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Talk of the Township

Summer 2014
Volume 40

Trustees: **John McGraw** ♦ **Lloyd Acres** ♦ **Matthew Beamer**
Fiscal Officer: **Ron Campbell**

Get to know your Fire Department

When you drive past any of the five Union Township fire stations on your way home from work in the evening, do you have visions of pots of chili on the stove and a bunch of guys watching old Andy Griffith reruns?

Perish the thought, because the fire and emergency medical services organization of 2014 is not your grandmother's fire service.

Today, the 54 full-time members of the Union Township Fire Department are highly skilled, continually trained fire fighting and emergency medical service professionals, who are supported by one administrative assistant.

Before the North Union Township Fire Department Inc. and the Withamsville Volunteer Fire Department Inc. formed in 1990 to create the department that exists today, with rare exception, the non-profit agencies were staffed predominantly by part-time volunteers. As such, they provided fire and basic EMT services.

Chief Stan Deimling said the fact that today's department is accredited by the Commission on Fire Accreditation International is testament to the fact that, in every area, the department is proficient in the many standards set by the CFAI.

"Not only do we have in-house quality assurance standards that we meet or exceed, but this independent outside agency objectively evaluates the levels of service," Deimling said, "and this leader in the industry has determined that we provide the very best level of service possible to Union Township."

What does that service entail? Probably a lot more than you think.

Each member of the department participates in fire and emergency medical services, rescue, public education and fire prevention, among many other duties. From the minute a crew's shift begins at 7 a.m. until it ends 24 hours later, if that crew is not responding to a fire or medical emergency, its members are busy with a myriad of other tasks.

A DAY IN THE LIFE

Every shift begins with roll call and briefing, vehicle apparatus check, and inventory and gear inspections.

From there, in between calls for service, every shift crew manages unit checks, cleaning and maintenance, training, inspec-

tions, hydrant inspection and maintenance, and public education details.

Since all five stations are homes, of a sort, cleaning and maintenance of the buildings, as well as the grounds, are part of the job.

Training data entry, records and development are part of the work day, as are fire investigation reports and staff projects.

This list is by no means complete.

"Although not every one does all these duties, certainly every one is managing multiple tasks at all times," Deimling said.

Assistant Chief Mark Fyffe points out that while, as a rule, crews are not out on fire or EMS runs all day long, all the ancillary functions and skillsets support the mission of the Fire Department, which reads, in part:

"... to promote the protection of lives, property and the environment through prevention, education, timely response, mitigation and the actions of highly trained, dedicated and motivated personnel."

TRAINING

Deimling said that both fire fighting and emergency medical services have evolved through the years, particularly in the late 1970s and 1980s. Numerous certifications are required at the state level, and those certifications must be renewed with continuing education on a regular basis.

On the fire side, all personnel are certified as Firefighter II, which requires recertification. All personnel are also certified as fire safety inspectors, who annually go into every business and multi-family dwelling in the township to check that all fire safety regulations are being met. And all are certified in hazardous materials handling and response.

Some firefighters are certified as car seat technicians. Other certifications held by members of the agency are as fire investigator (trained in ascertaining the origin and cause of fire and/or arson); water rescue; BERT (Basic Emergency Rescue Technician); and cold water rescue.

On the paramedic side, the township is guided by a medical director, who reviews a percentage of all cases. For quality assurance, all cases are reviewed in-house. The UTPD operates

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U.T.P.D. Honor Guard—a thing of honor



In November, 2005, the Union Township Police Department Honor Guard was formed to promote the professional image of the agency and show the department's

support for fallen police officers, military veterans and government dignitaries. In the nine years since its inception, this elite group has lived up to its mission and garnered some pretty prestigious awards along the way.

In 2008, the Honor Guard was awarded the Union Township *Salute to Leaders* award and received letters of appreciation from U.S. Representative Jean Schmidt and State Representative Danny Bubp.

In 2010, the Honor Guard placed second in the inspection phase of the National Honor Guard competition in Washington D.C., finishing fifth in the nation overall.

