

1,000 Smoke Alarms Installed: Decatur Earns State Recognition

Working smoke alarms reduce the risk of dying in a home fire by more than half, 54%

State and local fire safety experts gathered at the Decatur Fire Department to raise awareness about the importance of working smoke alarms in homes and to highlight a no-cost smoke alarm installation program in place for city residents.

“Working smoke alarms save lives, it’s that simple! The OSFM is a proud partner in the “Be Alarmed!” Smoke Alarm Installation Program, a proven lifesaving initiative. I want to extend my deepest gratitude to the dedicated fire departments across Illinois who go above and beyond to educate their communities and install these critical alarms in homes. Just one properly installed smoke alarm can mean the difference between life and death,” said Illinois State Fire Marshal Michele Pankow. “Not only do these alarms give residents precious time to safely evacuate, but they also help protect

our firefighters by reducing the need for risky rescue operations inside burning homes.”

“The Be Alarmed! Smoke Alarm Installation Program plays a critical role in protecting the residents of the Decatur community. As inflation continues to impact household budgets, many families are forced to prioritize immediate expenses, often putting off the purchase or maintenance of smoke alarms. Unfortunately, this can leave homes vulnerable to devastating consequences,” said Decatur Fire Department Fire Inspector Matt Jones. “By providing access to free smoke alarms and ensuring they are properly installed, this program directly addresses that risk—helping to save lives, reduce fire-related injuries, and strengthen the overall safety of our community. The Decatur Fire Department remains committed to the safety of our community.”

According to the National Fire Protection Association, smoke alarms reduce the risk of dying in a home fire by more than half, 54% to be exact. Meanwhile, roughly three out of five fire deaths happen in homes with either no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.

The Decatur Fire Department offers these key smoke alarm safety tips and guide-

lines:

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on each level of the home.
- Make sure smoke alarms meet the needs of all family members, including those with sensory or physical disabilities.
- Test smoke alarms at least once a month by pushing the test button.
- Replace all broken or expired smoke alarms that are 10 years old or older.

“The Be Alarmed! Smoke Alarm installation program aims to protect and educate residents across the entire state, while reducing residential fire deaths and injuries. The partnerships built between Camp I Am Me, OSFM, and the more than 375 Illinois fire departments participating in this program and has led to more than 52,000 smoke alarms being distributed to protect citizens – more than 1.25 million dollars’ worth of life-saving equipment,” said Camp I Am Me Executive Director Philip Zaleski. “This is vitally important as the installation data we have collected since the program began in 2018 has shown that more than 70% of smoke alarms in homes that are receiving replacement alarms are non-functioning as



a result a result of no batteries in the units, dead batteries, or the alarms are more than 10-years old. Today we are proud to highlight the Decatur Fire Department for not only their dedication to fire safety education outreach in the community, but also for their efforts with Be Alarmed! as they have installed more than 1,000 alarms in 602 households, protecting 1,318 of their residents since joining the program.”

“Be Alarmed!” is a fire safety education and smoke alarm installation program administered cooperatively between Camp I Am Me (CIAM) and the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal (OSFM). The program distributes fire safety education materials and 10-year sealed battery smoke alarms to fire departments in the state of Illinois. The



fire departments then deliver the education while installing smoke alarms in at-risk homes within their communities. Both the educational materials and smoke alarms are provided at no cost as a result of funding from both the CIAM and OSFM.

To learn more about the program visit: <https://www.ifsa.org/prevention-resources/smoke-alarm/>.

