



"Called to Duty"

The Official Newsletter of the Methuen Fire Department

AUGUST 2024

Volume 7, Issue 6

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See map: [Google Maps](#)

Methuen Firefighters Troy and Fitzgerald Honored by NorthEast EMS



NorthEast Emergency Medical Services (NEEMS) recently honored two of our Methuen Firefighters/EMT's.

Firefighters Chris Troy (pictured left) and Shannon Fitzgerald were recognized with Life Saving Awards at the NEEMS Annual Awards Banquet at Haverhill Country Club.

The gala evening recognized first responders in various categories including Provider of the Year, Years of Service, and Life Saving. Congratulations to all on fine work and well deserved recognition.

++ Message from the Fire Chief ++



Thanks for taking the time to read this edition of "Called to Duty." Our department has had a busy summer with training, community outreach, and emergency responses. Please use caution on our roadways as seasonal travel continues and be wary of safe grilling, fire pit, and chiminea usage. 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

Key Program Donates Olympic Flag to MFD in Honor of Regina Salmons



Thanks to our good friends at the Key Program for bringing this Olympic flag to our Central Station in honor of Methuen's Regina Salmons (pictured right). Salmons and her USA Women's 8 Rowing team qualified for the 2024 Olympic finals. The team ended up finishing in 5th place in a very competitive international field. Firefighter Joe Burke (pictured left) and our entire department send congratulations to Regina for proudly representing Methuen!

MFD Offers Gratitude to St. Ann's Home and School



Thank you so much to our good friends and partners at St. Ann's Home and School in Methuen. They were kind enough to bring lunch to us at our Central Station. Our firefighters truly enjoyed the feast and appreciate the gesture. We look forward to further collaboration with Saint Ann's and all of the great work they do in Methuen.

MFD Joins in 100th Birthday Celebration for Don Rousseau



Fire Chief Tim Sheehy joined Mayor Neil Perry and Police Chief Scott J. McNamara, along with several members of the Methuen Fire and Police Departments, to visit and pay tribute to Methuen resident Don Rousseau who turned 100 years old on July 10. A police and fire vehicle procession came to his home, and Mayor Perry presented Mr. Rousseau with a special greeting and birthday cake. Mr. Rousseau is a World War II Veteran and a true inspiration to all. It was a real treat for everyone to spend some quality time with him and his daughter Jeanine. We wish him the very best and celebrate his longevity, outlook on life, and service to our country.

Ryan Sullivan Promoted to MFD Lieutenant



July 3rd marked the last shift on the job as a firefighter for newly promoted MFD Lieutenant Ryan Sullivan. At our June Firefighter Sunday event, Sullivan was pinned as a Lieutenant by his father, Methuen Fire Department Deputy Chief Scott Sullivan. Pictured, Lieutenant David Broadhurst (right) congratulates the newly promoted Sullivan on his last day as a firefighter and welcomes him to the ranks of Lieutenant.

Methuen Fire Department Observes D-Day Anniversary



On June 6, the Methuen Fire Department took part in Methuen's acknowledgement of the 80th Anniversary of D-Day. A memorial service was held at the World War II monument adjacent to City Hall.

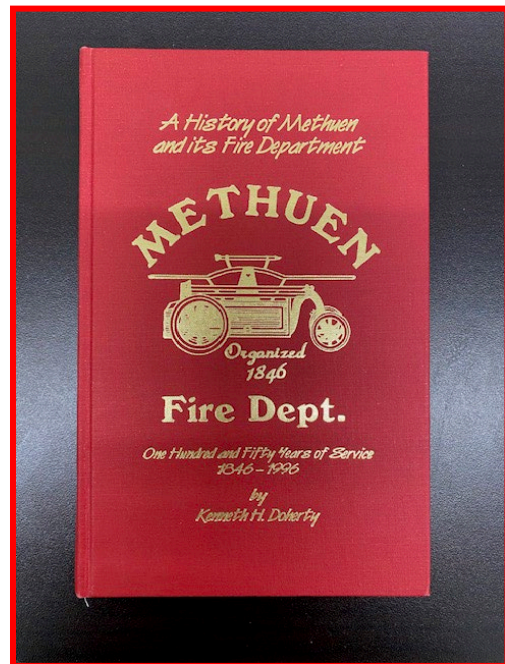
D-Day was truly a significant moment in the history of our nation. It is important that we remember the day and all of the brave soldiers who fought for our freedom. We shall always recollect and hold dear their valor and service.

