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# Press Release

**St. Charles, MN, April 17, 2010. St. Charles to commemorate the April 17, 2009 fire and community support**

Almost one year after the April 17, 2009 fire at the former North Star Foods site, the community is being invited to commemorate the event and celebrate the community support demonstrated during that event.

Over 200 emergency responders answered the call for help and emergency crews spent over 28 hours fighting the fire and evacuating the town in order to protect life and property. On Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup> the community is invited to remember that day with members of the various organizations that responded and risked their lives.

The event will be held in the west parking lot of City Hall as well as inside the Community Center from noon to 2 p.m. Pat Thesing and Brad Arndt are co-sponsoring the event as a way to show their appreciation for all the community support.

Students of the St. Charles School District are also participating in an essay contest and those essays will be on display. Participating students will also receive a commemorative wooden coin recalling the historic event. Also in commemoration of the April 2009 event the St. Charles cafeteria staff will be wearing fire hats Friday, April 16 as a way of saying “thank you” to all of the volunteer services that came forward that day to protect the community. The lunch menu will also feature a fire theme.

Mayor Bill Spitzer stated, “As with everyone’s history, it is vitally important to remember our past and what happened so that we may move forward into our future.”

Refreshments will be available to the first 500 attendants.

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