



EMS & FIRE CONNECTION



October 2023 Edition

Board of County Commissioners Proclaims Oct. 8-14 Fire Prevention Week



HIGHLIGHTS

Fire Prevention Week, a nationally recognized observance, takes place every October, and this year, it spans from October 8th to the 14th, focusing on the essential theme: "Cooking Safety Starts With You. Pay Attention to Fire Prevention ." With the fall season officially underway, it's a timely reminder to prioritize fire prevention.

Did you know that cooking stands as the primary cause of home fires and home fire injuries? This alarming statistic underscores the importance of adopting simple yet effective safety measures to safeguard yourself and your loved ones while in the kitchen.

Throughout the month of October, our dedicated First Responders are actively engaged in outreach and educational initiatives, diligently working to empower communities with vital fire prevention knowledge. These initiatives are designed to ensure that every individual is equipped with the tools and know-how to mitigate fire risks.

For a steady stream of valuable fire safety insights, make sure to keep a watchful eye on your local Fire Agency's Facebook page. They will be sharing a wealth of tips and information throughout October, guiding you not only through Fire Prevention Week but also as we approach the holiday season, where the risks of fire incidents tend to increase. Your active involvement in these initiatives can make a significant difference in preventing fires and ensuring a safe and enjoyable time in your home and community.

2023 FIRE PROFESSIONALS OF THE YEAR

At the September meeting, the **Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners** named the recipients of the *2023 Fire Professional of the Year* awards in recognition of Fire Prevention Week in Pinellas County.

These awards are given to first responders that go above and beyond the call of duty when providing professional fire services to the community and to the members of the fire service.

Congratulations



Fire Professional of the Year

Chief Higley has been in the fire service for 18 years. In 2022 he was promoted to Assistant Chief and Fire Marshal with Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue. With his wealth of experience and contributions, we proudly recognize Doug Higley as the **2023 Fire Professional of the Year**.



Emergency Fire Dispatcher of the Year

Rich King recently joined Pinellas County Regional 911 as a capstone to his extensive career. He was a Fire Medic with Seminole Fire Rescue for 17 years and served as a Paramedic with Sunstar for 24 years. With his wealth of experience and contributions, we proudly recognize Rich King as the **2023 Emergency Fire Dispatcher of the Year**.

2023 FIRE PROFESSIONALS OF THE YEAR

Congratulations



Special Operations Professional of the Year

Lt. Ryan Mitchell has been with Pinellas Park Fire Department for 21 years. He is the lead instructor for the Pinellas County Technical Rescue Team. With his wealth of experience and contributions, we proudly recognize Ryan Mitchell as the **2023 Special Operations Professional of the Year**.




We extend our heartfelt appreciation to Pinellas Federal Credit Union for their unwavering commitment to the 2023 Fire Professionals of the Year, championing the cause of our deserving winners.



MEDICAL CONTROL DIRECTIVE 2023-19

DATE: September 20, 2023

TO: Pinellas County EMS Agencies
Pinellas County Emergency Communications
Pinellas County Certified EMTs and Paramedics
Pinellas County Certified Advanced Practice Paramedics, Nurses
Pinellas County Online Medical Control Physicians
Pinellas County Ambulance Billing and Financial Services
ED Nurse Managers

FROM: Dr. Angus Jameson, EMS Medical Director 

RE: ImageTrend License Management System (LMS) Implementation

DISTRIBUTION/TRAINING PERIOD: September 20th - 27th

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 27, 2023

- Effective September 27, 2023, Pinellas County EMS will begin its transition to the License Management System (LMS) as part of the overall migration to the ImageTrend software package.
- Forms published in the Pinellas County EMS Medical Operations Manual, Volume 2 Administrative, **Protocol AD-23 Pinellas County EMS Clinical Certification Forms** are no longer to be used in accordance with the migration timeline below.
- EMS Coordinators should migrate to the LMS for processing applications according to the following timeline:

New Clinicians

- 9/27/23: Begin using LMS for new Provisional EMTs and Paramedics
- 10/1/23: Begin using LMS for new Provisional RNs

Existing Clinicians

- Begin entering all existing certified system clinicians (EMT, Paramedic, RN) if not already underway.
- 10/13/23: Complete LMS entry for all existing certified system clinicians (EMT, Paramedic, RN).
- 10/31/23: Complete reconciliation/migration of applications for all existing provisional clinicians (EMT, Paramedic, RN).

