

Lacon-Sparland Fire Dept. Called To A Couple Of Weekend Fires

The Lacon-Sparland Fire Department was called to a couple of rural fires over the weekend.

The first call came on Saturday, March 21st at 1:01 p.m. when a call came in for an out of control brush fire at 772 Thenius Road in Sparland.

Brush 2 arrived first on the scene and found approximately 3 acres of steep timber actively burning. Crews used hand tools and leaf blowers and later deployed 1" attack lines to extinguish the main bodies of fire, bringing the incident to approximately 80% containment within one hour of arrival.

Crews then worked to fell trees and establish fire breaks for an additional hour to prevent further spread. Remaining time on scene was spent on mop-up operations and equipment cleanup.

All Lacon-Sparland Fire units cleared the scene and was back in service at 3:55 p.m.

The cause of the fire was determined to be accidental. A control burn was left unattended.

No Firefighter or Civilian injuries were reported.

Fire units would later be dispatched to the same residence 2 more times that night as the homeowner was concerned about hot spots.

The second call of the weekend came in on Sunday, March 22nd at 8:48 p.m. where firemen found a shed on fire behind the residence at 3103 County Road 900N, Lacon.

Engine 5 was the first to arrive and found a fully involved 10' x 10' chicken shed approximately 95% consumed by fire, with exposure to nearby solar panels. Crews deployed a 150-foot 1 1/4" attack

line and quickly brought the fire under control within 30 seconds of water application.

Mutual aid from the Henry Fire Department was released upon arrival. Units from Lacon Fire remained on scene for overhaul and cleanup, clearing approximately 15 minutes later.

All Lacon-Sparland Fire units cleared the scene and was back in service at 9:36 p.m.

The cause of the fire was determined to be unknown but accidental.

Damages & Losses are estimated to be near \$13,500 consisting of chickens, 10x10 structure & approximately 10 solar panels. No Firefighter or Civilian injuries were reported.

Midland High School In Search Of A New Guidance Counselor

The Midland School District is now in search of a new high school guidance counselor. At their board meeting on March 18th the resignation of Dana James, who was hired by the board in the spring of 2023 was accepted.

James will be in her position through the end of the school year.

In other business, the board approved the school calendar for the 2026-2027 school year. Superintendent Jeremy Gauwitz stated that this calendar is basically a mirror of the 2025-2026 school calendar.

The board also approved spring FFA overnight trips and the FY27 IESA and IHSA yearly memberships.

Midland Girls Basketball Team Recognized For Record Setting Season



On Wednesday, March 18th, the Midland School Board officially recognized the Midland Girls' Basketball team for an extraordinary, record-setting season. Finishing with an impressive 26-8 record, the Lady Timberwolves set a new school benchmark for wins in a single season.

The team's dominant run included a Tri-County Conference Tournament Championship and a Regional title, culminating with a Sweet Sixteen appearance. Individual accolades followed the team's success:

Anna McGlasson: Unanimous 1st Team All-Conference, All-State Special Mention, and the PJStar Fan's Choice Small School Player of the Year and PJ Star All-Area Honorable Mention

Jordyn Pyles & Emma Franks: 2nd Team All-Conference.

Ella Foster: Honorable Mention All-Conference.

Coach Xavier Warren: PJStar Girls Basketball Coach of the Year.

Led by coaches Xavier Warren and Vicki Van Zandt. Congrats on a great season! It's a great day to be a Timberwolf. #twolvespride

Utility Pole Sheared Off In Single Car Accident On Main St. In Lacon



The Lacon Police were called to a single car accident on Friday, March 20th at 301 S. Main Street in Lacon. According to Police Chief Dan Brooks, Dorothy L. Johnson of 407 S. Washington Street in Lacon was traveling north on Main Street in her 2019 Kia Utility vehicle when she apparently hit a curb. The car

then struck a live utility pole which was sheared off. Johnson was the sole occupant in the vehicle where the air bags were deployed. Johnson was transported to the hospital by the Lacon-Sparland ambulance.

The accident is under investigation by the Lacon Police. The Marshall County Sheriff's Dept. also assisted.

★★★

**Thanks
for Your Vote!**

Thank you to everyone that supported me and placed your trust in me by casting your vote of confidence for a District 1, Marshall County Board representative. A special thank you to my wife, Karen, other family members, relatives, and friends that helped with my campaign.

William G. Maupin

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Varna Fire Department

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