



Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS



www.tnfd.org

Week of 12/25/2009

Phone: 286-4781

Vision

SAFETY

PROFESSIONALISM

**CUSTOMER
SERVICE**

Mission

DELIVER:

EFFICIENT,

PROFESSIONAL,

HIGH QUALITY,

COST EFFECTIVE,

AND TIMELY

**FIRE
SUPPRESSION,**

RESCUE,

**EMERGENCY
MEDICAL
SERVICES,**

FIRE PREVENTION,

**PUBLIC SAFETY
EDUCATION, AND**

**CODE
ENFORCEMENT.**

Chief Carrier's e-mail:
21C1@metrocast.net

**MERRY CHRISTMAS,
HAPPY NEW YEAR,
SEASON'S GREETINGS,
HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

To

**ALL OF OUR
MEMBERS,
FAMILIES,
FRIENDS, and
ACQUAINTANCES**

PLEASE STAY SAFE!

Chief's Message

Happy Holidays

Certainly, Vickie, Ethan, and I want to wish all of you the very best this holiday season and for 2010!

Thanks to all of you who made our annual Christmas party a success. It was too bad that more of you couldn't be there, but we understand the demands of the season.

We have been lucky to avoid any major incidents leading into the Christmas season. There is nothing worse than seeing a family loose their home or a loved one around the holidays.

Did you hear about the stolen ambulance out of the LRGH parking lot? My first response was, "That is a phone call I hope I never get!" I would imagine that we can use this as a spring-

board to enhance our policies a bit and assure that we secure our vehicles as much as possible. We discussed it this morning and determined that even though we can lock our compartments and box doors, it is impractical to do so. We also can use this to assure that we design our next ambulance with electronic locks all around the vehicle. That would be much more practical. But, in the meantime, I would suggest that we remove the keys whenever we are not with the vehicle. It is a very simple step that won't allow anyone to jump in and drive off in one of our ambulances.

Captain Hall and FF Mercaldi spent a considerable amount of time reviewing 3 years worth of Fire Programs' incident reporting data. A discrepancy in total, annual call volume was discovered by the Northfield Fire Committee. After correcting town and census tract fields on over 700 reports, we believe the

problems have been rectified.

It has been below freezing now for over 1 week. Everything is ice covered with the exception of the big lakes—and they are starting. We need to begin to get into the ice rescue mindset. At the very least, we need to warn people to not go on any ice that they haven't tested properly. As far as I'm concerned, that means making your own hole in the ice and assuring that there is enough "good, black" ice to go out on. I like a minimum of 4". Others will say 6". This weather will make ice fast, but you just never know with currents, rocks, springs, and other variables that could effect ice thickness. One thing is for sure, you don't want to be in the water right now!

Seasons Greetings!!
Stay Safe and Healthy!!

Chief Carrier

UPCOMING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

December 28, 2009	0900 hrs	To Hell + Back, FF Training Chief Carrier Center Street
December 28, 2009	1800 hrs	EMS Continuing Ed David Rivers Center Street
December 29, 2009	0900 hrs	To Hell + Back, FF Training Chief Carrier Center Street
December 30, 2009	0900 hrs	To Hell + Back, FF Training Chief Carrier Center Street

That's All I've Got!

I guess we need to have a Training Committee Meeting. If anyone has suggestions for topics they'd like to have covered, please let me or one of the officers know.

Another reminder: Anyone and everyone is welcome to the shift trainings.

There are some good topics and even better information that is passed along at those sessions.

They are usually very laid back, so everyone should feel comfortable taking part. The information sharing is the best part!

KEEP TRAINING!!!

IT LOOKS LIKE CHOCHOLATE, SMELLS LIKE CHOCHOLATE, BUT IS IT REALLY CHOCHOLATE?

On Thursday, December 17, Shift 2 was toned to a Fire Alarm activation at the Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory located in unit # 2 of the Tanger Outlet Mall. We have been there multiple times in the past for Fire Alarm activations due to burnt chocolate. The employees melt copious amounts of chocolate in a large kettle located in the front corner of the business. At times, they become distracted dealing with customers, or fabricating one of their delicious treats. The chocolate in the kettle overheats, or spills, hitting the heating element causing a smoke condition. As Lt. Ames states “It is one of the sweetest smelling Fire Alarm Activations you will ever go to”.

On this day, we received an update from dispatch informing 21E3 that it may be an electrical fire and that a smoke condition was present. Automatics were started. Capt. Michaud formulated a strategic plan and decided to make entry via Sanborn Rd. and positioned 21E3 at the BC corner of the building. He then requested the next due engine to establish water supply at the pressurized hydrant across from J-Jill and to have the ladder set up in the rear of the building. The plan was set. ***COULD IT BE CHOCHOLATE?***

A smoke condition was present throughout the building and according to workers was banked down to head level. The store manager informed command that they were using the kettle, but was adamant that the smell was different. ***WAS IT A CHOCHOLATE SMELL?*** The interior crew entered the building and lifted a ceiling tile inspecting conditions overhead with nothing visible. They then investigated the entire building with no visible fire present. The activated device was identified. It appeared the smoke condition was dissipating throughout the building and there might have been an odor of burnt chocolate. ***COULD IT BE CHOCHOLATE?***

Command requested 21L1 to set up and have the crew of 7L1 to make roof access and inspect all HVAC units. The interior crew then did an extensive search of the store utilizing the TIC and the only significant heat source present in the building was the kettle. ***COULD IT BE CHOCHOLATE?*** They then began to follow the duct work in the ceiling, identifying that the vent for the kettle was dirty and may be clogged. ***IT’S HAS TO BE CHOCHOLATE.*** The roof team reported all clear to command and exited the roof. Command then restored the system and placed all units in service.

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WAS IT REALLY CHOCOLATE? Most likely, but like most fire alarms we go to we always have to determine a cause. I truly believe that we do an exceptional job when it comes to investigating smells and bells. The majority of times most alarms are usually nothing, but it only takes that one time to become complacent and have a huge mess on your hands. We have all heard stories about companies arriving on scene without their proper equipment, finding a fire and then having to run back to the engine. It could have been very easy for command to ***ASSUME*** that it was burnt chocolate, but then you know what they say about the word “***ASSUME***”.

Submitted by.
The Chocolate hater



