

VISION

growth

strength

leadership

Union Township

Clermont County

Est. 1811

ANNUAL REPORT
2011

Union Township

Clermont County

Est. 1811

2011 Annual Report

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Union Township Administration
4350 Aicholtz Road
Union Township, Ohio 45245
Phone: 513-752-1741
www.union-township.oh.us

Union Township

2011 Annual Report

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Township Administration

"On Behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to thank our customers, for continuing to make Union Township, one of the most livable communities in the country." This introductory remark never gets old because the single purpose of the employees is to follow the direction of the Board of Trustees, all of whom are elected to serve the people of this community. While many other cities, villages and townships languished in disarray, Union Township established quantifiable goals and moved decidedly toward accomplishment again in 2011. To this end, I believe that the policies of the Board of Trustees and the actions of the employees exemplify this basic understanding, culminating in a great community during very challenging times.

The Board of Trustees (Board) continued its cost savings measures in 2011. Total revenue dropped from \$27.7 million in 2010 to \$26.5 in 2011. Accordingly, the Board reduced spending from the two largest accounts; the General Fund by more than \$250,000 and the Safety Service Fund Accounts (Police/Fire/Safety Service) by a like amount as well, while increasing the unencumbered final cash position.

Our community continued to be the envy of the region, receiving national attention for the attraction of *Jungle Jim's International Market*. The Board, through an aggressive mandate, encouraged this project that will open in 2012, to the delight of millions of customers annually. Also in 2011, the Board was pleased and excited to report that Total Quality Logistics (TQL) agreed to construct a second building in the Ivy Pointe development. The new investment is expected to exceed \$12 million, bringing as many as 1,000 new career positions to our township.

The Board created the Union Township Community Investment Corporation (CIC) to promote economic development. In 2011, not only did the CIC actively participate in the *Jungle Jim's* project but the CIC administered nearly \$100,000 in grants to small businesses in the Mt. Carmel area. Through a dynamic program, the CIC managed requests from small business owners to clean up and improve one of the oldest economic centers in the township. As a result, our community realized more than \$200,000 in new investment, creating a great environment for continued growth.

Union Township became the first community in Ohio and the first township in the country to possess a **fully accredited** Public Works community. The Service Department received National Accreditation Status with an award to the Board at a meeting in September. With this accreditation honor, Union Township became the first township in the country to have accredited Police, Fire, Communications and Service departments, confirming the quality services provided to our customers.

Our Contract Postal Unit (CPU) again outpaced all other CPU's in the region. We closed the year with gross sales in excess of \$600,000, making our post office the highest grossing CPU. This level of success is directly attributable to the convenient location in the Civic Center, the professional and helpful staff and the level of investment by the Board, all in an effort to provide the best possible service to our customers.

A review of the remainder of the report will demonstrate that each of the departments enhanced operations during the last calendar year. We are always seeking ways to improve the operation of the township, so please feel free to comment on the information provided. Our offices are open during normal business hours and we certainly welcome a chance to demonstrate our commitment to our customers.

Very truly,



Ken Geis
Township Administrator

Township Administration

FINANCIAL POSITION

The Township posted a year-end unencumbered balance for all funds of \$9,370,511, up from \$7,967,416 in 2010. In September 2011, the Township received an Aa² rating, recognizing the stability of the Township's financial condition.

CIVIC CENTER

The Civic Center continues to be the nucleus of activity in the township. In 2011, Congresswoman Jean Schmidt moved her Clermont County office from the county seat to the Civic Center. The center houses Union Township Administration, as well as the West Clermont Local School District administration and a Clermont Senior Services Inc. Learning Center. The Contract Postal Unit and Cincinnati Metro Park-and-Ride add to the number of daily visitors. Along with the gymnasium and various meeting rooms available, nearly 303,000 people took advantage of the many amenities the Union Township Civic Center offers in 2011.

Events

Among those people were the many music lovers who attended the 15 concerts the Board of Trustees hosted during the summer months at the Amphitheatre, located behind the Civic Center. The second annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony brought more people out to watch a choir from St. Thomas More School serenade guests with songs of the season and count down to the lighting of the tree with its 5,000 lights. The tree is decorated annually by ornaments created by local elementary school children.

The partnership with area schools is further evidenced by the 18 large flower pots that decorate the Mt. Carmel Business District, painted by children from the West Clermont, St. Thomas More and St. Veronica schools. Township Administration is involved in many local patriotic events. One such event last year was a Flag Burning Ceremony, held in front of the Amphitheatre, and led by the Vietnam Veterans Chapter 649 and a local Boy Scout troop.

In March, the satellite office of U.S. Representative Jean Schmidt was officially opened in the Civic Center. Township Hall serves as the venue for Congresswoman Schmidt's annual Open House for her district-wide high school art competition.

And once again, the Amphitheatre was the venue for two wedding ceremonies.

These are just a few of the many examples of the partnerships that bring an estimated nearly 303,000 to the Civic Center each year.

