. This year’s national theme was ‘Stay Fire Smart’.”



Halstad Fire Department



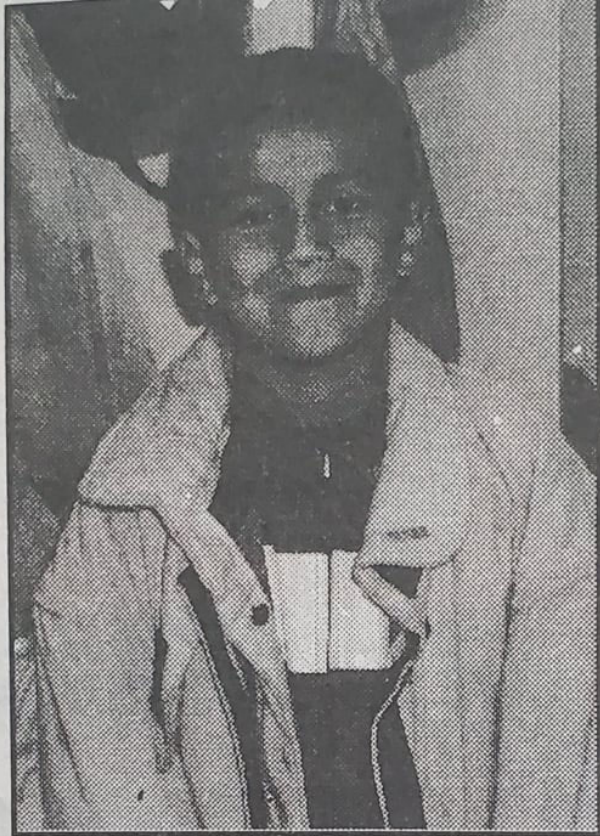
Jim Suda watches as the kids try on firefighters gear



John Hinkley talked with the students about the Jaws of Life



Dave Meyer explains how a "Thermo Imaging Camera" works. The camera shows the difference in temperature of whatever you're looking at. One of the main things it's used for is finding "hot spots" after a fire is out.



Gaven Nelson trying on the fireman's jacket



Gabriel Suda putting on the fireman's helmet



Fire Chief Todd Westcott showing students different parts of the fire truck and answering any questions they had.

2010

2010 February 8

“Norman County Sheriff’s Report January 2010 –

01-02-10 – Responded to a house fire in Waukon Township along with Gary and Twin Valley Fire Departments. The house was a total loss.” (Halstad’s Valley Journal, February 8, 2010)

2010 June 14

“Norman County Sheriff’s Report May 2010 –

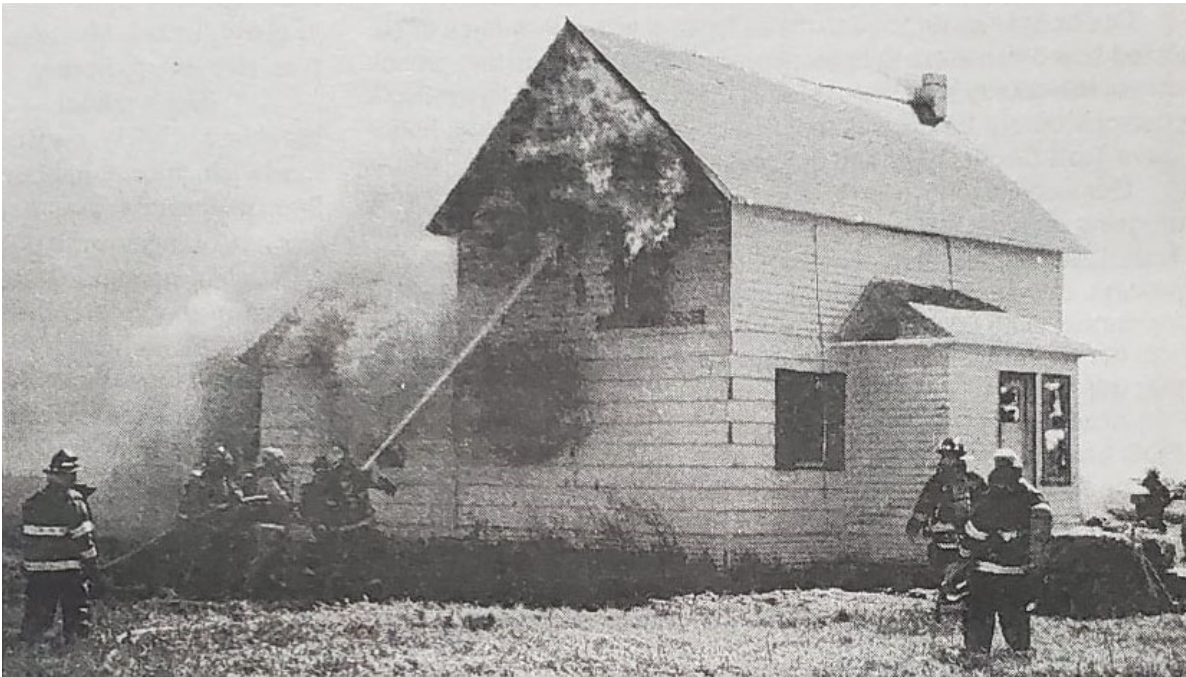
05-18-10 – Responded to a truck fire at a Strand Township residence.” (Halstad’s Valley Journal, June 14, 2010)

2010 September 11
Halstad –

“Gaylord Christianson Coordinates a Controlled Burn at House in

Gaylord Christianson, the training officer from the Halstad Fire Department, coordinated a control burn of a house just past the northeast corner of Halstad and north of the cemetery on Saturday morning, September 11th (9/11) after 9 a.m. The training with the tech college in Moorhead, involved members of the Moorhead Fire Department as well as other area departments. The Norman County Ambulance and Sheriff were also on the scene.