And in 2012, the group finished fourth in the Fraternal Order of Police competition during Peace Officers Memorial Day observance in our nation's capital. They were also given the Chief Judge's Award, given to the team the judges feel competed at the highest level, with the best performance in the routine phase of the competition.

"They set the tone for uniformity and professionalism," said Sergeant Mike White, who directs the group. "We were the only Ohio department, and by far the smallest agency, to compete in this event. We out-performed much larger agencies."

White said that award was especially poignant because the Honor Guard dedicated their routine to the memory of Sergeant Brian Dulle, a Warren County Sheriff's Office deputy who was struck and killed by a suspect's vehicle May 12, 2011. The fallen officer's wife and children attended the event.

"I have always been impressed with the amount of time and dedication the Honor Guard puts into their work," said Lieutenant Scott Gaviglia, commander of the Operations Bureau.

Gaviglia noted that, for many departments, being in the Honor Guard is a full-time job. But at the Union Township Police Department, the team is entirely voluntary.

"Being part of the Honor Guard is just one of the many ancillary duties these officers volunteer for," Gaviglia said. "And they devote many, many hours to practice."

The Honor Guard currently has eight members, two of whom are former marines, one was in the Army, and one in the Air Force.

They have participated in dozens of community events, from holiday parades to presenting the colors at Cincinnati Reds' and Cincinnati Bengals' games.

This year, among other requests, they have already presented the colors at the Vietnam Veterans of America, Ohio Chapter Conference, the annual Clermont County Citizens Law Enforcement Association Police Appreciation Banquet, and Memorial Day events.



CONGRATULATIONS!

At the 31st Annual Clermont County Law Enforcement Banquet May 15, Union Township's men in blue were the recipients of 10 of the 20 Excellent Service Awards given. Congratulations to, from left to right: Officer Brian Milne, Officer Ken Mullis, Detective Todd Taylor, Sergeant Jeff Brown, Officer Tony Metzger, Detective John Pavia, Officer Chris Wilson, Sergeant Tony Rees, Officer Rick Williams, and Officer Mark Stephens.

Your Fire Department

Continued from page 1

under the auspices of the Greater Cincinnati Academy of Medicine and follows its protocols.

Again, like all other certifications, recertification is required.

"Our paramedics participate in hundreds of hours of training each year," Fyffe said.

PREVENTION AND EDUCATION

The department is proactive in the area of fire prevention and education.

Each year, firefighter/paramedics perform car seat inspections and provide C.P.R. and A.E.D. training to local businesses and Glen Este High School students.

Each crew adopts a school, where they have an active presence to foster familiarity between staff and children and firefighters, and also to develop a familiarity with the buildings, should an emergency ever arise.

U.T.F.D. works with local businesses to install and maintain A.E.D.s. The department continues to provide monthly training checks for the devices.

In 2013, the department conducted 1,558 business fire safety inspections in accordance with the Ohio Fire Code. In conjunction with the Clermont County Building Inspection Department, dozens of inspections were conducted and 249 sets of building plans were reviewed, providing a proactive pre-occupancy approach to code compliance.

When you call 9-1-1 with a fire or medical emergency, you can trust that you are getting professionals who understand exactly what is happening and how to deal with it.

Deimling is proud of the breadth of expertise his team displays.

"From top to bottom, this is a full-service organization that fulfills the tough expectations we demand in-house as well as the standards of the most professional fire standards organization in the world," he said. "Our employees wear many different hats, and they stay trained and professional in all of them."

SUMMER IN THE TOWNSHIP

After a long, hard winter, folks don't usually wait for perfect weather to ascend upon their local parks, and Union Township's parks are no different. As soon as that last snowflake disappeared, the first spring walkers and joggers could be seen at our various parks. The township has four of them, and each brings a little something different to our community.

Veterans' Memorial Park



Although not the largest park, Veterans' Memorial Park is probably the most popular. Located at the corner of Clough Pike and Glen Este-Withamsville Road, the 25-acre park offers all types of recreational amenities, including tennis and basketball courts, soccer fields, baseball diamonds, sand volleyball courts and corn hole. A walking track, playground, fitness trail and fishing pond add to the appeal of the park. Sheltered and unsheltered picnic areas with grills are popular spots in the summer for family reunions and celebrations.

