



"Called to Duty"

The Official Newsletter of the Methuen Fire Department

MAY 2024

Volume 7, Issue 4

MFD Links

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

It was another fun day at the annual Methuen Fishing Derby at Forest Lake. We had a wonderful crowd of families come out and enjoy the event. Pictured below at the event is Firefighter Cody MacInnis and his family.



As part of the event, Methuen Fire Chief Tim Sheehy re-dedicated the Forest Lake pavilion to Methuen Firefighter Shawn Danahy, who passed away last December, and to all of the victims of September 11, 2001. 2024 Awards: First Fish: Jack Giarrusso, Biggest Bass: Eli Ortega, Harper Benoit, Chase Minicucci, Most Fish: Harper Benoit, Biggest Trout and Biggest Overall: Joezias Taveras. Pictured below are Faith Danahy and Chief Sheehy.



++ Message from the Fire Chief ++



Thanks for taking the time to read this edition of "Called to Duty." Our department has been quite busy over the past few weeks with training, community outreach, and emergency responses. Please use caution on the roads as prom and graduation parties continue, and motorcycles return to our roadways. 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

MFD Remembers Sergeant Ian Taylor



Chief Tim Sheehy and the men and women of the Methuen Fire Department mourn the passing of Billerica Police Sergeant Ian Taylor who was killed in a tragic accident while working a police detail on April 26. We send prayers and condolences to the Taylor family.

MFD Offers Gratitude to TGI Friday's

Thanks to our friends at TGI Friday's for dropping off three platters of chicken wings, ribs, and mozzarella sticks to our Central Station as a thank you for all that our firefighters do. We truly appreciate your generosity.



Pictured above with TGI Friday's Staff are, left to right, Firefighters Matt Coco, Mike Bodenrader, Adam Marino, Colin West, and Eric Moreau.

MFD Participates in Flashover Training



Methuen firefighters recently took part in MA Department of Fire Services on-site flashover training. A flashover is a transitional phase that happens between the growth stage and the fully developed stage of a fire. During a flashover, all the objects within a space are heated to their ignition point and the entire space is consumed by fire.



The temperature range in a room when flashover occurs is somewhere between 900 and 1200 degrees F. The heat produced by flashover is not survivable for more than a few seconds, even when wearing full PPE and SCBA. Firefighters are faced with the possibility of a flashover at every fire. This is valuable training that will serve our firefighters and save lives. Pictured in action above are Firefighters Jamison Kattar (left) and James Traverso.

Methuen Fire Department at Old Navy Kids Safety Event



It was a pleasure for our firefighters to participate in the 14th Annual Kids Safety Event at Old Navy at the Loop on May 11. It is always great when the members of our department can interact with the community at such a fun-filled initiative. Thanks to our friends at Old Navy for including us and to TGI Friday's at the Loop for a terrific lunch. In the photo to the left above are Lieutenant Steve Moriarty and Firefighters Eric Manzi and Dave Eddy.



Through the Fire, Through the Years

“Through the Fire, Through the Years” looks back at Methuen Fire Department history with a memory from 35 years ago.

Sports Illustrated reports allegations tying Cincinnati Reds’ legend Pete Rose to baseball gambling. Rose was eventually banned from the game for life. The tanker Exxon Valdez runs aground dumping over 11 million gallons of oil into Alaska’s Prince William Sound.

On August 22, Nolan Ryan strikes out Rickey Henderson to become the first Major League Baseball pitcher to record 5,000 strikeouts. An earthquake measuring 7.1 on the Richter Scale rocks the San Francisco area during the World Series between the A’s and Giants, and the first episode of television series *The Simpsons* airs in the United States.



Through the Fire, Through the Years goes back to 1989 and a destructive fire at Forster Lumber.

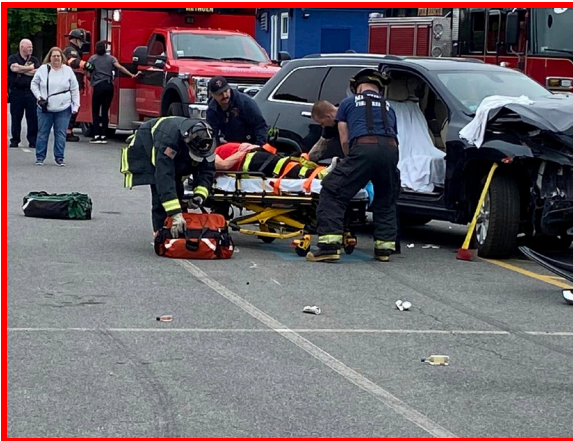
Methuen was once home to several thriving lumber businesses throughout the city. With time and the arrival of nearby large retail home center chains, these small businesses eventually became extinct. One of the last surviving lumber businesses in Methuen was Forster Lumber which was situated at 37 1/2 Oakland Ave. In 1989 several buildings on the property along with a large quantity of stock were destroyed in a widespread fire.

The accompanying photo is a view looking down from the Oakland Avenue entrance of the business. As the photo shows, the storage building on the left is fully engulfed in flames. Smaller buildings were also destroyed but amazingly, the office and retail areas did not suffer any significant damage. After the violent fire, Forster Lumber reopened but never fully recovered, eventually defeated by the larger businesses and a sluggish economy. The business closed its door for good in 1993. New England Outdoor Custom Built Structures now resides on the property.