The controlled burn had been planned for some weeks and involved both low-level burns (pallets and hay burns) to simulate room and contents fires as well as eventually burning the actual house. The landowner wanted the house brought down and made it available to the Halstad Fire Department for training purposes.” (Picture by Bron Lucas.) (Halstad’s Valley Journal, September 20, 2010)



2010 October 4

“National Fire Prevention Week October 3 – 9, 2010 –

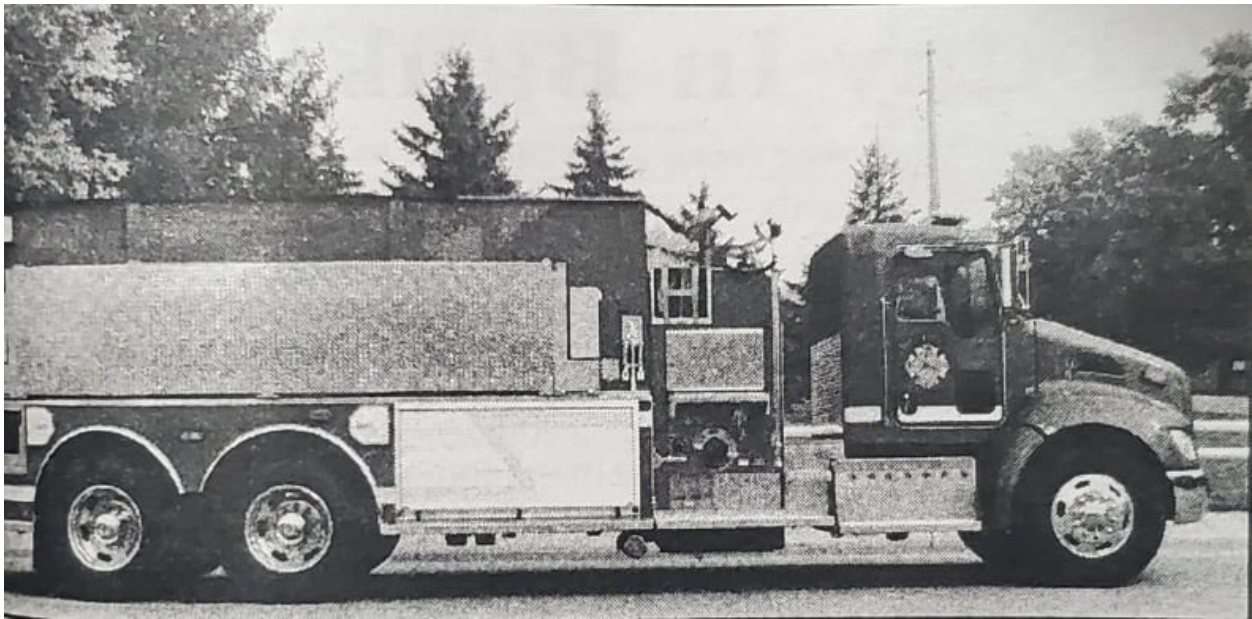
During National Fire Prevention Week, October 3 – 9, 2010, attention is focused on promoting fire safety and prevention. Each year the Halstad and Hendrum fire departments alternate their programs of fire safety skills to the students at NCW. On October 5th, the NCW 3rd grade students will be visiting the Hendrum Fire Department.

This year the Hendrum Fire Department will be showing their new fire truck (pictured) which was purchased in 2009 with a grant for \$248,375 and a reality in Hendrum on Thursday, September 3, 2009.

Due to the current harvest season, an open house will be held at the fire department at a later date, Tuesday, September 3, from 7 – 9:00 p.m.

During National Fire Protection Week take time to thank your Volunteer Firemen: Jeff Johnson (Chief), Bob Berg, Tod Harrington, Paul Luoma, Mike Smart, Del Schnabel,

Craig Balvik, Chris Jakovich, Troy Rudnik, Mike Person, Kelly Kjersten, Gary Ueland, Curt Johannsen, Darryl Torgerson and Jacob Nelson of Hendrum and Jon Anderson, Josh Beach, Shane Carlson, Trevor Carlson, Gaylord Christianson, Jake Franklin, Josh Grover, Wade Hauge, John Hinkley, Darin Johnson, Richard Leiser, Bron Lucas, Tom Maroney, Robbie Mickelson, Rodney Olson, Steve Rude, Steve Sortland, Lucas Spaeth, James Suda, Chad Tice, Randy Westcott, Todd Westcott (Chief) and Anthony Wolff of Halstad.” (Halstad’s Valley Journal, October 4, 2010)