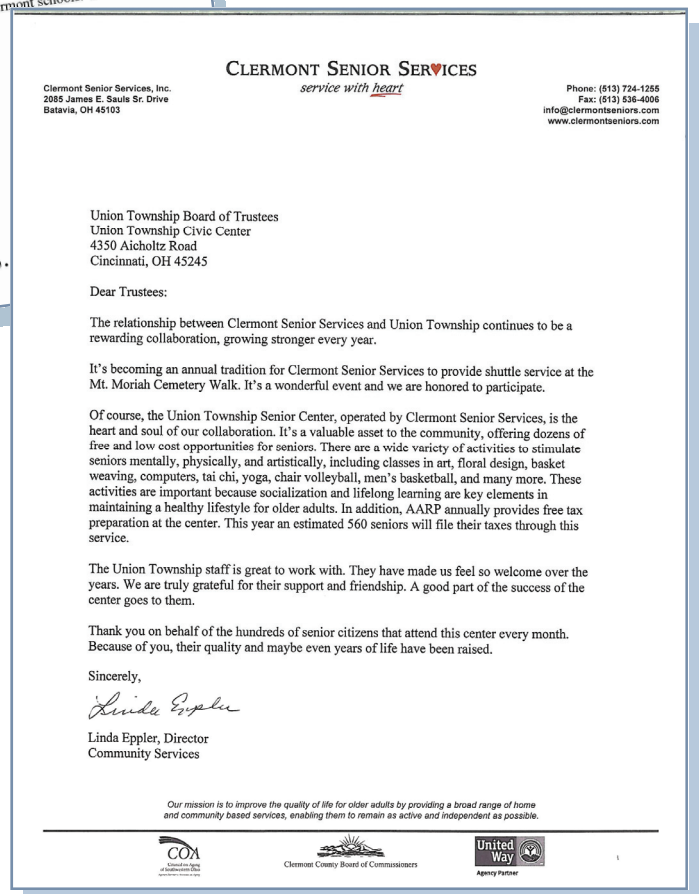
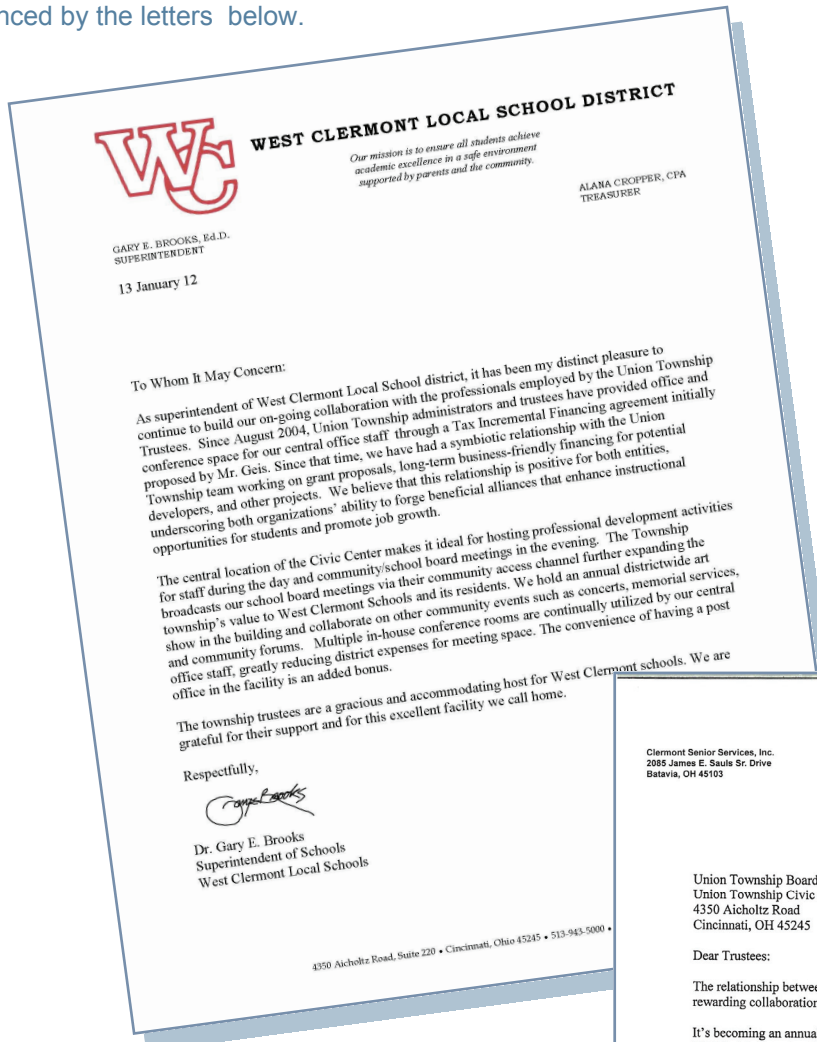


Park-N-Ride	104,000
Gym	76,232
Post Office	37,476
Meeting Rooms	34,104
Senior Services	17,064
U.T. Administration	12,992
Summer Concerts	7,200
West Clermont Schools	13,504
TOTAL	302,572

The above figures are conservatively estimated using numbers from GEYBA, Clermont Senior Services Inc., the West Clermont Local School District, the Union Township Zoning Department, the Union Township Post Office, and Cincinnati Metro.

