

I hope everyone had a safe Thanksgiving week and hunting season. First thing this week is don't forget the annual Hiles Fire Department Dinner. It will be on Saturday evening. Normally it's Happy Hour from 4 to 5 with Santa coming during that time, with dinner starting at 5 pm. Town dinners like we are lucky to have are few and far between. I truly think that it's one of the little things that makes our town so special. The Christmas Dinner especially is a year to give thanks all the way around-to our Fire Department for keeping us safe (and that includes the first responders), and to the Fire Department to give thanks right back at the town for supporting them. Because if the two didn't work together, things would not get accomplished. It's also a time to give thanks that we are able to gather together and celebrate as a town family, for we are that as well.

With this past week being hunting season, congratulations to all of those who were successful. Three that I know about are the Nery family with a nice 8 point buck, along with Paul Nirschl who also got an 8 pointer. Congratulations also go out to Mikey Hobbs, (Renee and Hambone's oldest son) who not only got a doe this year but also ended up with a nice 7 pointer. Way to get a great start on your hunting career Mikey!!!

And as Mother Nature gifted us with two nasty storms this past week, I have a few housekeeping stuff that will make winter just a little bit easier for everyone. First of all, with all of the heavy wet snow, make sure that you are checking all of your vents. The wind blew so much and the snow was so wet and heavy that it doesn't take much to cover them. This alone can reduce fires. Another thing to keep clean is your fire number. Make sure that nothing obstructs it from any angle, whether it be from snow or from brush. Remember this is because of in case of an emergency, if your fire number is not legible, this can delay help by quite a bit at times, especially if whoever is driving the ambulance or fire truck is not really knowledgeable about where you live. The third thing to keep in mind is about your mailbox. That needs to be kept clean as well and make sure that it is sturdy and that nothing is surrounding it either. This is both for your mail carrier and the town or highway crews that might be working in your area. All three of these things are our responsibility and will just make things easier in the long run. Have a great week everyone. Remember once again to check on your neighbor in these nasty weather periods, especially like the last few days when quite a few people in town, myself included, didn't have a land line that worked. And if you're like me, unless you are in a certain area in your house, you won't get much cell reception let alone great cell reception. So just keep a friendly eye out for those in need.