2010 October 11 “Hendrum Fire Department presents Fire Safety Tips to NCW 3rd Grade Students – October 5th –

Volunteer firefighters do more than fight fires, they teach fire safety at schools, community fairs, and during open houses at the fire station. On Tuesday, October 5th, Mike Smart of the Hendrum Fire Department presented a fire safety to the NCW third graders. An activities book was presented to each of the students before the presentation:

- Matches and lighters are not toys for children and never play around hot things.
- Smoke detectors warn you if a fire starts.
- Smoke detector batteries should be checked every month.
- Have a fire escape plan set up.
- If there is a fire in your home, get out fast!
- If there is a fire, test the door with the back of your hand. Open the door only if it is NOT hot.
- If you have a window, open it and yell for help. If it won’t open, wave something light in color and yell for help.
- Never go back into the house for anything.
- To report a fire, never call from a burning building. Give all the information you are asked.
- If your clothes catch fire, STOP, DROP and ROLL.

- Always follow fire safety tips from your volunteer firefighters.

Fireman Darryl Torgerson put on all of the fire safety clothing, helmet, face shield, air mask, turnout coat with glow-in-the-dark stripes, protective gloves, waterproof boots and showed the safety equipment used, which included an ax, air hose, air tank, first aid kit, rope and water hose.

Fire chief Jeff Johnson presented red fire department t-shirts, hats and pencils to the students after the presentation so they could be pictured with their volunteer firefighter apparel by the Hendrum fire truck.

Carol Locken's Class: Kylie Anderson, Brady Borgen, Bailee Brommenschenkel, Eneedyth Garcia, Brianna Green, Cole Horn, Theresa Hosford, Syllas Larson-Reinhart, Amber Loe, Carlos Medina, Andre Nelson, Myla Reyes, Michael Suda, Grace Tommerdahl and Leslie Walz.

Sue Anderson's Class: Nathan Nelson, Brandon Green, Kaida Haugen, Sarah Dohman, Makayla Martinson, Cheryl Hukriede, Jersey Olson, Laura Paulsrud, Austin Carlson, Riley Culp, Kira Hulbert, Elyza Moy, Hunter Rudnik, Chaz Sura, Augie Black and Preston Gwin." (Halstad's Valley Journal, October 11, 2010)

2010 November 15 "An Open House was held at the Hendrum Fire Department Tuesday, November 9 –

The Hendrum Volunteer Fire Department had an open house at the Hendrum Fire Department on Tuesday evening, November 9th from 7 – 9 p.m. Coffee and cookies were served and there were drawings for donated door prizes from the Last Chance Saloon, Nepstad Oil and Northwestern Bank.

People that came had a chance to look at the new fire truck and equipment and view a video on Hendrum volunteer firemen activities. The NCW 3rd grade students had visited the Hendrum Fire Department on October 5th during Fire Prevention Week and their thank you letters were posted." (Halstad's Valley Journal, November 15, 2010)

2010 December 13 "Norman County Sheriff's Report November 2010 – 11-11-2010: Responded to a vehicle fire on Hwy. 9 on the south edge of Ada." (Halstad's Valley Journal, December 13, 2010)

2011

2011 January 22 Two fires in Ada were believed to be the acts of arson. The Ada Fire Department was called to fight fires at a house and at the Ada Senior Center.



2011 February 7 “Norman County Vehicle Burn –
61-year-old Paulette Olson of rural Fertile, MN, was identified as the driver of the vehicle that burned on County Hwy 1 in Norman County on January 24, 2011. Sheriff Jeremy Thornton.” (Halstad’s Valley Journal, February 7, 2011)

2011 February 14 “Halstad City News –
The Halstad City Council received news at their previous council meeting that a former resident had bequeathed funds to the Halstad Fire Department and the Rescue Squad.

LaVonne Pederson, age 69, died Friday, January 14, 2011, in Essentia Health, Fargo, ND. She was born to Helmer and Darline (Denenny) Pederson, attended school at Halstad, MN, and graduating in 1960. LaVonne grew up on the family farm, where she had since resided.

LaVonne left the Halstad Fire Department \$25,000, the Halstad Rescue Squad \$25,000 and had a special request for a swimming pool with a bathhouse be built in the City of Halstad from the sale of proceeds of her land. If and when the pool is built, the memorial plate would say, ‘Pederson Memorial Municipal Swimming Poll.’” (Halstad’s Valley Journal, February 14, 2011)

2011 February 28 “Norman County Sheriff’s Report, January 2011 –
01-09-2011: Responded to a garage fire in Hegne Township.
01-21-2011: Responded to a business fire in the Village of Flom.
01-24-2011: Responded to a vehicle fire on County 1 in Spring Creek Township. Investigated an unattended death due to the vehicle fire.
01-31-2011: Responded to a house fire in Halstad Township.” (Halstad’s Valley Journal, February 28, 2011)