Civic Center

Among those partners, the relationship between the Union Township Board of Trustees and the West Clermont Local School District and Clermont Senior Services Inc. has been solidified over the years, as is evidenced by the letters below.



Fire Department

To the Board of Trustees and Administrator Geis:

I am pleased to present the 2011 Fire Department Annual Report.

Demand for services continued to increase over the previous years. Emergency medical service details jumped to 5,792 runs in 2011, an increase from 5,635 in 2010.

Two new paramedic ambulances were ordered in late 2011 with anticipated delivery in the spring of 2012. This is the first step in the replacement of an aging fleet of vehicles, as we expect the medical units will continue to see increased demands for service well into the future.

Through several different successful grant opportunities, some older fire and EMS tools and equipment were also replaced, including self-contained breathing apparatus and cardiac monitors/defibrillators. The new equipment takes advantage of newer advanced technology not available when the original units were purchased. The use of grant money is always helpful but that has never been truer than now in these tough economic times.

We have always believed that prevention is preferred to reaction. Prevention through education remains a primary focus of the department. Activities involved in this include fire safety inspections, preplans, code enforcement, fire extinguisher training, fire drills, blood pressure screening, CPR/AED training, and child safety seat installations and checks.

We continue to stretch fewer resources, both personnel and financial, to maintain the same level of quality life safety services. This can only be accomplished thanks to the dedicated professional employees serving Union Township every day.

Sincerely,



Stanley G. Deimling
Fire Chief



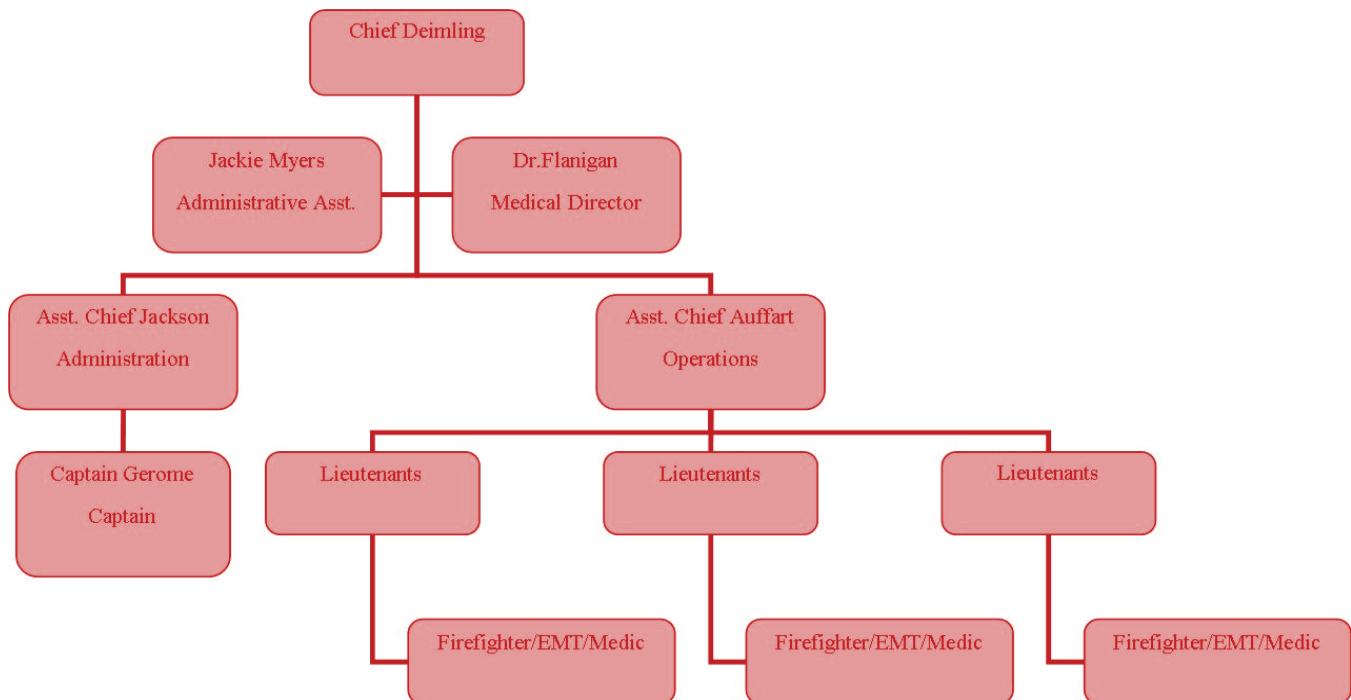
Fire Department



Mission

It is the mission of the Union Township Fire Department, Clermont County, Ohio, to strive to be on the cutting edge of excellence by exceeding expectations in providing Life Safety Services to the community; 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. This mission is directed at making it a safer and healthier community.