Distribution:

- EMSChiefs e-mail distribution group
- Pinellas County EMS Office of the Medical Director Webpage www.pcemsomd.com

EMS/Fire Workforce Workshop



Craig Hare would like to express his heartfelt gratitude to all who attended the EMS/Fire Workforce Sustainability Workshop in September. This event marked an important first step, providing valuable insights into a critical issue. By uniting diverse perspectives and backgrounds, we have gathered a wealth of information that will serve as a guide for Craig, his team, and upcoming working groups.

In summary:

The workshop was a resounding success, emphasizing the crucial need to support the Fire/EMS workforce, especially in initial training and recruitment.

We've identified the urgency of this issue and ranked potential solutions through a structured voting process.

The top three priorities are:

1. Establishing a County Fire/EMS Academy and Cadet Program.
2. Creating a Navigator Website and Program Coordination for countywide recruitment in all Fire/EMS Agencies.
3. Addressing affordable housing for Fire/EMS Personnel.

Our next steps include forming dedicated working groups, sharing periodic updates, and presenting our findings to influential county groups.

We thank all participants and encourage continued dialogue, interaction, and idea sharing with Craig Hare. Together, we can make a difference.

2023 Mission Lifeline Award from the American Heart Association.



2023 Mission: Lifeline® EMS Recognition

The American Heart Association proudly recognizes

Sunstar Paramedics Largo, FL

Mission: Lifeline®-EMS – GOLD with Target: Heart Attack Honor Roll
Achievement Award

The American Heart Association/American Stroke Association recognizes this prehospital provider organization for demonstrating continued success in using the **Mission Lifeline®** program.

Thank you for applying the most up-to-date evidence-based treatment guidelines to improve patient care and outcomes in the community you serve.*



Nancy Brown
Chief Executive Officer
American Heart Association

Michelle A. Albert, MD, MPH, FACC, FAHA
President
American Heart Association

*For more information, please visit Heart.org/MissionLifeline

Special thanks to Jazmin Soloman, Sunstar’s Director of Clinical Services for all of her work on this with her team and our Hospitals.



Pinellas Regional 9-1-1 Introduces Online Portal for Requesting 9-1-1 Records

Pinellas Regional 9-1-1 is proud to announce a significant advancement in our service offerings. We are thrilled to introduce our brand-new online portal, specially designed to facilitate the request and retrieval of 9-1-1 calls and CAD (Computer-Aided Dispatch) notes. This exciting development brings convenience, efficiency, and accessibility to the forefront, making essential information readily available at your fingertips.

But why would someone need access to 9-1-1 records? The answer is simple—these records can be crucial in a variety of situations. Whether you're a legal professional preparing for a case, a concerned citizen seeking closure or information on a specific incident, or a first responder in need of accurate data for further analysis, our online portal provides an indispensable resource.

The process is straightforward. Once uploaded by our meticulous Records Technicians, you can easily retrieve these vital records electronically. This user-friendly platform ensures that you have the information you require when you need it most. At Pinellas Regional 9-1-1, our commitment to serving the community extends beyond emergency response; it includes providing the tools you need for informed decision-making and peace of mind.



Or go to <https://pinellas.gov/public-records/>





Safety & Emergency Services Employee Recognition Awards



SEPTEMBER 2023

Congratulations

EMS & Fire

Behind the Scenes - David Hudak

Regional 9-1-1

Outstanding Service - Joseph Brownlee-Carpenter

Skilled Craftsman - Becca Karrenbauer

Leadership Award - Nicole McKeigue

Financial Services

Star Award - Krishna Gandhi

Stellar Performance - Melissa Mustain

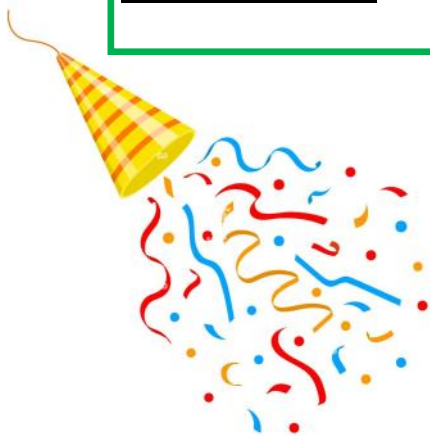
Team MVP - Christina Bowen

Behind the Scenes - Adya Kearney

Support Services

Stellar Performance - Bob Crandall

Team MVP - Morgan Pyle



Please consider nominating someone for October's Employee Recognition Awards for Regional 9-1-1, Fire and EMS Admin, Support Services and Financial Services



Around The County



East Lake Fire Rescue Announces Three New Hires

East Lake Fire Rescue is proud to announce the addition of three new Firefighters: Sean Buell, Owen Humphreys and Austin Nolasco.