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

MFD Participates in Methuen High School Mock Crash Event

On May 20, Methuen High School featured its annual Mock Crash dramatic presentation to show the dangers of drinking and driving to students. With prom, graduation, and celebration season upon us, the message sent by this dramatization is so crucial. It is a life-saving exercise that the high school showcases each year. Congratulations to the administration, faculty, and students who made this important event possible. Thanks also to Sheehan's Towing and Service Station, Dewhirst Boles Funeral Home, the DPW, and the Methuen Police for their involvement. We hope that every young person in Methuen will adhere to the message of being safe during this spring and summer season.



Spring Storms Bring Downed Power Line Danger



The Methuen Fire Department has already received several calls this season regarding downed power lines caused by 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.

MFD Urges Caution During Lawrence Street Construction



Now through October 4, 2024, please use caution when driving or walking in the Lawrence Street and Charles Street areas. The Roadway and Parking Improvement Project in these areas is underway.



Lawrence St. from Charles St. to the intersection with Park St., and Charles St. from the intersection with Broadway to Pleasant St. will experience traffic delays due to re-routing and temporary closures. Seeking alternate routes is recommended.

— *If your clothes are on fire,* —
stop | drop | roll

D-Day 80th Anniversary Memorial Service, June 6

Please join us in honoring our Veterans and heroes at this 80th Anniversary D-Day Memorial Service on Thursday, June 6 at Noon at the WWII Memorial adjacent to City Hall at 41 Pleasant Street.



nnouncement Memorial Service

To honor those who served in the D-Day landings on this the 80th anniversary.

June 6th, 12:00 noon



The **Service** will be held at the WWII Memorial adjacent to Methuen Town Hall, 41 Pleasant Street.

The **Public** is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Sponsored by the Methuen Republican Town Committee with the help of the Methuen VFW and American Legion.



methuenrepublicancommittee.org

Join us at the Methuen Police Officers' Memorial Ceremony

Chief Scott J. McNamara and the Methuen Police Department would like to cordially invite you to attend the Methuen Police Officers' Annual Memorial Ceremony, Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at 6:00 pm.

This event is held to honor the memory of all departed members of the Methuen Police Department, as well as all police officers who have lost their lives while serving in the line of duty within the Law Enforcement Community.

METHUEN POLICE MEMORIAL CEREMONY

HONORING MEMBERS OF THE PAST



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2024 AT 6:00 PM

Chief Scott J. McNamara and the Methuen Police Department cordially invite you to attend the Methuen Police Officers' Annual Memorial Service.

The Methuen Police Annual Memorial Service honors the memory of all deceased members of the Methuen Police Department and all police officers who have fallen in the line of duty throughout the Law Enforcement Community.



Follow @methuenpolice on social media



www.methuenpolice.com

Join the MFD at the Veterans Pig Roast and Cookout, June 23

Click Here to Register



VETERANS 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



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

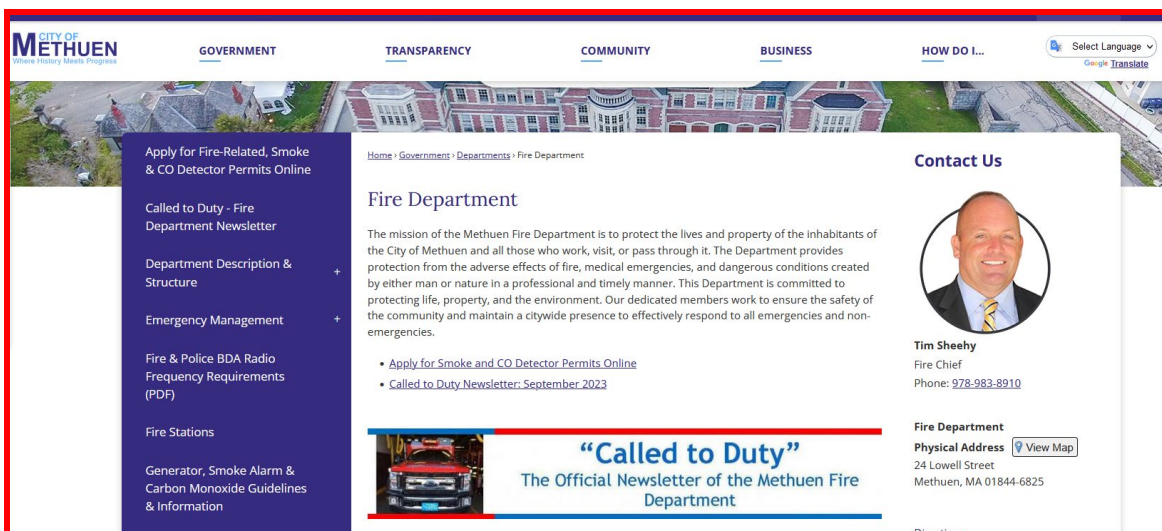
Free to all veterans and their families to honor your service and contributions to our community.

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.

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!