2011 ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

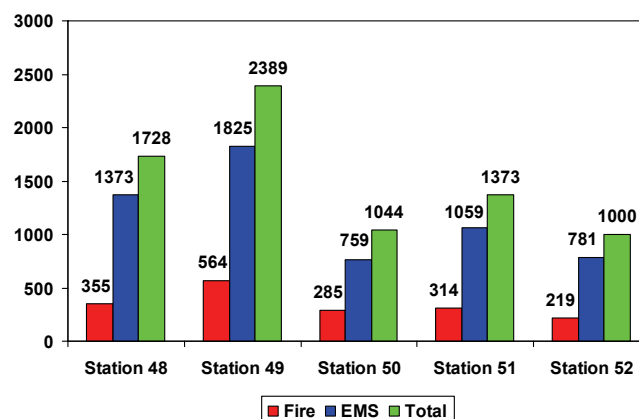


Fire Department

WORKLOAD

The fire department responded to 1,737 fire calls and 5,797 medical calls for a total of 7,534 calls. The following chart breaks down the call volume among our five stations.

- Station 48 - 855 Ohio Pike.
- Station 49 - 718 Cincinnati-Batavia Pike.
- Station 50 - 1141 Cincinnati-Batavia Pike.
- Station 51 - 860 Clough Pike.
- Station 52 - 3873 Bach Buxton Road.



TRAINING

In 2011, the employees of the Union Township Fire Department received over 11,337 hours of training in many different aspects of Public Safety. Training was conducted by Fire and EMS instructors from within the Union Township Fire Department and from outside agencies. As an Ohio Certified Continuing Education Site, Union Township Fire Department's Certified Emergency Medical Service instructors provided each paramedic with over 48 hours of refresher training. This certification was renewed in 2011 with a site inspection conducted by the Ohio Department of Public Safety. All the EMS training allows paramedics and EMTs to recertify their State of Ohio certification through the Ohio Department of Public Safety. Along with EMS training, classes in hazardous materials, fire suppression, wilderness and water-rescue and fire investigation were attended by firefighter/paramedics. These types of training allow our responders to keep current on the latest trends in response and mitigation for all types of incidents. In 2011, all officers of the Fire Department received training and certification in Hazard Zone Management through Blue Card Command Training. Lt Robert Cabral is currently an active instructor for this program. All line personnel were presented training in hazard zone management.



Whether it's daily company drill, weekly EMS continuing education, recertification training, or training on new equipment, the Union Township Fire Department is committed to keeping its employees up to date and well-trained in the latest techniques and procedures in the fire and EMS fields, thus providing township residents and businesses with the best and most efficient public safety services available.

EMPLOYEE HONORED

Firefighter Shad Ruby was honored on March 28, 2010, by the Stuart G. Luginbuhl American Legion Post 72 as *Firefighter of the Year*. Shad was honored for outstanding public service. His dedication, decision making, and emergency scene skills exemplify the fire department's mission of "exceeding expectations." Shad has served the Union Township fire Department with distinction for over five years. He has developed into a leader and a role model for other members. Shad proudly answers the call to protect life and property without hesitation.

GRANTS

In 2011, the Union Township Fire Department was successful in finding alternative sources for revenue and equipment needs through various grant awards. Funding from these grant sources allowed Union Township taxpayers to see a return of their taxes locally to support their hometown needs. These awards resulted in a reduction in fire department costs by facilitating the purchase of needed equipment in support of the Union Township community.

Fire Department

A synopsis of the year 2011 grants includes:

Assistance to Firefighters Grant

On March 19, 2010, the Union Township Fire Department was awarded a FY 2009 Department of Homeland Security Assistance to Firefighters Grant in the amount of \$305,530. Of the total amount awarded, the Fire Department was responsible for a 10% share, or \$30,530. The federal share was 90 percent, or \$274,977 of the approved amount.

This grant project was developed to address the issue of replacing outdated equipment, including LIFEPAK defibrillators carried on the Medic Units and Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBAs) carried on fire apparatus and Medic Units.

The purchase of four Physio-Control LIFEPAK-15s allowed the department to replace its four existing LIFEPAK-10s with the newer models. This purchase became necessary when the UTFD was notified by the manufacturer that they would no longer support the older model LIFEPAK-10s. The total cost for the purchase of the four new LIFEPAK-15s was \$99,990.75, including the trade-in of the four older models. Of the total cost of this project, the fire department's share was \$9,999.08. These units were delivered and placed in service in 2011.

This grant project also allowed the fire department to purchase new Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBAs) and associated equipment. This portion of the grant award amounted to \$205,530 including a ten percent share obligation from the fire department. This award was especially important since many of the department's SCBA air bottles were nearing their 15-year expiration date.

