

# Lauer to lead (cont.)



The Adams Fire Co. is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year and recently elected new officers. Here is the main firehall at 7113 Nash Road. (Photo by Karen Carr Keefe)

Continued from Page 6

an assistant chief's position, or chief since 1988.

"This is my third time holding the chief position, but first time being reelected back-to-back," Lauer said. "I am humble to be leading such a great bunch of men and women, all volunteering their time in protecting the Town of Wheatfield residents. It's a team effort - I just steer the ship. It's the great members who make it who we are today, and our past members, who had a vision in protecting life and property 100 years ago!"

"I never would have thought I would still be doing this and leading Adams into the 100th year of service as chief - never, ever would I have thought this would happen," he said.

A century after the company's founding, Lauer said the company is going strong: "We're resilient. There's not as many active members as when I joined in the early '80s, but we're still getting the job done, with lots of people.

While fire companies across the state struggle to bring new members on board, Lauer said Adams Fire Co. did well recruit-

ing with its summer outreach into the community. The key to success, he said, was "just going out into the community and just telling them 'We need you to step up when we're in a time of need,' and talk to them and explain what our (recruitment) process is."

He said you have to live within 3 miles of either station to apply for membership. The main hall is at 7113 Nash Road, and a sub-station is at 3805 Klemer Road.

"I want to thank our residents for supporting Adams Fire Co. The new members who have stepped up and volunteered this year are amazing. Between our new members recruited this year (about five or six) during the summer campaign, and three returning members, we continue to provide exceptional service to our residents," Lauer said. "I also want to thank our residents for their fund drive contributions every year, so we can continue our mission."

"Stay safe and be nice to one another," Lauer said.

*Karen Carr Keefe contributed to this report.*



## PHOTOS: Christmas in the River Region

Last week's Christmas Walk in Lewiston was just the beginning of holiday-themed events in the River Region.

Over this past weekend, "Christmas On The Farm" was celebrated in Porter. The event included crafts and cookie decorating for children, plus a basket auction, lunch, and then a visit from Santa.

In Youngstown, the warm weather didn't seem at all like December, helping "Christmas in the Village" draw a great crowd. Visitors came out for Christmas vendors in the gymnasium of the Red Brick School, free hot dogs and popcorn from the Youngstown Lions Club, crafts to make, a basket auction in the library, horse-drawn carriage rides, and, of course, a visit from Santa.

In addition, a new ambulance for the Youngstown Volunteer Fire Co. was dedicated at Youngstown's Christmas in the Village." Following some words from Niagara County Sheriff Michael Filicetti, the ambulance was blessed by the Rev. Bob Hagel of the First Presbyterian Church of Youngstown. They were joined by local dignitaries and EMTs. (Photos by Wayne Peters)



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