The park is host to many community functions throughout the year, from Union Township's own Police Night Out to the Cincy Kids-4-Kids Carnival to the National Day of Prayer observation. The American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, the walks for the Leukemia and Lymphoma associations, and the Clean and Spring litter pick-up all take place at the park.

It is home away from home to the Vietnam Veterans of America, Clermont County Chapter 649, who procured and maintain the helicopter that serves as a memorial to Clermont Countians lost in the Vietnam War. In fact, ask anyone where the water tower in Union Township is, and they will probably say it's right across from the "helicopter park."

Clepper Park

With entrances from Summerside and Barg Salt Run roads, Clepper Park is actually our largest park, at 50 acres. Another hot spot during the spring, summer and fall months for recreational activities, the park offers basketball courts, soccer fields, baseball diamonds, a football field, walking track, fishing lake, and an equipped playground area. All the shelters have picnic tables that are handicap-accessible.



As with Veterans' Memorial Park, many select soccer teams and knothole baseball teams are regulars on the fields of Clepper Park.

Mt. Carmel Park



Mt. Carmel Park is called a "pocket park" because of its small size. This beautiful green space is located at Dameron Lane and Ravenwood Court. It is the perfect space to enjoy with small children, as it has a fully equipped playground and benches. Last year, special attention was paid to the trees in the park, trimming healthy ones and planting new ones.

Ivy Pointe Park

As the newest township park, Ivy Pointe is a pet-friendly park of just over eight acres. The park is unique in the sense that, as

the surrounding businesses grow, the walking path from the park will eventually encompass the entire business district. The park is growing in popularity for walkers, as they can enjoy the eight wood benches that enhance two gazebos overlooking the pond.



Mt. Moriah Cemetery

Mt. Moriah Cemetery has been transformed over the years to become as close to a park as hallowed ground can be. The trees are on an annualized program for trimming and, if diseased, replacement. Beautiful landscaping adorns the cemetery throughout. Gazebos and benches offer quiet places for reflection, and a waterfall was added to the pond several years ago. This will be the seventh year for the Lantern Lighting Ceremony, an event which continues to break records in attendance.



Shawn Hartness, former cemetery sexton and Service Department assistant director, credits Administrator Ken Geis as the visionary behind Mt. Moriah.

"It was always his opinion that it should be a place for the living," Hartness said. "It has become more than just a traditional burial ground. It is a community park where people gather to celebrate life."

Hartness believes that Mt. Moriah is one of the most beautiful green spaces in our region, and said this is borne out by the fact that in recent years, many people have chosen to take their wedding, class and family photos in this beautiful park-like setting.

The Service Department is responsible for the maintenance of all township parks. This not only includes the upkeep of equipment and fields, but the grounds, walkways and roads.

The beautification of our parks is a priority of the department. Each year, employees are busy mowing lawns, trimming trees, and adding more perennials and annuals. They are also dragging baseball fields, repairing and replacing playground equipment, and pruning and mulching the landscaped areas.

It is no wonder that the parks are a hub of daily activity during the warm months. Equipped with Wi-fi, they are places of morning walks, high energy baseball games, family celebrations and even a little work on the laptop while enjoying the surroundings.

While the nationally accredited Service Department is responsible for roads, buildings and fleet maintenance, the Parks and Cemetery divisions are also a focus year round, but never more so as in the summer.

Matt Taylor is the Service Department director, and he holds a special place for the Parks Division.

"I have always been passionate about the parks within Union Township," Taylor said. "I believe they are one of the greatest assets that we have.

"Parks give character to your community. When you invest in them, be it money or blood, sweat and tears, it shows. You are not only investing for today, but for future generations," Taylor said.

To get more information or to make reservations for shelters, call the Service Department at 753-2221.



When Bill Deimling says he is just a mold-maker by trade, it's a little like saying Tiger Woods dabbles in golf as a hobby. The truth is that what started out in a garage in 1973 has turned into a successful business that spans North, Central and South America, Europe and China.