The SCBA award included replacement of:

- ◆ 34 - Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus
- ◆ 12 – SCBA Face Masks
- ◆ 24 - 45 minute air bottles
- ◆ 12 – 60 minute air bottles

The new SCBAs and related equipment were delivered in 2011. Following the completion of the necessary SCBA training, the new units were placed in service.

FEMA Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant

On October 27, 2007, the Fire Department began receiving money from a FEMA SAFER grant to subsidize the salaries of six new firefighters. The SAFER Grant is a five-year grant that provides the fire department with funding to pay a portion of the salaries of the newly hired firefighters. Per firefighter, the first year the grant pays 90 percent of the actual costs or \$37,260 dollars; the second year pays 80 percent of the actual costs or \$33,120 dollars; the third year, 50 percent of the actual costs or \$20,700 dollars; and the fourth year, 30 percent of the actual costs or \$12,420. All costs are covered by the fire department from the fifth year forward.

The following represents the grant money received by the fire department per year based on quarterly reporting periods:

- From October 27, 2007 through October 26, 2008 the fire department received \$223,560.
- From October 27, 2008 through October 26, 2009 the fire department received \$198,720.
- From October 27, 2009 through October 26, 2010 the fire department received \$124,200.
- From October 27, 2010 through October 26, 2011 the fire department received \$74,520.

Ohio EMS Grant

A 2010-2011 Ohio EMS Training and Equipment Grant was awarded to the Fire Department in the amount of \$2,500 in 2010. In 2011, the department purchased and placed into service several training aids as a result of this grant award. Items included: four Baby Anne CPR mannequins, four Little Junior CPR mannequins, and four Little Anne CPR mannequins.

A 2011-2012 Ohio EMS Training and Equipment Grant was awarded to the Fire Department in the amount of \$3,000. This grant award provided funding for four EZ-IO Intra-osseous Infusion System kits. These kits will provide paramedics immediate vascular access to the central circulation system, delivering medications and intravenous fluids to adult and pediatric patients.

Fire Department

INTERNAL PROTECTION PROGRAMS

The fire department completed numerous internal protection programs during 2011. These programs are intended to provide assurance that emergency equipment is in proper functioning order. The programs include fire hydrant maintenance and testing, fire hose testing, testing and certifying fire pumps on apparatus, testing and certifying fire ladders, and maintaining dry hydrants installed in the township. During 2011, the department serviced and flushed 3,292 fire hydrants and tested 25,000 feet of fire hose.

FIRE CHAT

Since the Union Township Fire Department debut of the cable talk show *Fire Chat* in January, 2007, the show has been well received by the citizens of Union Township. Host Captain Perry Gerome interviews guests in the studio at Station 51, concentrating on educating the public on a myriad of special topics and services provided by the fire department. These topics include fire safety tips relevant to the viewers such as how to manage a kitchen fire, conducting a home fire safety drill, creating a fire escape plan, how to operate a fire extinguisher, and other seasonal safety tips.

Special guests provide an inside perspective to fire safety while highlighting the programs and services available to the residents of Union Township. Fire Chat provides life safety information that is relevant to the current challenges faced by the fire service today. Captain Gerome States that, "... educating the public about fire safety to prevent fires from occurring has to be a priority in Union Township."

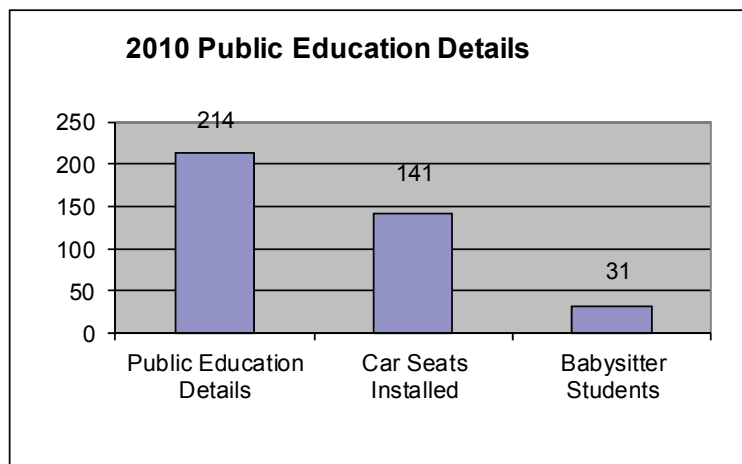
Fire Chat is aired throughout the week, every week, on Union Township Cable Television channels 15 and 22.

PREVENTION AND EDUCATION

The department continues to be proactive in the area of fire prevention and education. Each year, the department provides township residents with smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors at no cost. The use of these detectors are essential life saving tools. In 2011, the department distributed 172 smoke detectors, 86 carbon monoxide detectors, 37 batteries, and 613 vials of life to residents.

Car Safety Seat Inspections

Car safety seat inspections continued during the year. The department has been very proactive in educating the public on the need for these inspections. During the year, 141 car safety seat inspections were completed.



