



# “Called to Duty”

The Official Newsletter of the  
Methuen Fire Department

APRIL 2024

Volume 7, Issue 3

## MFD Links

[Methuen.gov](http://Methuen.gov)  
Methuen Fire  
Department Web Page  
MFD Facebook  
MFD Twitter  
MFD Instagram

## Regional Links

MA Dept. of Fire  
Services  
MEMA  
National Fire Protection  
Assoc.  
Office of Emergency  
Medical Services

## Contact Us

Office Hours:  
Monday - Thursday:  
7:00 am to 4:30 pm  
Friday - Sunday: Closed

Phone:  
(978) 983-8940

Fax:  
(978) 691-5056  
Emergency: 911

Address:  
24 Lowell Street  
Methuen, MA 01844  
See map: [Google Maps](#)

Methuen Fishing Derby at Forest Lake, Saturday,  
May 11!



# Methuen Fishing Derby

Forest Lake

Saturday, May 11, 2024

10:00 am - 1:00pm

A free event open to Methuen  
residents of all ages.



No registration required. Participants can fish  
from the shore or from boat. A limited  
number of rods will be available to borrow, so  
participants are encouraged to bring their  
own. Mayor Neil Perry will award the fishing  
trophies!!!

Lunch and refreshments will be provided by  
the Methuen Firefighters Local 1691.

For more info:  
Mayor's Office: 978.983.8505

## ++ Message from the Fire Chief ++

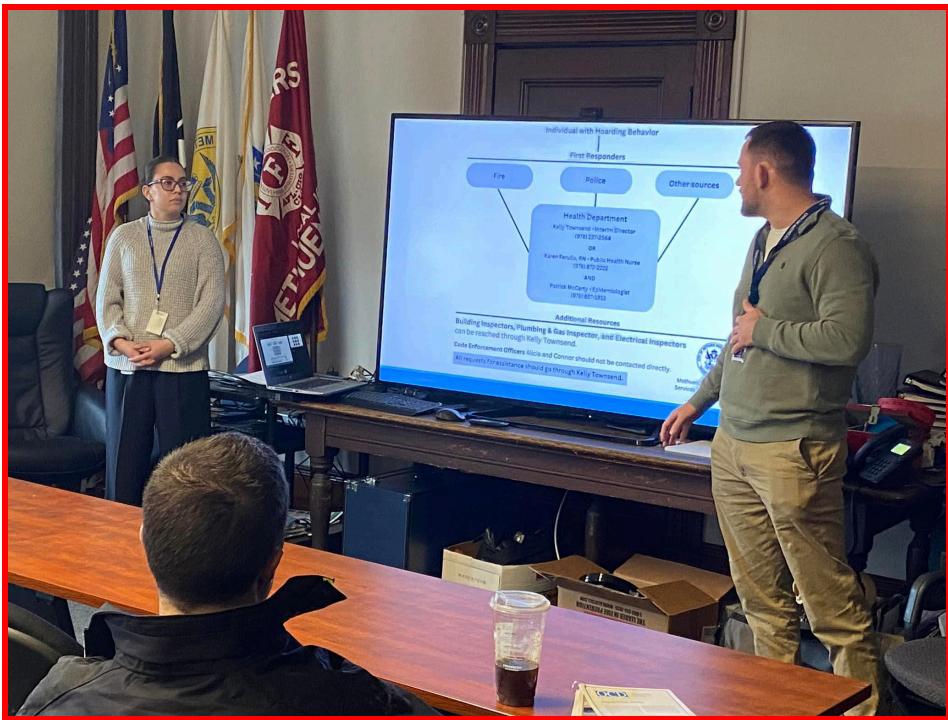


Thanks for taking the time to read this edition of “Called to Duty.” Spring is here and we are excited about many fun events upcoming with our department and in the City of Methuen. This month’s newsletter features stories on some exciting happenings in our department. As always, if you have any questions or concerns regarding fire-related issues, please call our general business line at 978-983-8940. For all emergencies, please call 911.

Regards,

*J. Tim Sheehy, Fire Chief*

## Methuen Health Department Hoarder Emergency Training



Members of the Methuen Fire Department recently learned about related issues regarding hoarding. Sara Hatfield and Patrick McCarthy (pictured above) from the Methuen Health Department came to our Central Station and provided some valuable information for our firefighters in responding to an emergency situation at a home or business where hoarding takes place. There are many issues and factors to consider in this type of situation. We appreciate the Health Department’s collaboration and expertise.

## MFD at TGI Friday's First Responder Olympics



In March, the Methuen Fire Department had the great pleasure of participating in a fun Olympic style event at TGI Friday's in Methuen. The evening, which also included the Methuen Police Department, raised money for the Methuen Arlington Neighborhood, Inc. Thanks to Nancy Reardon for the photos.



*If your clothes are on fire,*

**stop | drop | roll**

## Through the Fire, Through the Years

“Through the Fire, Through the Years” looks back at Methuen Fire Department history with a memory from 133 years ago.