Much of that expansion over the years is the result of Deimling utilizing business practices that encompassed the full cycle of customer service.

By 1973, Deimling had spent time in college and the Army, and was building molds in his garage. Business just wasn't coming his way, so he sold his equipment and ended up a foreman in the mold making department at U.S. Precision Lens.

A wife and a couple of small children couldn't snuff the fire in his belly, and with his family's support, Deimling rented a small space in Forest Park and began again. This time, his business started to grow, and he left Precision Lens on Aug. 20, 1976.

That would be the last day Bill Deimling would work for someone else.

In 1977, with newly rented space on Main Street in Amelia, Deimling began his business in earnest. He added injection molding into his process, continued adding customers, and soon bought two acres on Ferris Road in Union Township to build a 4,000 square foot facility.

Since that time of six employees working one shift, the company went from Deimling Mold to Deimling/jeliho Plastics Inc. and developed into about 140 full-time employees and 40 seasonal temps working three shifts. He moved again, this time to Bach Buxton Road and a building that has been enlarged two times since it was built in 1995. Today, that building holds 75,000 square feet of thousands of molds and bustling activity, and yet still, the company is outgrowing its quarters.

Building molds and then the product the mold will produce is a need that can be applied to just about every industry on earth, and Deimling has a wide diversity of customers and work orders. But his success can be directly attributed to his vision beyond the manufacturing process.

Long ago, Deimling realized that a one-stop shop would contribute to both his and his customer's bottom line by making the delivery process more efficient, so he bought his own trucks, packaged up his product, and sent it on its way.

"I realized that if I controlled the process, if I could get a finished product out the door without the typical delays of scheduling and waiting for outside transportation, the product would get to the customer much faster," Deimling said.

So now, if you walk into Deimling's world on Bach Buxton Road, you will find a hub of mold building, manufacturing, packing and warehousing, and truckers ready to get on the road.

For a small company owner, Deimling was ahead of the game in providing a full service that could make life easier for his customers.

"I wanted to make it very difficult for them to go somewhere else," Deimling said.

But above all, Deimling would not settle for mediocre product.

"It really all starts there," he said. "None of it—fast delivery, fair price—means anything if it's not quality."

Although Deimling observes strict confidentiality when it comes to his customers, if you walk the floor with him, you will find a myriad of items being made that you never in your life gave a moment's thought to. From the rubber hand warmers for gasoline pumps to caps to parts of hand soap dispensers—all of these are necessary pieces of a whole that we see in our lives every day.

The molds Deimling/jeliho builds to the customer's specs are stored in the warehouse, and there are literally thousands of them. This is one more reason Deimling will be adding about 25,000 to 30,000 square feet by the end of the year, along with approximately 30 or more new jobs over the next three years.

Deimling still keeps his fingers in the pie, but has learned to take it a little easier in recent years.

But he admits he will never be able to just sit back.

In late 2012, he had an accident that severed part of his left index finger. For someone who had played the guitar for 40 years prior to that, the accident was devastating.

"I talked to a doctor in the E.R. about it, and he understood, because he, too, played the guitar," Deimling said.

The very next morning, the doctor showed up at his house with a slide guitar, hoping to encourage Deimling to start right in.

"But it took me about nine months to start up again, because I knew I had to teach myself to play totally different," he said.

Deimling dedicated himself to learning to play chords without part of his finger, and today he says he is about 90 percent, in a little less than a year.

The resolve that built his business and later rehabilitated that love of guitar took another turn in 2003.

Deimling was working on adapting some assistive devices for a family member with a debilitating illness when he met Bill Wood, who was building a reading device for a young lady whose cerebral palsy made it difficult for her to turn pages. The two teamed up with Bill Sand to form "May We Help," a non-profit organization whose mission is to create commercial grade assistive devices for those in need.

"We are a volunteer organization and, though we accept donations, we provide these aids at no charge," Deimling said. "We will not build something that's already on the market. Where we can help is in designing and building something that has not been done before."

Deimling is passionate about this work, and his organization has helped hundreds of people.