Community C.P.R. Education

Community C.P.R. is always a focus of the department. The UTFD educates numerous businesses, neighborhood groups, and community groups in C.P.R. and the use of automatic external defibrillators (A.E.D.s). During 2011, 246 adults were trained. The department also provides fire escape plan training, fire extinguisher training, home fire inspections, and other non-emergency type education to these same groups. The department continues to feel that education is the key to fire prevention and loss of life.

The Fire Department in Our Schools

School C.P.R. education continued to be a joint effort between the department and the West Clermont Local School District. This training is required for graduation. The department works with Glen Este High School to coordinate this training by department personnel as part of the school curriculum. Last year, 367 students were educated in Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation and the use of Automatic External Defibrillators.



Fire Department

Firefighters continue to provide education for local school children, as well as utilize the fire safety house for this education. The fire safety trailer is also used for additional community education programs.

The department continues the "Adopt-A-School" program in the township elementary schools. Lt. Vicki Conneighton coordinates this program and the concept is for each crew to adopt a school within their response area and have a presence in that school throughout the year. Members of the department assist in their school every couple of weeks for an hour or two. The firefighters participate in activities including reading to students, participating in a school project or school fair, and having lunch with a group of students or a class. These activities also include fire safety education and the crews familiarizing themselves with the school building layout and the school staff. The education the students, staff, and firefighters receive will be extremely helpful in the event of an emergency at school or at home.

Red Cross Babysitter's Classes

The department held three American Red Cross Babysitter's Classes led by Lt. Vicki Conneighton. The target age group for this class is young adults from 11 to 15 years old. The classes were held at Station 51. Thirty-one young adults attended the class in 2011. The girls and boys learned skills which will make them excellent babysitters for family and friends. The course is designed around four major themes: leadership, basic care, safety, safe play and first aid. Several of the topics covered were ensuring children's safety, basic care and first aid, cleanliness, personal hygiene, feeding, diapering, games for all ages, preventing accidents and how to respond in an emergency, just to name a few. The reaction from students in attendance continues to be very positive.



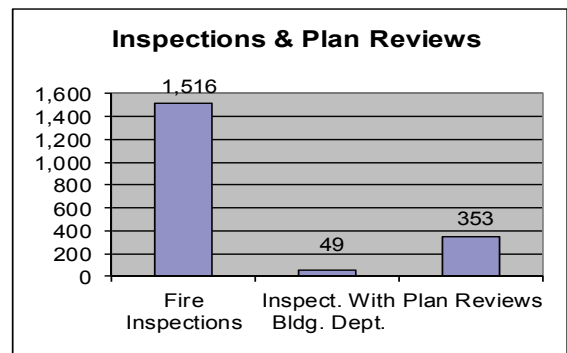
PUBLIC ACCESS DEFIBRILLATION

The department continued to work with local businesses to install Automatic External Defibrillators in their business locations. To date, 90 A.E.D.s have been installed in local businesses. The Fire Department continued to provide the training for these devices, as well as provide monthly operational checks of each unit.

FIRE INSPECTIONS AND PLAN REVIEWS

The department conducted 1,516 business fire safety inspections in accordance with the Ohio Fire Code. These inspections were conducted by certified on-duty fire safety inspectors with the goal of providing a safe occupancy for the business owner and the occupants/customers.

In conjunction with the Clermont County Building Department, 49 inspections and 353 sets of building plans were reviewed. These inspections and plan reviews provide the department a proactive pre-occupancy approach to code compliance.



CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEYS

The department solicits feedback from residents who use our services through Customer Satisfaction Surveys. These surveys are a tool to gauge the department's performance and the overall satisfaction of the customers we serve. The surveys are sent to recipients of emergency service, as well as non-emergency details, including public education and fire safety inspections.

Once the surveys are returned, they are reviewed by management and issues are addressed for improvement or praise and appropriate feedback is given to the employees involved. The survey is broken down into six categories and each question is given a rating of one to three, with three identifying service that exceeds expectations; one signifies below expectations.

In 2011, the department sent out 282 surveys. Sixty-two surveys were returned with an average score of 2.84. This indicated a very high level of satisfaction among those who responded.