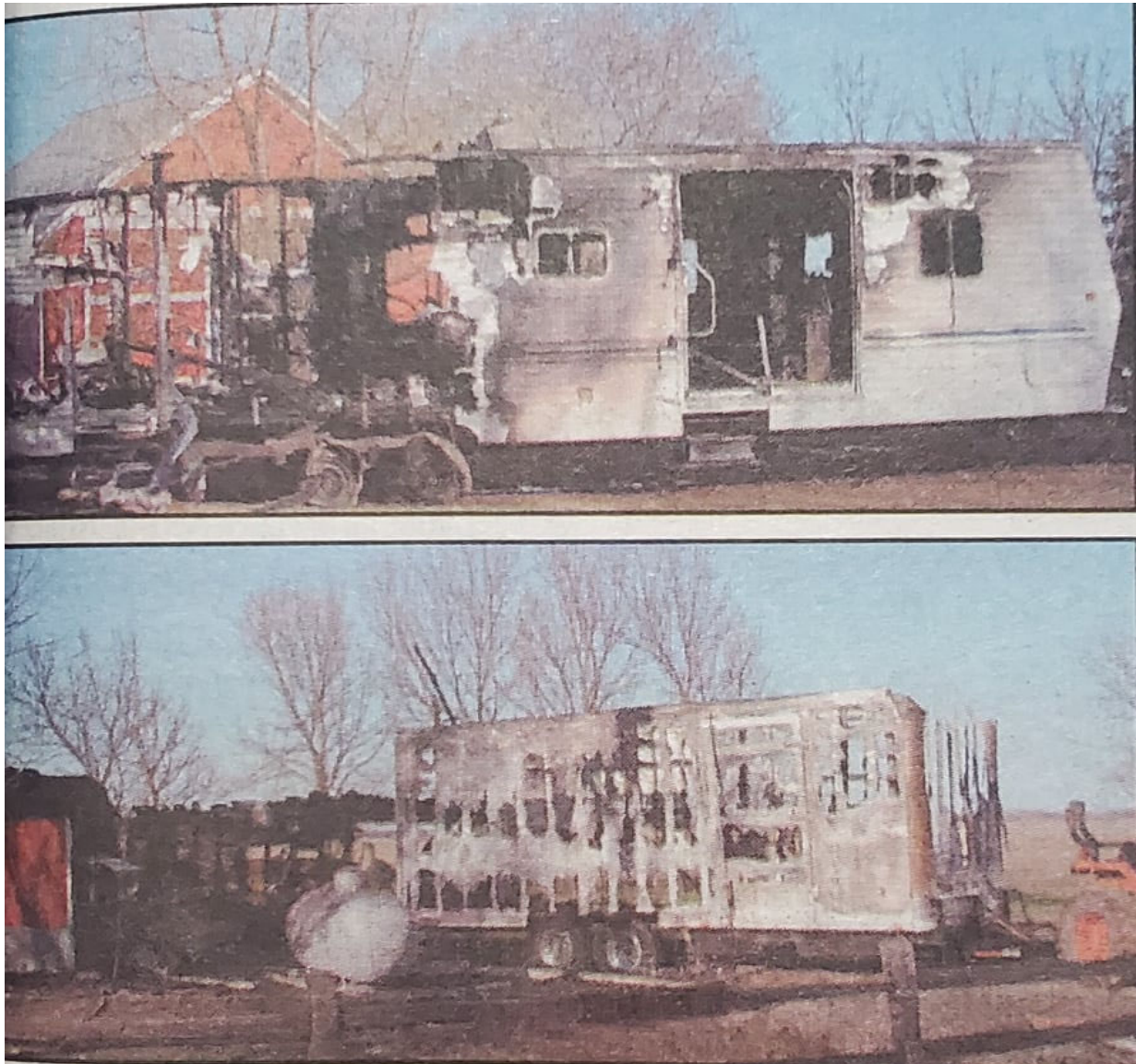
2011 April 4 “House Fire in Gary, MN –
On March 26, 2011, at approximately 2:29 p.m., the Norman County Sheriff’s Office received a report of a house on fire at 204 Thorpe Street in Gary, Minnesota. The

Gary Fire Department with assistance from the Twin Valley Fire Department responded to the scene and put out the fire.

There was extensive damage to the residence. Owner of the residence Carlos Otero was not at home at the time of the fire.

Fire remains under investigation by the Minnesota Fire Marshal and the Norman County Sheriff's Office. Sheriff Jeremy Thornton, Norman County Sheriff's Office." (Halstad's Valley Journal, April 4, 2011)

2011 April 28 "Fire Destroys Barn, Campers, Jeep at Bahner Farmstead – (Halstad's Valley Journal, May 9, 2011)





The Halstad and Hendrum Fire Departments responded to the fire call at the Gordon Bahner farmstead on April 28th. The barn, campers, jeep and other equipment was lost. What remains is the burned rubble from the barn and burned out camper trailers (pictured to the left).

2011 May 9

“MeritCare LifeFlight in Perley May 9th –

Members of the Perley-Lee Rescue Squad, Chris Iverson and Jeff Loe, set up a LifeFlight training session for May 9, 2011. In Perley, Nathan Tiedeman, MeritCare LifeFlight instructor, trained the over 25 fire and EMS members that attended.” (Halstad’s Valley Journal, May 30, 2011)



2011 May 23 “Norman County Sheriff’s Report, April 2011 –
 04-14-2011: Responded to a fire in a Home Lake Township, the party responsible for fire did not have a burning permit.
 04-23-2011: Responded to a fire alarm at the Norman County West High School in Halstad.” (Halstad’s Valley Journal, May 23, 2011)

2011 July 25 “Halstad Fire Department and Rescue Squad Receive \$25,000 from LaVonne Pederson Estate – (Halstad’s Valley Journal, July 25, 2011)