The US Congress creates the Office of Superintendent of Immigration later known as the Treasury Department. The first world weightlifting championship is won by Edward Lawrence in London, England. The Wrigley Company is founded in Chicago, Illinois.

The 17th Kentucky Derby is won by jockey Isaac Murphy aboard Kingman. Thomas Edison patents the motion picture camera, and the world’s first traveler’s cheques are issued by American Express.



Through the Fire, Through the Years goes back to 1891 and the Methuen Fire Department’s newly gifted Hose Wagon.

In 1891, one of the founding fathers of Methuen, Edward F. Searles, donated a new hose wagon to the Methuen Fire Department replacing the archaic Mystic Hose Reel. The new hose wagon enabled firefighters to carry hoses, other equipment, and themselves to fires. One stipulation that Mr. Searles had was that the hose company change its name to the Paul Methuen Hose Company in honor of British Nobleman Paul Methuen for whom the town was named.

As it turned out, the hose wagon gifted by Mr. Searles did not have a long life. Just a few years later, it was replaced by the steam fire engine as the Methuen Fire Department’s most prominent piece of firefighting equipment.

*Excerpted from A History of Methuen and it's Fire Department by Retired Methuen Firefighter Kenneth H. Doherty*

## MFD Creates Autism Awareness T-Shirts



April is Autism Awareness Month and the Methuen Fire Department has created some special autism awareness t-shirts to bring attention to the cause. The Irish Cottage in Methuen purchased 80 of these t-shirts to sell at the restaurant.



Please stop by the Irish Cottage, 17 Branch St., Methuen to purchase a shirt. Cost is \$25. They can also be purchased at our Central Fire Station, 24 Lowell St. in Methuen. All proceeds are going to the Doug Flutie, Jr. Foundation for Autism, Inc. Special thanks to Methuen Firefighter Eric Moreau for taking a lead role in this initiative.

## Spring Storms Bring Downed Power Line Danger



Stay away  
from downed  
**power lines.**

The Methuen Fire Department has already received several calls this spring regarding downed power lines caused by recent wind and storms.

Downed power lines can carry an electric current strong enough to cause serious injury or even death. If you come across a low or fallen line, we urge you to adhere to the following safety tips and please call 911:

- If you see a downed power line, move away from it and anything touching it.
- Assume that all downed power lines are live.
- If you see someone who is in direct or indirect contact with the downed line, do not touch the person. Call 911 for help.
- Do not attempt to move a downed power line or anything else in contact with it.
- Do not drive over downed power lines. If your car comes in contact with a downed power line while you are inside, stay in the car. Honk your horn to summon help, but direct others to stay away from your car.

## MA Department of Fire Services Offers High Voltage Training

Our firefighters recently experienced high-voltage emergency response training thanks to a program by the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services (DFS).



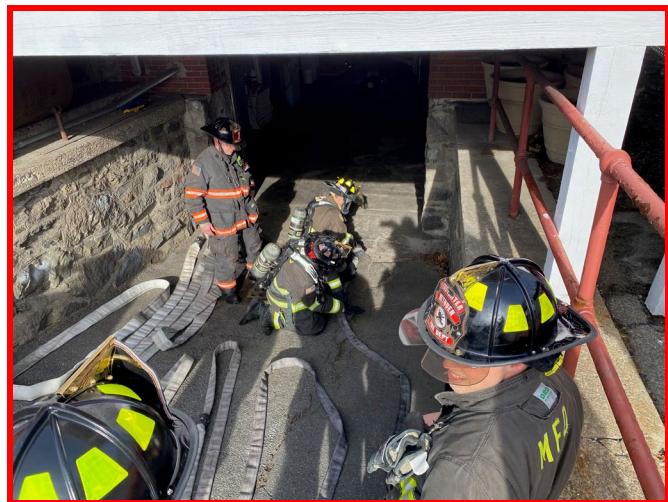
The DFS came to our Central Station and set up an apparatus to show our firefighters the proper techniques and strategies in responding to such an emergency.



This is another in a long line of valuable training that the DFS offers to Massachusetts firefighters.



## Methuen Firefighters Fire Attack Training Drills



Methuen Firefighters recently experienced Fire Attack Training at our Central Fire Station. This type of training is designed to deliver information and instruction on fire risks present within a given building or structure. The training covers familiarization of the building's emergency procedures, so firefighters can act accordingly in the event of a fire or emergency.

## Congratulations to Retiring MFD Lieutenant Mike Hennessy



Chief Tim Sheehy and members of the Methuen Fire Department would like to send out hearty congratulations to Lieutenant Mike Hennessy who is retiring from our department after 22 years. We appreciate Lt. Hennessy's friendship, leadership, and work ethic for all these years, following in the footsteps of his father, Retired MFD Lieutenant Michael Hennessy.

He has been a dependable and reliable servant to our community and we wish him the very best in the next chapter of his life. Pictured left, Firefighters Mike Bodenrader and Adam Marino look on as the Lt. Hennessy cuts a cake given to him by his fellow firefighters. In the photo to the right, Lt. David Broadhurst offers congratulations to Lt. Hennessy.

