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Dog Dies After Saving Owner From Fire

Tuesday, October 17, 2006

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ELKHART LAKE, Wis. — After a disabled woman's cat started a house fire, her specially trained dog came to the rescue, then died trying unsuccessfully to rescue the cat.

Jamie Hanson said her 13-year-old dog Jesse brought her artificial leg and a phone she used to call 911.

"She got me outside and then she heard the cat upstairs and she went up there to get the cat and she wouldn't come back to me," Hanson, 49, said at a news conference Monday at Aurora Sheboygan Memorial Medical Center, where she was being treated for her injuries.

She received third-degree arm burns in the fire Sunday night at her home in Rhine, south of Elkhart Lake. Both pets died.

Hanson, who lost a leg in a car accident three years ago, said she was on the couch watching television when the cat ran over the back of the couch.

"And he jumped onto a table that had a candle on it and tipped it over and lighted the artificial plants on fire," she said.

Hanson said she fell off the couch and was unable to get her artificial leg from the table, "so my dog got my leg for me and went and got the phone and brought the phone to me so I could call 911."

(Story continues below)

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Call Girl Gone Wild
 Girls Gone Wild founder Joe Francis releases video of an 18 year-old Ashley Alexandra Dupre, the call girl in the Elliot Spitzer scandal

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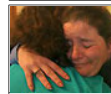
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Floodwaters Rage Through Central U.S., Killing at Least 13
 Heavy rains and flooding forced hundreds of people to evacuate their homes with at least 13 deaths linked to the storm system.

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