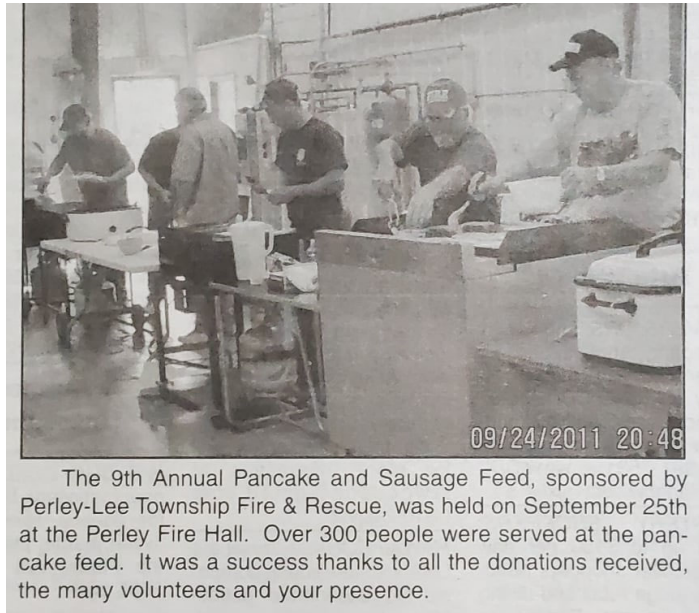


L/R: Ron Gotteberg and Renae Horning (Halstad City Council), Diane Holzer, niece of LaVonne Pederson, presents checks to Mayor Stove Sortland from the LaVonne Pederson Estate for the Halstad Fire Department and the Halstad Rescue Squad

2011 August 6 “Norman County Sheriff’s Report, June 2011 –
 6-6-2011: Responded to a farm truck fire in Lockhart Township.” (Halstad’s Valley Journal, August 6, 2011)

2011 September 5 “Norman County Sheriff’s Report, July 2011 –
07-28-11 – Cited Pleasant View Township resident for burning without a permit.”
(Halstad’s Valley Journal, September 5, 2011)

2011 October 3 “Perley Pancake and Sausage Feed Big Success –
The 9th Annual Pancake and Sausage Feed, sponsored by Perley-Lee Township Fire
& Rescue, was held on September 25th at the Perley Fire Hall. Over 300 people were
served at the pancake feed. It was a success thanks to all the donations received, the many
volunteers and your presence.” (Halstad’s Valley Journal, October 3, 2011)



2011 October 24 “Fire Prevention Week – October 9-15, 2011, NCW 3rd Grade Class
Visits Perley-Lee Fire Department –

Chief Radke and Asst. Chief Doug Ohren are picture with students: Jayden Benson, Caleb Earles, McKenna Hellerud, Cheyenne Holmgren, Korina Holte, Nicholas Iwen, Johnathan Jarisch, Daniel Jossund, Anthony May, Kyle Moothart, Lauren Nelson, Morgan Nelson, Halley Olson, Ethan Plemmons, Wyatt Rudnik, Emma Schlapkohl, Ruthie Skari, Tanner Tommerdahl, Cale Vetter, Autumn Viker, Taya Viker and Jalen Weaver.

NCW Third Graders visited the Perley Fire Hall on Thursday, October 13, to learn about fire safety from Fire Chief Wayne Radke and volunteer firefighters, Dan Patenaude and Doug Olson. Students learned about the clothing, equipment and vehicles used by the fire department. They also learned how they should react in an emergency. Each student was given a Jr. Firefighter shirt, a fire hat, and a coloring book. Follow-up activities were also planned. Students completed a home fire escape plan and were encouraged to have a fire drill at home. Third graders have been invited to a local fire department each year during National Fire Prevention Week.”



2011 October 24

“Hendrum Fire Department Visits West Adventure -



2011 October 24

“Otter Tail Power Gives \$2,000 for New Gary Fire Hall –

Otter Tail Power Co. presented a grant check in the amount of \$2,000 for the new Gary Fire Hall at the regular council meeting October 12.

Pictured at the presentation, are City Councilman and Fireman Bryan Thronson (left) and Leon Kremeier, Area Manager for Otter Tail. Other city officials at the meeting were Mayor Linda Engen, Bindy Thronson, City Clerk, and Councilmen Dennis Jacobson and Sanford Moen, and Barry Peterson, Operations Manager for Otter Tail. Kremeier and Peterson work out of their region office in Crookston.

Continued progress is being made toward the new fire hall. After the grant presentation, Bob Ames, President of the Foss Architecture and Interiors, presented the preliminary schematic plan and cost estimate for the building. The council, firemen and other interested parties will be reviewing this proposal to determine how it will fit Gary's needs.

Meanwhile, discussions are taking place for the site selection for the new Gary Fire Hall and additional grant requests are being submitted." (Halstad's Valley Journal, October 24, 2011)



2011 November 14 "Norman County Sheriff's Report, October 2011 –
10-05-11 – Responded to a suspicious corn field fire in Winchester Township."
10-08-11 – Responded to a reported fire in Pleasant View Township, citation issued for burning without a permit during a state-wide burning ban." (Halstad's Valley Journal, November 14, 2011)

2011 November 20 "Halstad Historic Landmark Burned Sunday, November 20 –
The Halstad Elevator was built in 1899 with a middle addition added in 1935/36 and a north annex built in 1958. The elevator was last used in the fall of 2003 so it was decided that because it was no longer in use, to clean up the area. The Halstad Fire Department offered to do a Water Movement Training; control burn.