Through the Fire, Through the Years

“Through the Fire, Through the Years” looks back at Methuen Fire Department history with a memory from 28 years ago.

Princess Diana and Prince Charles are officially divorced. Major League Soccer makes its debut in the United States with the San Jose Clash facing D.C. United

Nintendo releases their newest gaming system the Nintendo 64. The Summer Olympics are held in Atlanta and a Nail Bomb explodes in Centennial Olympic Park. The Dallas Cowboys win their third Super Bowl in four years, and some of the most popular films are *Independence Day*, *Twister*, *Mission: Impossible*, and *Jerry Maguire*.



Through the Fire, Through the Years goes back to 1996 and the publication of an important written history of our department.

A History of Methuen and its Fire Department: 150 years of Service 1846-1996 was written by now-retired Methuen Firefighter Kenneth H. Doherty (pictured above left) and published by Eagle Offset Printers in 1996. Doherty dedicated the book to former Methuen Fire Captain William S Quinn. In 1914, Quinn's father John was the first Methuen firefighter to lose his life while fighting a fire. The younger Quinn joined the MFD following his return from World War I. He held the position of Captain until his retirement in 1953 and remained active in Methuen until his passing.

Doherty's book provides an all-encompassing history of the Methuen Fire Department. The many photos in the book are from Doherty's personal collection as well as the Methuen Historical Museum, Fire Department, Historical Society, and other sources. Doherty's passion for the fire department comes through in every well-crafted word on the book's pages. From advances in equipment and personnel to detailed accounts of Methuen fires through the years, this book has become a valuable reference material for anyone interested in the history of our Fire Department and our city.

MFD Firefighter Memorial Sunday Tradition Continues

On June 9, the Methuen Fire Department renewed its annual Firefighter Sunday tradition. Family, friends, and local dignitaries joined members of our department in remembering dearly departed Methuen Firefighters and celebrating department promotions and our annual scholarship winners.

Deputy Chief Dan Donahue opened the event which was ably hosted by Chief Tim Sheehy. Lieutenant James Garrity sang the national anthem, while Captain Jeff Slattery, Lieutenant Tim Smith, and Firefighter John McCarthy read aloud the names of Methuen firefighters who have passed away. Firefighter Joe Burke rang our memorial bell in honor of the departed, and Retired Firefighter, author, and historian Ken Doherty offered a history of Firefighter Sunday. Deputy Chief Dave Toto gave the Firefighters Prayer, while Deputy Chief Scott Sullivan offered a prayer before breakfast. It was truly a day of remembrance and recognition.



MFD Wishes Firefighter Rick Tardif a Happy Retirement



Current and retired members of the Methuen Fire Department recently gathered to bid farewell and pay tribute to retiring Methuen Firefighter Rick Tardif (pictured left). We appreciate Rick's decades of service to our department and to the people of Methuen. He has always been a reliable and committed firefighter, and will be truly missed. We wish him the very best in retirement.

St. Monica's School Students Meet MFD at City Hall

It was a really great time as first grade students from St. Monica's School in Methuen visited City Hall on June 3.



The students had a fantastic experience talking with members of our Police and Fire Departments and getting a chance to check out police and fire vehicles.



All of the children were very well behaved and asked really great questions about being a police officer and firefighter. They also went inside City Hall and got a tour of city offices. Thanks so much to the good people of St. Monica's for this fun experience.