For more information on this non-profit, call 513-334-0522 or go to www.maywehelp.org.

Call 752-6653 for more information on Deimling/jeliho Plastics Inc. or visit www.deimling-jeliho.com.



After Midnight 8 p.m. May 31	CPO Cincinnati Brass Band 7:30 p.m. June 7	Sycamore Community Band 7 p.m. July 5
Leroy Ellington & The E-Funk Band 8 p.m. July 19	Eastfork Junction 8 p.m. July 26	Chuck Brisbin & The Tuna Project 8 p.m. August 9
Clermont Philharmonic 7:30 p.m. August 16	Burning River Band 8 p.m. August 23	The Gamut 8 p.m. August 30
Stagger Lee 8 p.m. September 6		Robin Lacy & DeZydeco 7:30 p.m. September 13



Bulletin Board

Save the Date—Police Night Out

Formerly known as National Night Out, Police Night Out will be from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 5, at Veterans’ Memorial Park. This is the eighth year the police department has hosted this free festival designed to heighten crime and prevention awareness, generate support for and participation in local anti-crime efforts, strengthen neighborhood spirit and police community partnerships, and send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back. Lots of food, games and activities for the whole family. Plan on getting there early!

Citizens’ Police Academy

To promote community-oriented policing and foster education and understanding between police and the community, the Union Township Police Department is accepting applications for its 11th Citizens’ Police Academy. The academy is free to the public and will run from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on consecutive Thursday nights from Aug. 20 through Nov. 6. There will be two Saturday classes from 9 a.m. to noon. Classes will be held at the Union Township Police Department, 4312 Glen Este-Withamsville Road.

Applicants must be 21 or older and possess a valid driver’s license. Applicants must submit to a comprehensive criminal history and background check. Criminal convictions may be grounds for exclusion.

Apply online at www.union-township.oh.us or pick up an application at the police department. The class is limited to the first 25

successful applicants. Contact Sergeant Tony Rees at 753-2247 (desk) or 752-1230 (main) with questions.

Lantern Lighting Ceremony

The 7th Annual Lantern Lighting Ceremony is set for Sept. 20 at Mt. Moriah Cemetery. This is one of the most popular events the Board of Trustees hosts. Look for more details in your local media.

Women’s Self-Defense Class

Dates for this popular class will be announced later in the summer. Look for an early fall date.



At the May 22 meeting of the Union Township Board of Trustees, Administrator Ken Geis was presented with the William Wilberforce Leadership Award by Citizens for Community Values (CCV) President Phil Burress, for his leadership in eliminating a sexually-oriented business in the Union Township community. William Wilberforce was an 18th century English politician, philanthropist and leader of the movement to abolish the slave trade. Organizations throughout the country present their most prestigious leadership awards in the name of William Wilberforce.

Union Township Board of Trustees
 John McGraw
 Lloyd Acres
 Matthew Beamer
 4350 Aicholtz Road.
 Union Township, Ohio 45245

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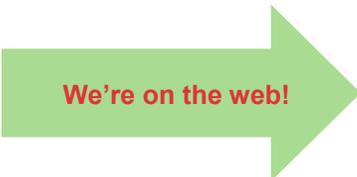
Monthly Meetings

Trustees	2nd & 4th Thursday	7 p.m.
Zoning Commission	2nd Wednesday	7 p.m.
Board of Zoning Appeals	1st Thursday	7 p.m.

Contacts

<u>EMERGENCY NUMBER</u>	<u>911</u>
Trustees & Administration http://www.union-township.oh.us	752-1741
Fiscal Officer	753-2216
Planning & Zoning Department	753-2300
Fire Department http://www.utfire-ems.org	528-4446
Police Department http://www.utpd.org	752-1230
Service Department	753-2221
Post Office	947-7330
UTTV	947-7336

Don't forget to make the Union Township U.S. Postal Service Contract Unit your one-stop shop for all your postal needs. Stamps, envelopes, packages, priority mail, express mail. Conveniently located on the lower level of the Civic Center.
Stop in and see us today!!



We're on the web!

www.union-township.oh.us