The Halstad Fire Department preplanned the exercise and instructors from Minnesota State Technical College, the Fire Chief and firemen from the Fargo Fire Department proofed the plan and were on hand for the execution of the fire itself.

The elevator burn, which was scheduled for Saturday, November 19th was rescheduled to Sunday, November 20th, because of high winds. On Sunday morning, at

approximately 10:15 a.m. the match was struck and the elevator burst into flames. In what was only a little over an hour's time, the firemen felt more in control, the building was down.

Over 170,000 gallons of water was used. Pictures received shows the water was taken from the Red River.

Firemen involved in the burn were from Ada, Borup, Climax, Halstad, Hendrum, Hillsboro, Moorhead, Nielsville, Perley, Shelly and Twin Valley.

The plans called for the land on which the elevator stood is set for clean up by Visser Trenching. It is leased from the railroad and other plans are undecided at this time.

The Halstad Fire Department is appreciative of the help and cooperation from the residents of Halstad." (Halstad's Valley Journal, November 28, 2011)



Fire pours from the elevator Sunday morning as area fire departments do a controlled burn of the historic structure. Aerial Photos by Vern Whitten Photography

Halstad Elevator (1899) middle addition added 1935/36. Photo submitted by Robin Stene



by Vern Whitten Photography



Photo by Sanday Aalgard

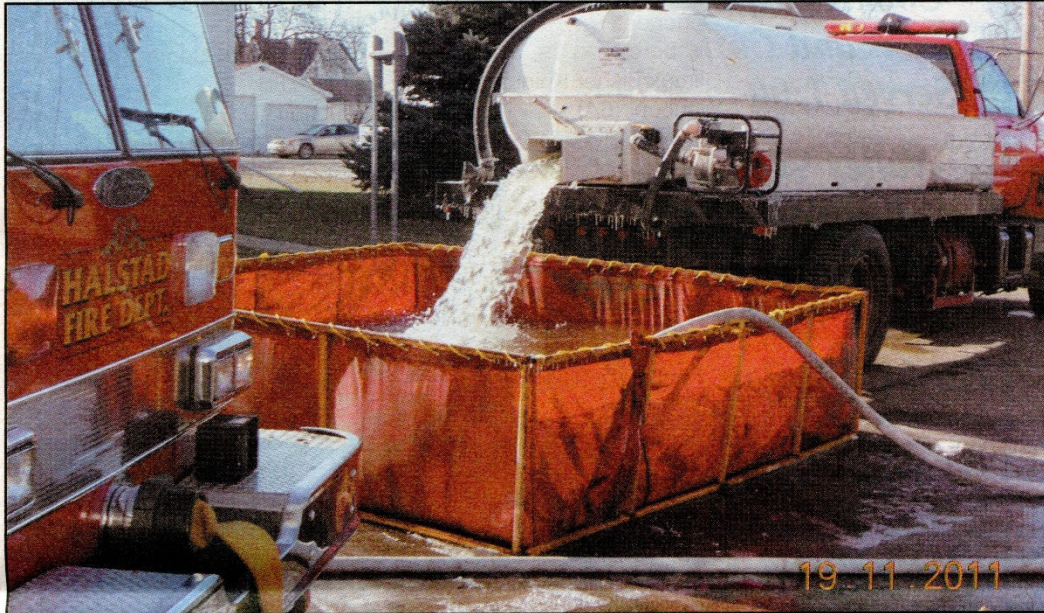
(More elevator pictures on Pages 6 &7)



Water trucks lined up to be filled with river water for the elevator fire
Aerial Photo by Vern Whitten Photography



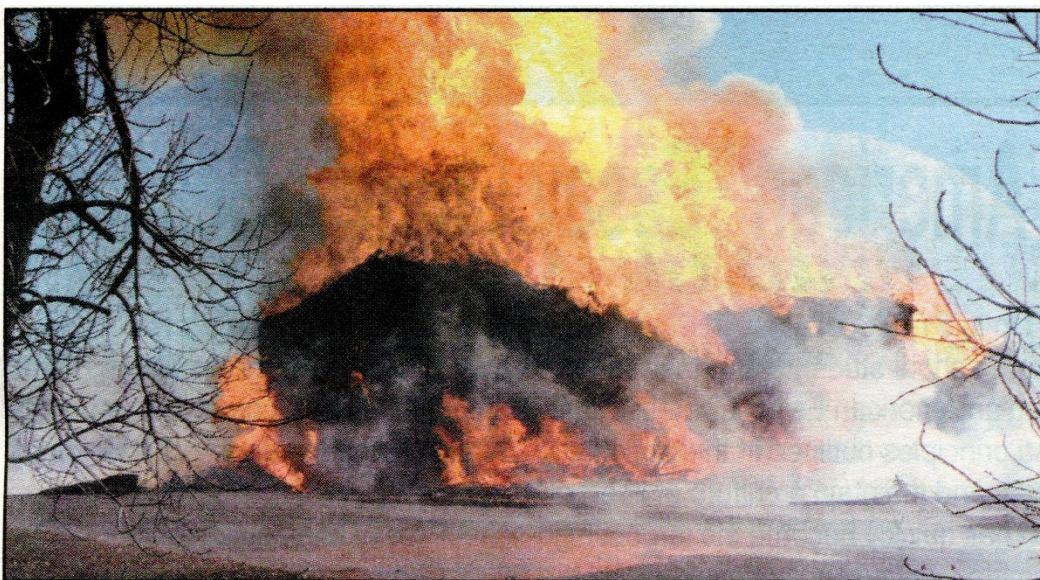
Smoke rising from the elevator fire
Aerial Photo by Vern Whitten Photography