Electrolux
Sales and Service
GARY MOTLEY
1-800-346-2060

Business Directory

<p>Agricultural Services</p> <p>Sonneborn Bros. Trucking Hettick, IL 618-778-5252 •Rock Delivery •Lime and Dry •Fertilizer Spreading •Grain Hauling A family owned company serving Macoupin County and surrounding areas since 1959.</p>	<p>LAND & HOME REAL ESTATE</p> <p>LandandHomeSales.com 217-825-7527 368 S. Side Square, Carlinville BRAD GRAHAM Managing Broker, Auctioneer</p>	<p>Animal / Pet Care</p> <p>BenId Adopt-A-Pet We are a NO KILL shelter. 807 Stewart Ave. BenId, IL 62009 217-835-2538 www.benidadoptapet.org</p>	<p>Kibbles N' Klips GROOMING, BOARDING, & TRAINING SERVICES AVAILABLE (217) 854-9018 Like us on Facebook!</p>	<p>Automotive Sales / Repair</p> <p>Costello's Automotive Repair & Tire Service ASE MASTER CERTIFIED AUTO TECHNICIANS Hours: Mon.-Fri., 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. 217-854-8663 www.costelloauto.com</p>	<p>Construction / Remodeling / Roofing</p> <p>Big Dog Design-n-Build CONSTRUCTION COMPANY (833) 2BIG DOG YOUR LOCAL WINDOW-DEPOT NATIONAL STRENGTH. LOCAL SERVICE.</p>	<p>Furniture / Flooring</p> <p>HEINZ CABINETS FLOORING FURNITURE MATTRESSES BLINDS & MORE 208 W. Main, Carlinville, IL 62626 217-854-3184 www.heinzfurniture.com</p>
<p>HVAC / Electrical</p> <p>KUFA & SON We offer Financing WELLS FARGO HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING CARLINVILLE, IL Heating • Air Conditioning • Geo Thermal • Duct Cleaning (217) 854-4112 www.kufandson.com Keeping you comfortable for three generations.</p>	<p>Insurance</p> <p>COUNTRY FINANCIAL Steve O'Dell Financial Representative steve.odell@countryfinancial.com 145 E Jackson St, Virden, IL Office tel: 217-965-5888</p>	<p>Dowland Financial Services Lighting Your Pathway to Financial Freedom For All Of Your Insurance and Investment Needs 909 Broadway St. Suite B Carlinville, IL 62626 (217) 854-9213</p>	<p>WEBB INSURANCE SINCE 1978 101 Elevator St, Farmersville, IL (217) 227-4565 115 E Broad St, Raymond, IL (217) 229-3719</p>	<p>Kitchen & Bath</p> <p>HEINZ CABINETS FLOORING FURNITURE MATTRESSES BLINDS & MORE 208 W. Main, Carlinville, IL 62626 217-854-3184 www.heinzfurniture.com</p>	<p>See us for all your Printing Needs!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Cards • Envelopes • Letterhead • Posters • Flyers • Calendars • Forms • ID Badges • Invitations • And More... <p>Call 217-854-2534</p> <p>Macoupin County ENQUIRER~DEMOCRAT 125 East Main, Carlinville IL. 62626 (217) 854.2534 advertising@enquirerdemocrat.com</p>	

BE INCLUDED IN OUR BUSINESS DIRECTORY!
Only \$100 a year
217-854-2534

Medical

<p>Advanced EyeCare 615 N Broad St, Carlinville, IL 62626 217-854-3173 www.aec2.com</p>	<p>Advanced EyeCare 119 N. Springfield St. Virden IL, 62690 217-965-3306 www.aec2.com</p>	<p>Carlinsville Area HOSPITAL & CLINICS 20733 N. Broad St., Carlinville, IL 62626 (217) 854-3141</p>	<p>Girard Family Health Care A part of Carlinsville Area Hospital 205 South Third St. Girard, IL 62640 217-627-2222</p>
--	--	---	--

Real Estate

<p>1ST CHOICE REALTY PROS LLC Lisa L Miller Managing Broker/Owner Serving your Real Estate needs with honesty and integrity www.1stchoicerealtypros.com 217-825-3999</p>	<p>FIRM FOUNDATIONS REALTY 217-854-7247 Rob Dwinells Broker/Realtor® 217-851-7236</p>	<p>LAND & HOME REAL ESTATE LandandHomeSales.com 217-825-7527 368 S. Side Square, Carlinville BRAD GRAHAM Managing Broker, Auctioneer</p>	<p>LAND & HOME REAL ESTATE LandandHomeSales.com 217-556-1285 368 S. Side Square, Carlinville PAT WILLS Broker/Realtor</p>
--	--	--	---

DESIGN to OPTIMIZE
Invitations, Letterheads, Business Cards, Envelopes, Tickets, Office Forms, Posters, Programs, Post Cards, Flyers, Catalogs, Etc. etc.
For Any & All of Your Printing Needs!
217-854-2534
Enquirer-Democrat
125 East Main, Carlinville, IL

To include your business or for more information call 217-854-2534

Dedicated to Women's Health & Wellness

Expert Gynecological Care in Carlinville.

CONNECTED TO EXPERT CARE

DR. KARA L. MCCOY*
GYNECOLOGY

Carlinsville Area HOSPITAL & CLINICS

217.854.3141 x250
20733 N. Broad St., Carlinville
cahcare.com

*A non-employed, independent consultant of CAH&C.