MFD Participates in Kiwanis Club Bike Rodeo



Members of our department really enjoyed participating in the recent Methuen Kiwanis Bike Rodeo event at the Loop. It was awesome to see the kids learn about bike safety and see one of our fire engines up close. Firefighter James Traverso, pictured above, was on site teaching kids in attendance about fire safety and our vehicles. This is always a great community event for youngsters in Methuen.

Methuen Fireworks Celebration Draws Huge Crowd



It was another spectacular night at the Methuen Fireworks Celebration on July 13. The Methuen Fire Department joined in the fun as a tremendous crowd gathered at the Loop. Those in attendance enjoyed music, games, kids attractions, and a host of amazing food trucks. The fireworks show was once again the best in the region!

MFD & CDC Offer Extreme Heat Safety Tips



Extreme heat is defined as summertime temperatures that are much hotter than average. In addition, humid and muggy conditions can make it seem hotter than temperatures indicate.

Heat related deaths and illnesses are very preventable. Despite this fact, approximately 1,220 people in the United States are killed by extreme heat every year.

The Methuen Fire Department strongly recommends that you stay informed and be conscientious and careful regarding high temperatures.

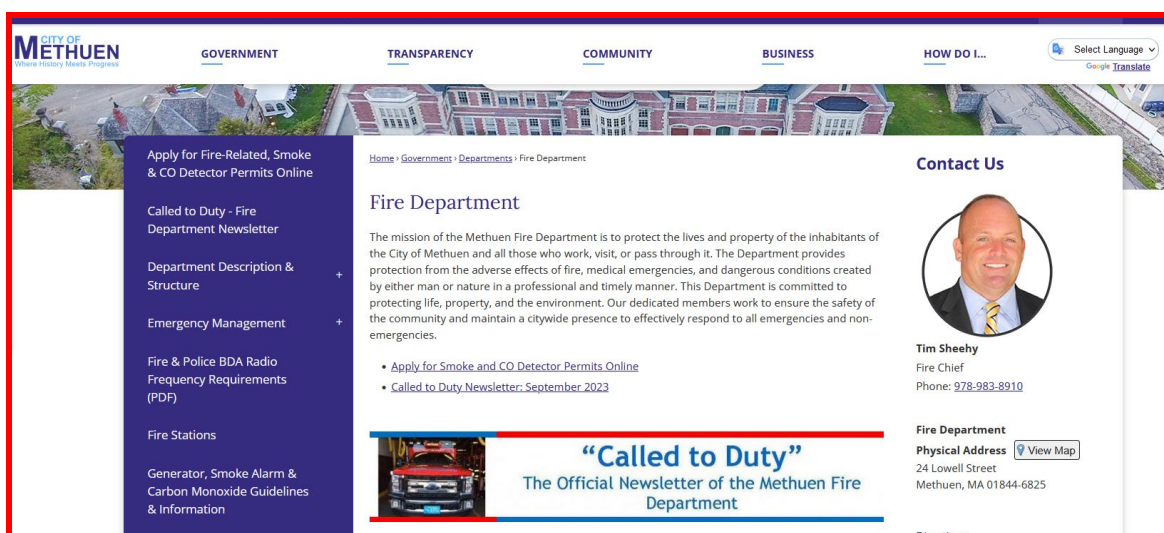
The following CDC web page provides helpful tips, information, and resources to help you stay safe in the extreme heat this summer. [Click Here for Extreme Heat Safety Tips](#)

Methuen Fire Department Observes National Night Out



The Methuen Fire Department was all over the City of Methuen in various neighborhoods on August 6 for the annual National Night Out event. It was great to see our firefighters interacting with families and giving youngsters a chance to meet them and check out our vehicles and equipment up close. Pictured above, Firefighter Mike Lussier, Lt. Ryan Fortune, and Firefighter Pat McKenna enjoy the evening with families on Glen Avenue. National Night Out brings our city together every year, and the Methuen Fire Department is pleased to be a part of it.

Methuen Fire Department on the Web & Social Media



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. Please include your name and email address. Thank You!