



Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS



www.tnfd.org

Week of 4/10/2009

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

Building Fire East Pleasant Street

On Tuesday, Tilton-Northfield units and an engine from Franklin responded to a report of smoke in the building with an explosion on East Pleasant Street. It was reported that the occupant had been smelling smoke for a few hours prior to the explosion, but did not think that it was abnormal since he had a wood stove in the home. Apparently, when he tired of smelling the smoke, he opened some windows, placed fans, and then went onto his porch to get some fresh air. A small explosion occurred and we were called.

E1 arrived to find smoke showing from the building. After investigation, a small fire was found in the basement. The fire involved a wood shelf/platform, and a plastic laundry basket filled with paint cans. The explosion was apparently the paint cans exploding from the heat, however; the explosion was forceful enough to take the basement door off its hinges!

A hoseline was stretched and the fire was quickly extinguished. The cause of the fire was from leaving a metal bucket full of wood stove ashes on a combustible surface. The owner reported that the stove had been cleaned out 2 days ago and the ashes were cold then.

This incident carried with it a few lessons:

- 1) Ashes are never cold. Put them in a metal bucket and remove them from the home to a safe place where they cannot spread and burn something.
- 2) Smoke detectors are essential. This home had no working smoke detectors. If the owner was not home, the house would have been lost. A smoke detector in the basement would have alerted the owner to the problem almost immediately.
- 3) You can't fit a fire engine between two concrete cement posts at an angle—it has to be pretty straight!
- 4) Sometimes, you just can't predict what you are going into to!

Chief's Message

How about a great big congratulations to “Chief” Brad Smith!?! Brad has spent his career in Franklin, most recently serving as Deputy Chief. He now has the confidence of the City Manager and the City Council to lead the department forward. Congratulations, Brad!

A successful boat operations class took place last weekend. We got some excellent press coverage in the Laconia Daily Sun. Front page! With a picture and everything!!

Everybody involved gave good reviews and Mike said that he saw improvement throughout the weekend. This was an important piece to the swift water puzzle. It is one thing to put people in the water, but when you involve a boat, the stakes rise a little. Of course, a motorized boat can make some parts of the mission much easier, and quicker, but there is a greater need to be much more careful and to have full control of the boat and motor.

Lt Ames got a chance to practice his boating skills earlier today when we recovered a Kayak from the river off of River Road. A fisherman had been in the river, earlier, and had attempted to anchor the kayak. The anchor rope became wrapped around the kayak and when the current tightened the

anchor rope, it twisted the kayak and overturned it.

The occupant was able to swim to shore and change out of his wet clothes and into dry, warming himself back up in his vehicle. He made a call to us to let us know what happened, but also looking for help in retrieving his kayak.

When we arrived, we found a kayak anchored in the middle of the river—upside down. The boat was launched, the kayak was retrieved, and none of his fishing gear was lost! Success!

C2F2 (Certified Career Fire Fighter) continues to be a big topic of discussion in and around the Fire Academy. I attended the NH Association of Fire Chiefs meeting last night where the issue was brought up and discussed at some length. A vote was taken and the Association took a stance to support the elimination of C2F2 and revert back to FF II as the minimum training standard for full time firefighters.

Of course, this is not the end. The Fire Standards and Training Commission actually holds the cards in this issue. They are hosting 2 public hearings. If you want to be heard, please attend one of them. If you can't attend but still have something to say, submit written comments to the Commission at the Fire Academy's address.

I spoke against eliminating the program. I feel the program

has tremendous value and has served our department and our new members very well. The program has been revisited many times now, ridding it of many things that continue to be brought up as “cons” of the program. I believe that with strong Academy staff oversight, careful instructor selection and evaluation; the program can, and should, survive.

I have difficulty with “dropping” a training program that almost everyone can admit has value. FF II will not prepare any firefighter to be a full-time firefighter. It will continue to teach firefighters to be minimally proficient in a very basic set of skills. Lost will be the ability for new firefighters to receive Driver/Operator, Firefighter Safety and Survival, Cultural Diversity, and other career firefighter training that they would have gotten in their first year of employment had C2F2 stayed.

Well, it is not gone yet. From here, we go to public hearings on May 7 at 1000 hrs and 1830 hrs at the NH Fire Academy. Then, on June 4, the final vote on the fate of C2F2 will be taken.

Nice weather is here—today.
A little snow tomorrow!
Happy Easter!

Chief Carrier

UPCOMING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

April 13, 2009	0900	Making the Stretch Chief Carrier Center Street
April 13, 2009	1800	Officer's Meeting Chief Carrier Center Street
April 14, 2009	0900	Making the Stretch Chief Carrier Center Street
April 15, 2009	0900	Making the Stretch Chief Carrier Center Street
April 20, 2009	0900	The Hard Way Chief Carrier Center Street
April 20, 2009	1800	Ropes Practical Captain Hall Park Street
April 21, 2009	0900	The Hard Way Chief Carrier Center Street
April 22, 2009	0900	The Hard Way Chief Carrier Center Street
April 23, 2009	1800	TNFD Commission Meeting Commissioners Tilton School

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Please Submit Stories and/or Pictures to avoid
pages like this in the Future!!!

Preparing for a Task force or Strike Team Detail

By Steve Smith

Each crew member should be prepared to stay more than one night. In extreme situations an assignment could last for fourteen days. Depending on the nature of the emergency, plan to pack gear for that specific emergency. For a forest fire bring wild-land firefighting gear. If you're responding to a flood, bring your bag of swiftwater gear and your personal gear. Try to keep your structural gear in a separate bag from personal items to avoid contamination. Bring your identification Drivers License and Department Accountability Tag. Have a list of your certifications, example: helicopter pilot ,dozer operator. Bring some money and or a credit card, a minimum of \$50.00.

Keep your personal bag ready. It will make it a lot easier to mobilize. Here is a list of items that you may want to bring. Have fun and be safe.

Fire Gear Bag

Helmet	Boots	Turnout coat
Gloves	Bunker Pants	

Personal Gear Bag

2 pair of pants	
T-shirts	Compass
Socks	Personal First Aid Kit
Underwear	Emergency Blanket
Jacket, Coat, Sweatshirt, cap, hat	Toilet Paper
Rain gear	Babywipes
	Sneakers
Bath towel	Sunglasses
Toilet kit	Camera
Belt	Waterbottle
Personal medications	Gameboy or book
Extra glasses	Charger for cell phone
Pocket notebook and pen	
Tent	
Sleeping bag or liner	
Headlamp or flashlight	
Energy bars	
Leatherman	
String or cord	