Sean Buell was born and raised in Pinellas County. He completed the Fire Academy at SPC, and received his EMT, and Paramedic certifications there as well. Sean has spent the past 3 years working as a Firefighter/Paramedic at the Safety Harbor FD. In his spare time, he enjoys kite surfing, playing tennis, and spending time with his family & friends. Sean looks forward to serving and protecting the East Lake community.

Firefighter/Paramedic Owen Humphreys was born and raised in Tucson Arizona. Owen has been working in the Pinellas County EMS and Fire system since 2019. Owen enjoys spending time with friends and family on his days off. Owen is excited to start his new career with East Lake Fire Rescue.

Austin Nolasco was born and raised in Miami Florida. He attended Miami Dade college fire academy. Before working at East Lake as a Firefighter/EMT he worked as an EMT at AMR, an ambulance company in Miami. Austin is very excited to start his career at East Lake and to serve and protect this wonderful community of East Lake Fire District.



Around The County

Congratulations



Please help East Lake Fire Rescue congratulate FF Buell, FF Humphreys and FF Nolasco on completing their Orientation Training! During their 2 week orientation period, their new hires obtained an overview of Administrative Operations, RIT Operations, Engine, Squad, Brush Truck and Water Truck Operations, WET Operations, and they completed ride-along with our on-duty firefighters at station 56, 57 and 58.



Around The County



Congratulations



Congratulations to Seminole Fire Rescue's inaugural Acting Lieutenant Academy. This group went through an intense week of training on leadership, culture, expectations, safety, size-ups, tactical decision making, company functions and responsibilities, risk assessment and a litany of other important topics. The week concluded with both didactic and practical testing that challenged each student. Well Done!

Pictured: Firemedic Oliveras, Firemedic McCormick, Firemedic MacDougall, Firefighter Wager, Firefighter M. Rogers, Firemedic Zook, Firemedic Cochran

Lead instrcutors: Training Chief Newton, Lieutenant Rodriguez



Around The County

Congratulations



On September 18th Firefighter/Paramedic Tricarico and Firefighter/EMT Atwater received the Pinellas County EMS and Fire Administration Certificate of Commendation. On June 21, 2023 they were assigned to Rescue 17. They responded to an EMS call where they had to adapt and overcome some obstacles in addition to a surprise second patient. This call had a positive outcome for both patients.



Around The County

Congratulations



Please Join in congratulating District Chief, Tom Grear with Palm Harbor Fire Rescue on his retirement after 35 years of service. Chief Grear started as a volunteer Firefighter with PHFR then known as the Ozona, Palm Harbor, Crystal Beach (OPC) Fire Department at just 19 years old. He was best known for his work done on the apparatus committee and as an instructor at the SPC College Fire Academy, training new firefighters. Tom was promoted to Lieutenant in 2007 and then to District Chief B-shift in 2016. In 2007 he was awarded Employee of the Year and in 2021 received the Fire Chief's Award. Chief Grear's tenure brought him some of the worst calls, and his crews lovingly nicknamed him for those responses. Tom, your presence, and expertise will be sorely missed but your retirement is more than well deserved.

Congratulations!!!

Around the Community

Many thanks to Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue for their engaging presentation to the young students of Oakhurst Elementary School, including Pre-K, VPK, and Kindergarten. The children were truly captivated as they witnessed a firefighter don his protective gear, complete with mask and all, while learning about the vital importance of fire prevention.



Around the Community

September 29th was a very special day for St. Petersburg Fire Rescue. Firefighters and Sparky the Fire Dog got the opportunity to visit the extraordinary children at Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital, making for a truly memorable experience for all!



Around the Community



FALL PREVENTION EVENT

A tremendous THANK YOU to everyone who came out to the Senior Center on September 27th for the Pinellas Park Fire Department CARES Fall Safety Carnival! They sincerely appreciate their volunteers and staff helping with the games and activities, and are most grateful to the many organizations that provided valuable information to our senior community. If you missed the event and want more information about our CARES program, check out our website at <https://www.pinellas-park.com/1865/CARES-Program> or call 727-369-5786 to speak with our CARES Coordinator.



Operation Restore



Representing Pinellas County, the dedicated individuals from the Madeira Beach Fire Department, Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, Sunstar and Largo Fire Rescue came together to attend The Franciscan Center's annual First Responder Luncheon in September.