# Veterans Flag Replacement - Volunteers Needed

## Click Here to Sign Up to Volunteer



VETERANS OFFICE



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

### ANNUAL FLAG REPLACEMENT

#### A STUDENT-LED EVENT

**SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024**

Every year around Memorial Day, we replace flags on graves of all those veterans who are interred in the city of Methuen. This is both a fun day and a way to do something important and worthwhile for the community!

**TIME: 8:30 AM –12 Noon. Elmwood Cemetery. RAIN OR SHINE.**

**SPECIAL GUESTS:** Students from St. Monica's School!



**Sign-up.** Sign-up on-line at: <https://tinyurl.com/VetFlags> or by scanning this QR code or by calling the Veterans Office at (978) 983-8585.



**SERVE | HONOR | REMEMBER**

# Join the MFD at the Veterans Pig Roast and Cookout

## Click Here to Register



VETERANS OFFICE



★ VETERAN'S PIG ROAST, FOREST LAKE ★  
**YOU MUST REGISTER TO ATTEND!** →

Free to all veterans and their families to honor your service and contributions to our community.

Events for kids like a bouncy house so plan on bringing your children and grandchildren!

Bring lawn chairs and a beverage.

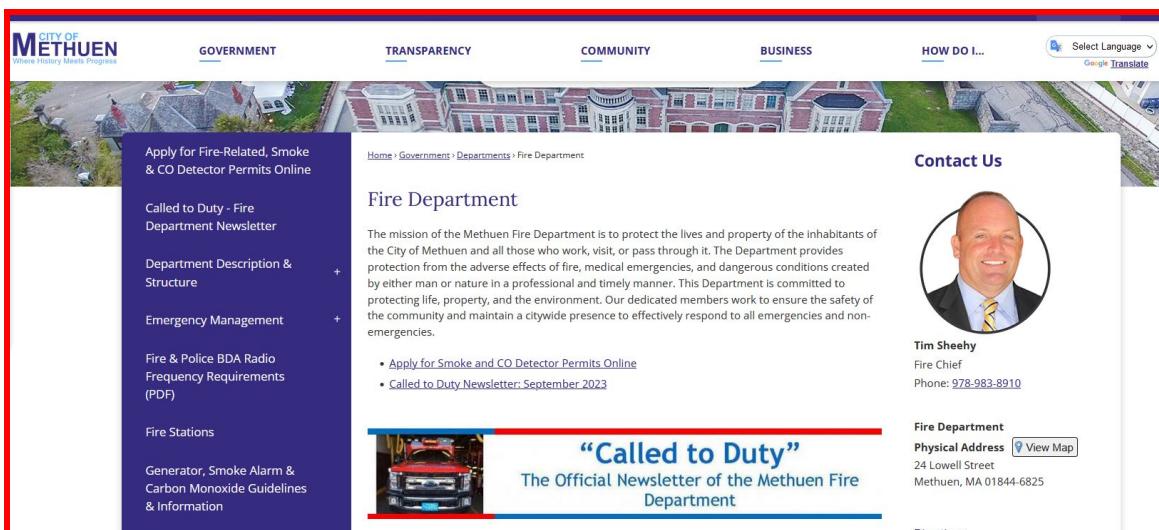
This will be a joint event with the Bedford VA who will have various booths with info on VA benefits. Other providers welcome. Please contact our office.

**VETERAN'S PIG ROAST  
FOREST LAKE  
SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 11 – 3  
RAIN OR SHINE!**

You MUST register at <https://tinyurl.com/VetCookout>  
Or by calling the Veteran's Office, (978) 983-8585  
Attendance limited  
With support from the Methuen Fire Department and the Bedford VA



## Methuen Fire Department on the Web & Social Media



The website features a header with the city logo and navigation links for Government, Transparency, Community, Business, and How Do I... The main content area includes a sidebar with links to permits, newsletters, and emergency management, and a central column with information about the Fire Department's mission and a "Called to Duty" newsletter. A sidebar on the right features a contact form for the Fire Chief, Tim Sheehy.

The Methuen Fire Department Web Page features links, safety tips and news you can use. **CLICK HERE** to access the Methuen Fire Department web page. Be sure also to visit the Methuen Fire Department on **Facebook**, **Twitter**, and **Instagram** - a terrific way to keep up with MFD news, happenings, and events.

## Contact Us to Receive the MFD “Called to Duty” Newsletter



**THE MISSION** of the Methuen Fire Department is to protect the lives and property of the inhabitants of the City of Methuen and all those who work, visit, or pass through it. The Department provides protection from the adverse effects of fire, medical emergencies, and dangerous conditions in a professional and timely manner. Our dedicated members work to ensure the safety of the community and maintain a citywide presence to effectively respond to all emergencies and non-emergencies.

**THIS NEWSLETTER** is a way to keep the public informed of Methuen Fire Department news and happenings. If you have any questions or would like to be added to our Email List to receive the newsletter, call John Molori at 978-208-5112 or email [jrmolori@ci.methuen.ma.us](mailto:jrmolori@ci.methuen.ma.us). Please include your name and email address. Thank You!