Water truck is filling a holding tank with water on street close to the elevator
Photo by Arlene Balvik



Top of the Halstad elevator in flames
Photo by Arlene Balvik



Halstad elevator nears ground level
Photo by Arlene Balvik



Halstad elevator being totally hosed wth water

Photo by Arlene Balvik

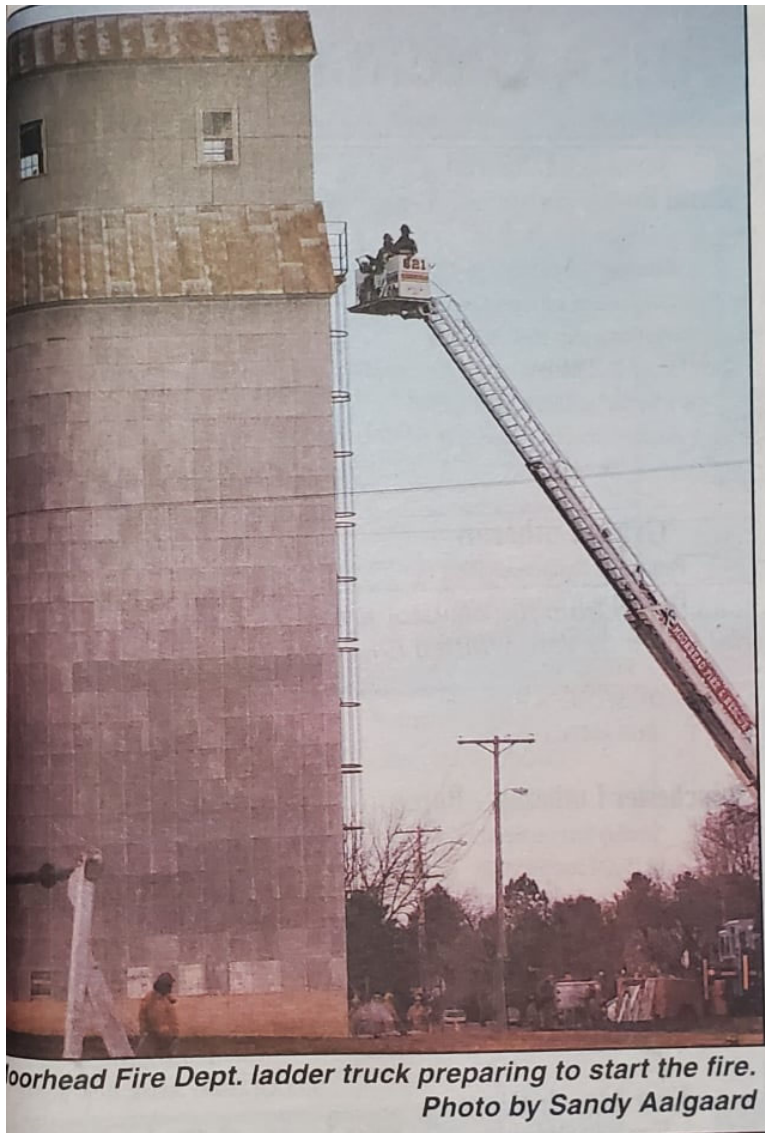


HTC Building being hosed down by firemen to offset heat and fire damage.
Photo by Sandy Aalgaard



Firemen at elevator fire

Photo by Sandy Aalgaard



Moorehead Fire Dept. ladder truck preparing to start the fire.
Photo by Sandy Aalgaard



Halstad elevator "SMOKY & "HOT" Photo: Sandy Aalgaard



Halstad elevator going down. Photo by Sandy Aalgaard



Dan Patenaude, Perley-Lee Fire Dept. Photo by S. Aalgaard

THANK YOU

On Sunday, November 20th, the Halstad Fire Department had a controlled burn of the old Halstad Elevator. It was big task that would not have been possible if it weren't for the help of area Fire Departments. Area departments included Climax, Nielsville, Shelly, Halstad, Hendrum, Perley, Ada, Borup, Twin Valley, Hillsboro and Moorhead. All the departments brought pumpers, tankers, brush trucks and rescue equipment. We also had the Moorhead ladder truck on hand which was an added comfort.

I would like to thank the instructors from the Moorhead and Fargo Fire Departments for coming to help. On the scene, we had 65 firefighters and 8 instructors. The traffic was also detoured that morning and we would like to thank the Norman County Sheriffs office, MnDOT, and the Norman County Highway Department for their involvement. As Fire Chief in Halstad, it was an honor to work with everyone. All the tasks were easier to accomplish through their training and dedication. Besides the training burn, it was a water movement exercise. During the burn we hauled about 170,000 gallons of water from the Red River and used about 15,000 gallons from the water tower. Last but not least, we would like to thank the residents of Halstad for their cooperation during the day and the ladies that prepared a meal for all of us after the burn.