The Center hosts this event as a thank you to first responders for their service and dedication to our communities and the Center.

On this day, September 28th, attendees celebrated a milestone anniversary of the Operation Restore program that has been serving to support and heal first responders and military personnel who have endured cumulative or an incidence of trauma in the course of service to our communities.

Over 425 men and women have benefited from the intensive pastoral, spiritual, mental health and personal wellness training offered by Operation Restore. Sr. Anne Dougherty, and Rev. Rick Malivuk along with many others have worked to continue this incredible program for these 10 years.

MBFD was also able to make a check presentation to the Franciscan Center on behalf of the Holiday Isles Elks Lodge 1912, Madeira Beach. The funds were raised during the Lodge's Poker Run held in August.

In addition to this donation, all proceeds from Madeira Beach Fire Department's Legends Never Die 5K will also be given to the Franciscan Center. The race is this Sunday, October 22 in Madeira Beach.

Upcoming

Pinellas Suncoast Fire and Rescue District



Is proud to present:

In Honor of The Charleston 9: A Study of Change Following Tragedy

By: Dr. David Griffin



On June 18, 2007, nine firefighters perished in a warehouse fire in Charleston, SC. What was initially dispatched as a trash fire escalated into one of the most scrutinized events in national fire service history. David had the unfortunate experience of being the engineer on the first due engine that day. As he operated on the fireground, he witnessed things that he will never forget.

This seminar will present:

- First-hand accounts of that day.
 - Never before seen video footage with radio traffic.
 - Initial resistance to the changes following the tragedy.
- The heavy toll that this catastrophic event took on David's life.
 - The incredible changes that he and the CFD have made.
- Dr. Griffin's scientific research regarding the change process following this event.
 - Details from the coinciding Best Selling Book, *In Honor of The Charleston 9: A Study of Change Following Tragedy*.

When: Friday October 27th, 2023
Location: Calvary Episcopal Auditorium
 1615 1st Street, Indian Rocks Beach, FL, 33785
Times: Two sessions: 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. or 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Tickets: \$50 each, or 10 tickets for \$450
 To purchase: Please email Khampton@psfrd.org



Upcoming

Trick or Treat HALLOWEEN BASH

 October 21, 10am — 1pm  
TARPON SPRINGS SPORTS COMPLEX
150 Jasmine Avenue

Join us for a safe alternative to trick or treating
Children go from booth to booth to get Halloween treats



Bounce Houses

Concessions

Crafts
and more!


FREE!



TARPON SPRINGS RECREATION

727-942-5628

Upcoming

East Lake Fire Rescue 50th Anniversary Celebration-Open House Event

You are cordially invited to East Lake Fire Rescue's 50th Anniversary Celebration and Open House event on October 28th, 2023, from 10AM to 12PM. This family friendly event will include a Halloween costume contest, games, free face painting, touch-a-truck, free bounce house, free bike helmets (while supplies last), station tours, free food, giveaways and more!

Join us as we celebrate 50 Years of Service along with Fire Prevention Month! For more information, check out the East Lake Fire Rescue Facebook page or www.elfr.org



EAST LAKE FIRE RESCUE
 50th Anniversary
 Celebration



10.28.23
 3375 Tarpon Lake Blvd., Palm Harbor
 10AM to 12PM

**FACE PAINTING ● TOUCH-A-TRUCK ● BOUNCE HOUSE
 GAMES ● HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST ● GIVEAWAYS**

Upcoming



Pediatric Emergencies... and sometimes Surgery!

All Children's Hospital will host a quarterly seminar discussing the most common pediatric emergencies which may require transfer for further evaluation and surgical management.



Listen to experts review best practice for pediatric emergencies



Discuss the timeliness of diagnostic exams and management prior to transfer



Join us in developing a continuous dialogue on improving care for the region's pediatric population

Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital

Surgical Performance Improvement & Patient Safety (SPIPS)

Register for one or the series to add them to your calendar, use the QR Code below.



