

THE METRO INSIDER...



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GRAND TRAVERSE METRO EMERGENCY SERVICES AUTHORITY

2012—2013 Firefighter Graduation ...



Congratulations to our latest crew for completing Firefighter I/II class.

Chase Schelling- Sta. 12, Jordan Rife- Sta. 11,
Matt Morrison- Sta. 8,
Jared Barber- Sta. 1,
Joseph Ruthkowski- Sta. 9

Remember the **FILE OF LIFE!**

The File of Life is a voluntary program designed to help local first responders obtain pertinent information quickly. Medical history, support needs, and emergency contacts, along with current medications and dosages are easily stored on the refrigerator door. The File of Life is a magnet with an attached red plastic pocket labeled "File of Life". In the plastic pocket is a tri-fold card on which vital emergency information can be recorded to help first responder's better assist.

We should all have them! However, the focus is on older adults... Especially those living alone. Please remember:

- Look for the File for Life if you are a first responder
- If you are a senior citizen consider obtaining a File for Life
- Keep the File for Life updated with current information and displayed on your fridge.

For more information on the File for Life, contact Metro's Fire & Life Safety Public Educator at 231.947.3000 ext. 1234 / mhawes@gtmetrofire.org or stop by one of these local agencies or businesses to pick up a free File for Life; Comfort Keepers, The Prescription Shops, Grand Traverse Area Commission on Aging, or any of our Metro fire stations.

FILE OF LIFE	
Name: _____	
Address: _____	
Doctor: _____	Phone#: _____
EMERGENCY CONTACTS	
Name: _____	Phone#: _____
Address: _____	
Name: _____	Phone#: _____
Address: _____	

Message from Chief Patrick J. Parker

What a crazy week it's been with the Boston Bombings, Ricin laced mail, shootings, torrential rain and flooding, followed by a huge fertilizer plant explosion taking out 4 city blocks. I'm sure there will be many valuable lessons learned from all of these events that we hopefully will never have to use.

I often find myself asking what if something like this happened in our area? Would we be prepared, how would we operate, could lives be spared due to our actions. The magnitude of these disasters have taxed even the largest departments let alone a small one like ours. Positive outcomes come from planning and training. We as a public safety community meet regularly to do just that: plan and train on an "all hazards" approach. Often the training is in the form of tabletop or functional exercises. All of which we have participated in. Could we handle something of the magnitude of what we have seen this week? Probably not on our own. But what we can do is through training and experiences make good initial decisions and lead a coordinated approach to the incident.

Unfortunately, we now live in a world where other people want to hurt our citizens. Since 9/11 the fire service has accepted the additional responsibilities of homeland security. Let's be ever vigilant of our surroundings. If you see something out of place or witness suspicious behavior and situations report that behavior or activity. Our citizens sleep well at night knowing we are there for them. Let's not let them down.

Until next time, BE SAFE!

Chief Parker



Message from The Fire Prevention Bureau...

Pursuant to the Fire Prevention Ordinance of Garfield, Acme and East Bay Townships and state law, all open burning of leaves, grass clippings, and yard waste is PROHIBITED.

Recreational fires meeting the following definition are not required to have a permit and may be conducted at any time weather permitting:

Recreational campfires. Defined as, a maximum size of **3 feet in circumference**, no higher than **2 feet of flame height**, and be a minimum of **25 feet** from any structure, adjoining property, or any potentially combustible items to which the fire could spread and be in constant attendance within a residential setting. Materials must be campfire type wood which does not produce noxious smoke and contained within a fire ring/pit.

The following fires are required to have a permit, full details are posted on our website:

Agricultural fires. Defined as the burning of farm tree stumps, trees, and branches.

Bonfires. Defined as ceremonial fires that may exceed 3 feet in circumference, have flame height greater than 2 feet, and be a minimum of 50 feet from any structure, adjoining property, or any potentially combustible items to which the fire could spread.

The burning of lumber, construction materials, or other manufactured products is PROHIBITED.

****All fires and permits are subject to be revoked and /or prohibited due to weather or smoke conditions and may be ordered extinguished by Grand Traverse Metro Fire Department personnel. All fires must be attended at all times and completely extinguished with water.

Information pertaining to restrictions and the permit process is available at www.gtmetrofire.org or by calling 231-947-3000 Monday-Friday 8am-5pm.

Message from Medical Director Dr. Stalsonburg...

REHAB

“Coming To A Scene Near You”

Objective: To ensure all firefighters who endure strenuous, physical activity at a working fire or live training are rehabilitated and medically evaluated for continued duty and before being released from the scene.

Annually, about half of the line of duty deaths are related to cardiovascular events. Most of these occur on the fire ground or immediately following an incident. Deaths have also occurred during live training exercises as well. Studies from 2007 to 2011 by the U.S. Fire Administration have shown that 46.5% of line of duty deaths were the result of myocardial infarctions. 29.7% occurred on duty, 17.2% occurred after an incident and 10.8% during training. As of this date, there have been 7 reported firefighter deaths across the country this year due to medical issues. These figures do not reflect the number of deaths as a result of injuries on the fire ground.

As all of you know, or should know, we have started a formal rehab program. It is still a work in progress, but it is coming together nicely. Guidelines and procedures have been established in accordance with NFPA 1500, 1583 and 1584. Our local medical control authority has protocols and procedures in place as well. These have been put in place for your well being and safety. Hopefully, we will be able to prevent any on scene or post incident fatalities. If you are asked to sit out for a while, there is a reason for this. We want everyone to return to their families and loved ones and enjoy a long life. Our goal is to ensure that you can perform your duties in a safe and efficient manner and most of all ~ “Omnis Cedo Domus”



**GRAND TRAVERSE METRO
EMERGENCY SERVICES AUTHORITY**

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Website: www.gtmetrofire.org

We are on the web!
WWW.GTMETROFIRE.ORG



Or Like us on Facebook...
Grand Traverse Metro Emergency Services Authority

Pancake Breakfast!

This years pancake breakfast is a joint venture of the Metro Fire Department and the East Bay Fire and Ambulance Association. We usually feed 1200-1400 of our citizens that day. We need help from all stations to pull this off. See Chief Parker, Lt. Scanlon, Lt. Francisco and Association President and Firefighter Tim Newton for a job. The proceeds go to the East Bay Ambulance to help purchase a new Stair Chair for 9-A and a hydraulic rescue tool for Metro Fire.

Hope to see you there!!!

COME 'N GET EM!
PANCAKES
ARE READY!

JOIN US SUNDAY
APRIL 28, 2013
8 AM TO 1 PM

East Bay Fire Rescue & Ambulance Association
& Grand Traverse Metro Fire invite you to an
ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Proceeds to purchase a Panasonic Touchbook Computer
for state-mandated electronic documentation for the ambulance

Adults: \$8 Kids 15 & under: \$3 3 & under: Free Family: \$30

G.T. METRO FIRE STATION 9
110 HIGH LAKE RD • TRAVERSE CITY