Fire Department

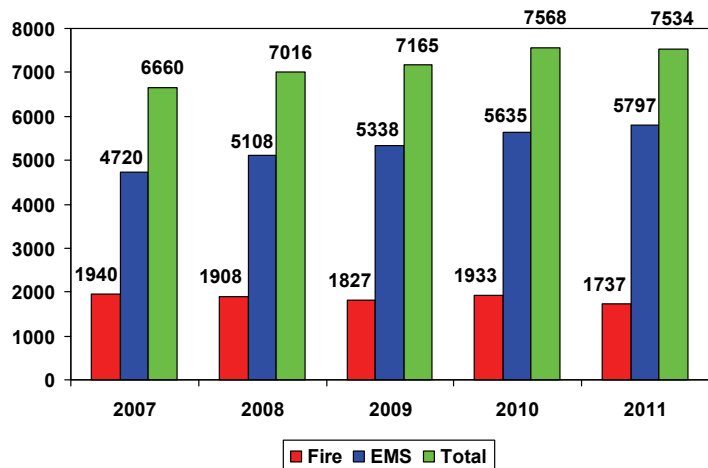
AMELIA COVERAGE

2011 marked the seventh year of providing fire and emergency medical service to the Village of Amelia. During the year, the Union Township Fire Department responded to 466 emergency medical incidents and 105 fire incidents. The department continued to be proactive in providing public education to the citizens and business community in the village, and recertified the Police Department in Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Automatic Emergency Defibrillator (AED) use. Assistant Chief Jackson or his designee attend all the Amelia Village Council meetings to provide input and answer any questions or concerns the council members may have concerning fire and emergency medical and safety issues that arise in the Village.

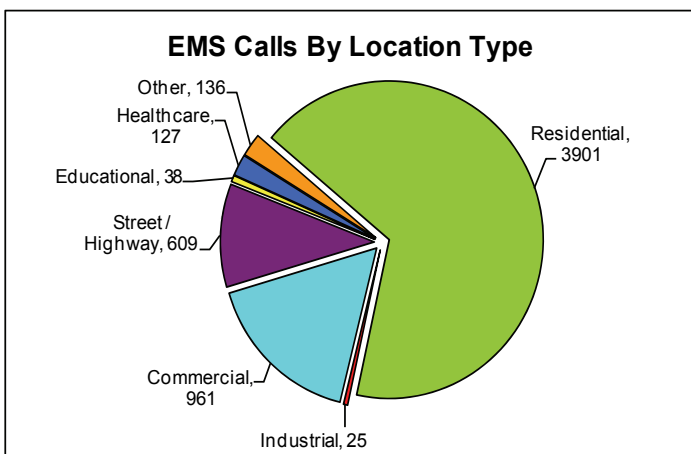
THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Five Year Run Volume Trends

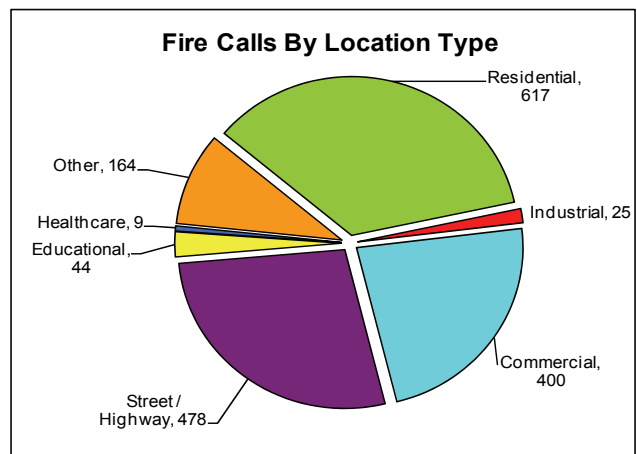
The chart to the right compares the volume of calls over the past five years. Total calls for service in 2011 decreased slightly by 34 over the previous year. This reflects 196 fewer fire responses and 162 more requests for emergency medical service.