Todd Westcott
Halstad Fire Chief

2011 December 7

Fire Destroys Home off Hwy. 75 –



“Hendrum, Halstad and Perley-Lee Fire Departments responded to a fire at a house located off of Highway 75, Wednesday morning, December 7th. The house belonged to Iver Buer. He operates Homestead Organic Gardens during the summer. As you can see by the photos, it is a totaled. (Photos by Kodey Hegreberg) (Halstad’s Valley Journal, December 12, 2011)



2012

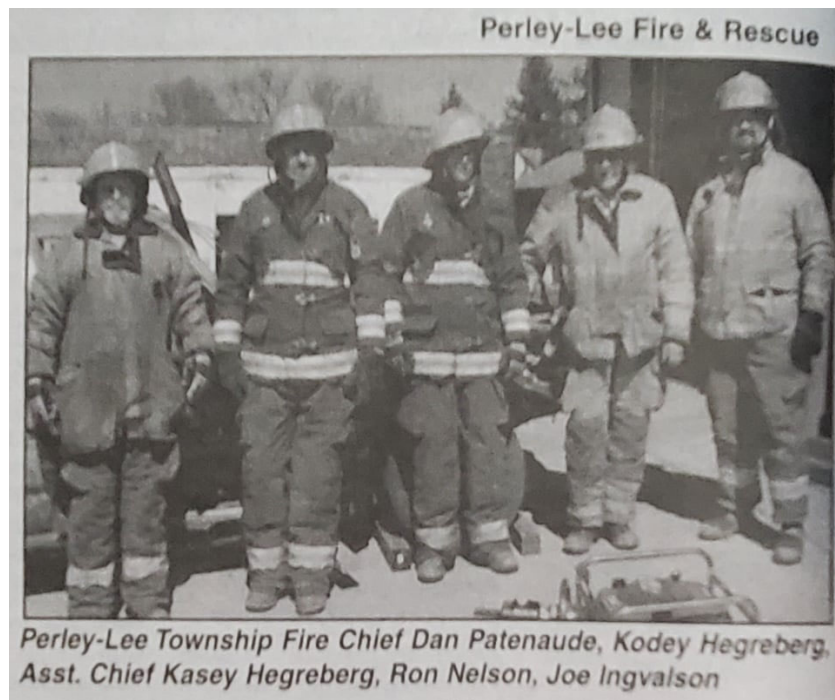
2012 January 16 “Norman County Sheriff’s Report December 2011 –
12-14-12 – Responded to a reported house fire in McDonaldsville Township, no house fire
was found.” (Halstad’s Valley Journal, January 16, 2012)

2012 March 20 “Halstad Historic Landmark: On the first day of spring, March 20,
Visser Trenching was in the process of cleaning up the remains of a historical landmark (Halstad
Elevator, built in 1899). The elevator was burned in a control burn on November 20, 2011. (Photo
taken March 20, 2012) (Halstad’s Valley Journal, March 26, 2012)



2012 April 2 “Norman County Sheriff’s Report February 2012 –
02-13-12 – Responded to a house fire in Sundal Township and assisted the State Fire
Marshal with the investigation of the fire.” (Halstad’s Valley Journal, April 2, 2012)

2012 April 23 (Halstad’s Valley Journal, April 23, 2012)



2012 March 14 “Norman County Sheriff’s Report March 2012 –
03-15-12 – Responded to a structure fire in Bear Park Township.

03-15-12 – Responded to a tractor fire in Hendrum Township.

03-30-12 – Responded to a dispute over a burning permit in the City of Perley.

03-30-12 – Responded to a reported fire in the City of Perley.” (Halstad’s Valley Journal, April 2, 2012)

2012 May 21 “Norman County Sheriff’s Report April 2012 –
04-25-12 – Responded to a structure fire in McDonaldsville Township.” (Halstad’s Valley Journal, May 21, 2012)

2012 June 5 “Control Burn of Two Houses in Halstad –

Two houses in Halstad, west of the elevator were control burned by the Halstad Fire department at around 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 5th. The property owner had previously requested that the Halstad Fire Department burn them. Forcible Entry and Ventilation Training were used by the fire department last week. At the control burn, the new firefighters studied the mechanics of the fire. (Photos by Halstad Fire Dept.) (Halstad’s Valley Journal, June 14, 2012)





2012 June 25

“Halstad Fire Department Control Burn –

The Halstad Fire Department with the assistance of area fire departments had a control burn on June 19th. Other fire departments came to assist with the water supply (water tankers needed) because the location of the fire was too far from fire hydrants. (Photos by Halstad Fire Department)” (Halstad’s Valley Journal, June 25, 2012)





Halstad Fire Department setting up (above)

Firemen at work (below)



2012 August 27

“Ford Replaces Chevy at the Hendrum Fire Department –

Hendrum Fire Chief, Jeff Johnson, is standing next to the 2008 Ford F350 they recently purchased to replace their 1984 Chevy Truck. The cost of the truck with a box was a little over \$30,000. The funds for the truck were raised at Hendrum’s annual steak dinner and from contributions given by local farmers and businessmen.”