1 PEDIATRIC CAT1 CME/CNE

Surgical Performance Improvement & Patient Safety

Surgeon Champion
Nicole Chandler

Program Manager
Alex Willoughby

Dept of Surgery

501 6th Ave South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701
P 727-767-8724
HopkinsAllChildrens.org

JHACH—Pediatric Presentations / Dates

- Pediatric Neurosurgery – August 10th, 2023 / 4-5pm
- Pediatric Trauma Patient – November 2nd, 2023 / 4-5pm
- Pediatric Volvulus/Intussusception – Feb 1st, 2024 / 4-5pm
- Pediatric Concussion Injuries – May 2nd, 2024 / 4-5pm

COME AND SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCES, YOUR COMMON PRACTICE, AND ASK QUESTIONS – OUR GOAL IS TO IMPROVE CARE OF THE PEDIATRIC PATIENT WITHIN THE TAMPA BAY REGION.



Upcoming

MADEIRA BEACH FIRE DEPARTMENT
**LEGENDS
 NEVER DIE 5K**
 PTSD | MENTAL HEALTH
 SUICIDE PREVENTION



Find us on [Runsignup.com](https://www.runsignup.com)
 Questions? Call MBFD 727.391.3400

**FIRST RESPONDERS
 ACTIVE MILITARY & VETERANS**

OCTOBER 22, 2023

9:00 AM ARCHIBALD BEACH PARK

15100 Gulf Blvd, Madeira Beach, FL 33708

Kids 12 & Under Are FREE

Early Registration (Race Tshirt Included)

June 1 - September 11 \$35

Regular Registration

September 12th - 30th \$35

Late Registration

October 1st - 20th \$40

PROCEEDS WILL BE DONATED TO THE FRANCISCAN CENTER'S OPERATION RESTORE. THE FIRST RESPONDERS POST TRAUMA TRAINING CREATES A SAFE, CONFIDENTIAL ENVIRONMENT FOR INDIVIDUALS TO WORK THROUGH THEIR MOST CRITICAL INCIDENTS AND PROCESS THE CUMULATIVE STRESS OF RISKING THEIR LIVES THROUGHOUT THEIR CAREER.

Since 2021, **Madeira Beach Fire Department** has hosted Legends Never Die 5K. Our mission for this event is to bring awareness to mental health, PTSD and suicide in first responders, veterans, active military personnel and their families.

We all have a role to play in listening, connecting and reaching out to those who may be struggling with challenges. By talking about mental health and suicide, it not only helps reduce stigma and increase awareness, but it also has the potential to save a life.

Join us on October 22, 2023 as we honor those that have lost the battle to traumatic stress, and show support for those who are currently battling and those who have survived the battle. We will stand together to advocate for education, resources and treatment for mental health for first responders and military/veterans.

INVISIBLE WOUNDS ARE THE HARDEST TO HEAL



Announcing!

Pinellas County Animal Services has many amazing dogs and cats that need loving homes! These are just a few of them looking for their fur-ever homes! Please consider adopting one of these wonderful animals or spread the word to anyone who is looking to add a furry member to their family! For more info on these animals, visit <https://pinellas.gov/adoption-center-dog-cat-adoptions/>



ATLAS



MARS



ALBANY



CHUCK



REGGIE



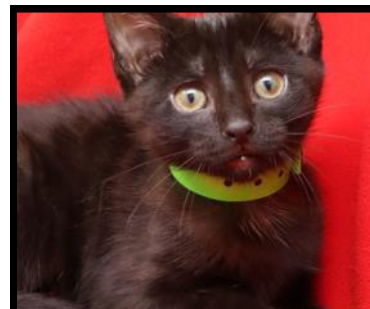
BALTIMORE



BRUNO



DIOR



HOLIDAY

PINELLAS COUNTY, FL

Free First Friday Breakfast

NOVEMBER 3RD

8-10AM

2023

Active duty & Retired: Fire-EMS-LEO-Dispatch



**35000 US Hwy 19 N
Palm Harbor, FL 34684**



**2626 Gulf to Bay Blvd,
Clearwater, FL 33759**



**1170 Starkey Rd,
Largo, FL 33771**



Rotary
Club of Tarpon Springs



"Create Hope in the World"- "Together, We Can Make an Impact"

**All Pinellas & Pasco County Breakfasts are sponsored by Rotary Clubs District 6950
www.tarponspringsrotary.com**

#D6950Strong

PASCO COUNTY, FL

Free First Friday Breakfast

NOVEMBER 3RD

8-10AM

2023

Active duty & Retired: Fire-EMS-LEO-Dispatch



**10740 SR-54
Trinity, FL 34655**



Rotary
Club of Tarpon Springs



"Create Hope in the World"- "Together, We Can Make an Impact"

All Pinellas & Pasco County Breakfasts are sponsored by Rotary Clubs District 6950

www.tarponspringsrotary.com

#D6950Strong