EMS Calls By Location

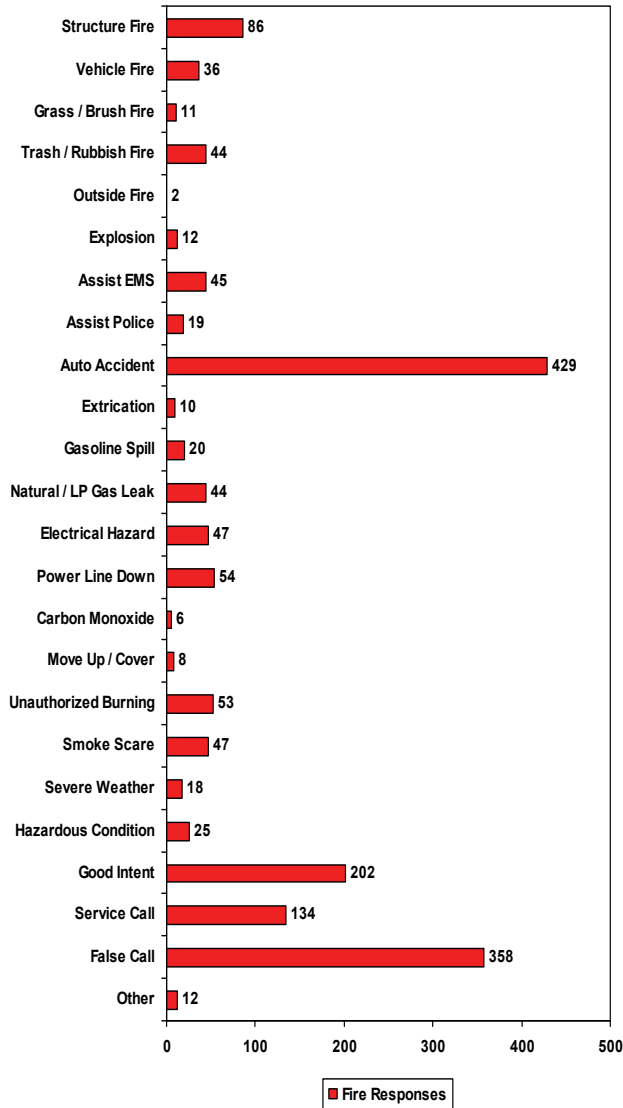


Fire Calls By Location

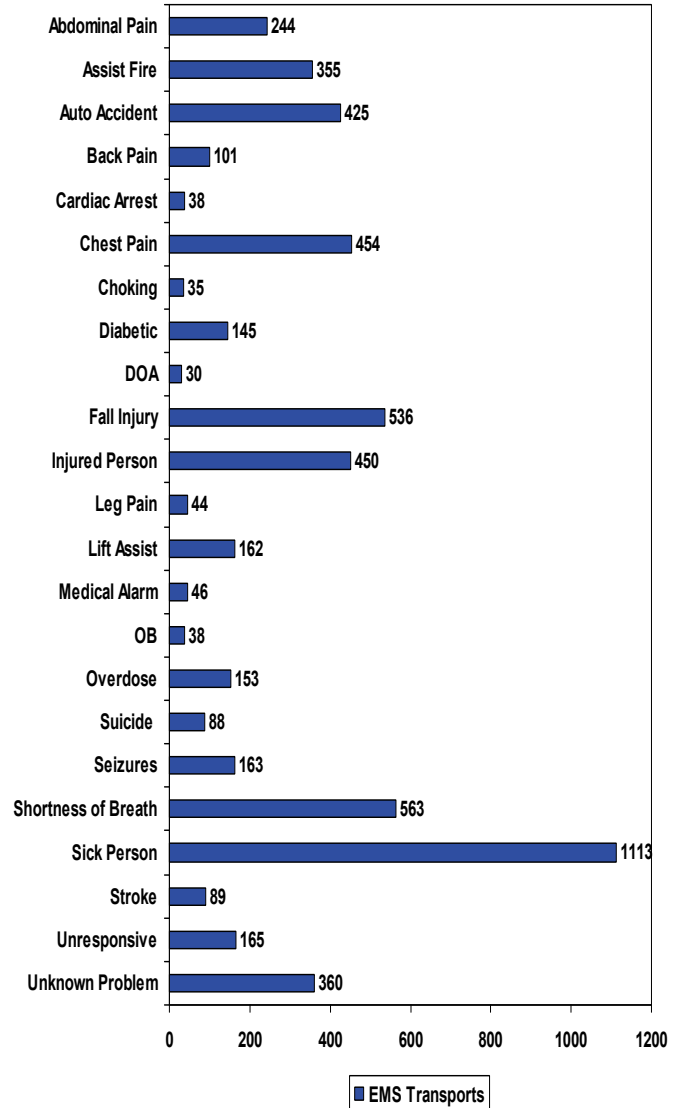


Fire Department

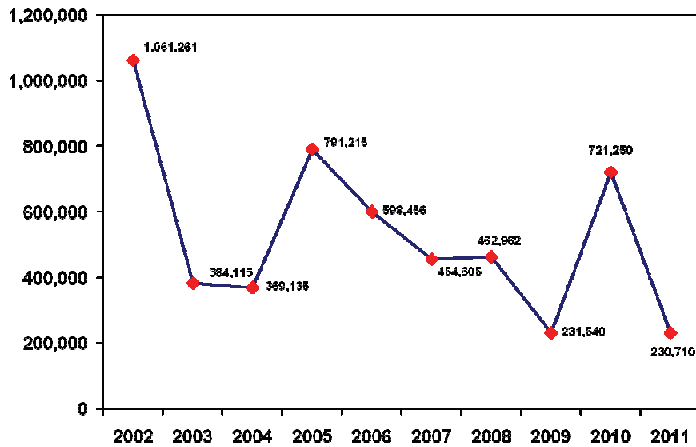
2010 Fire Responses



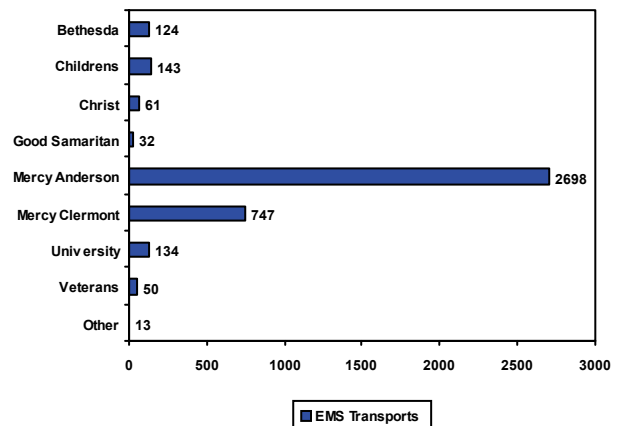
2010 EMS Responses



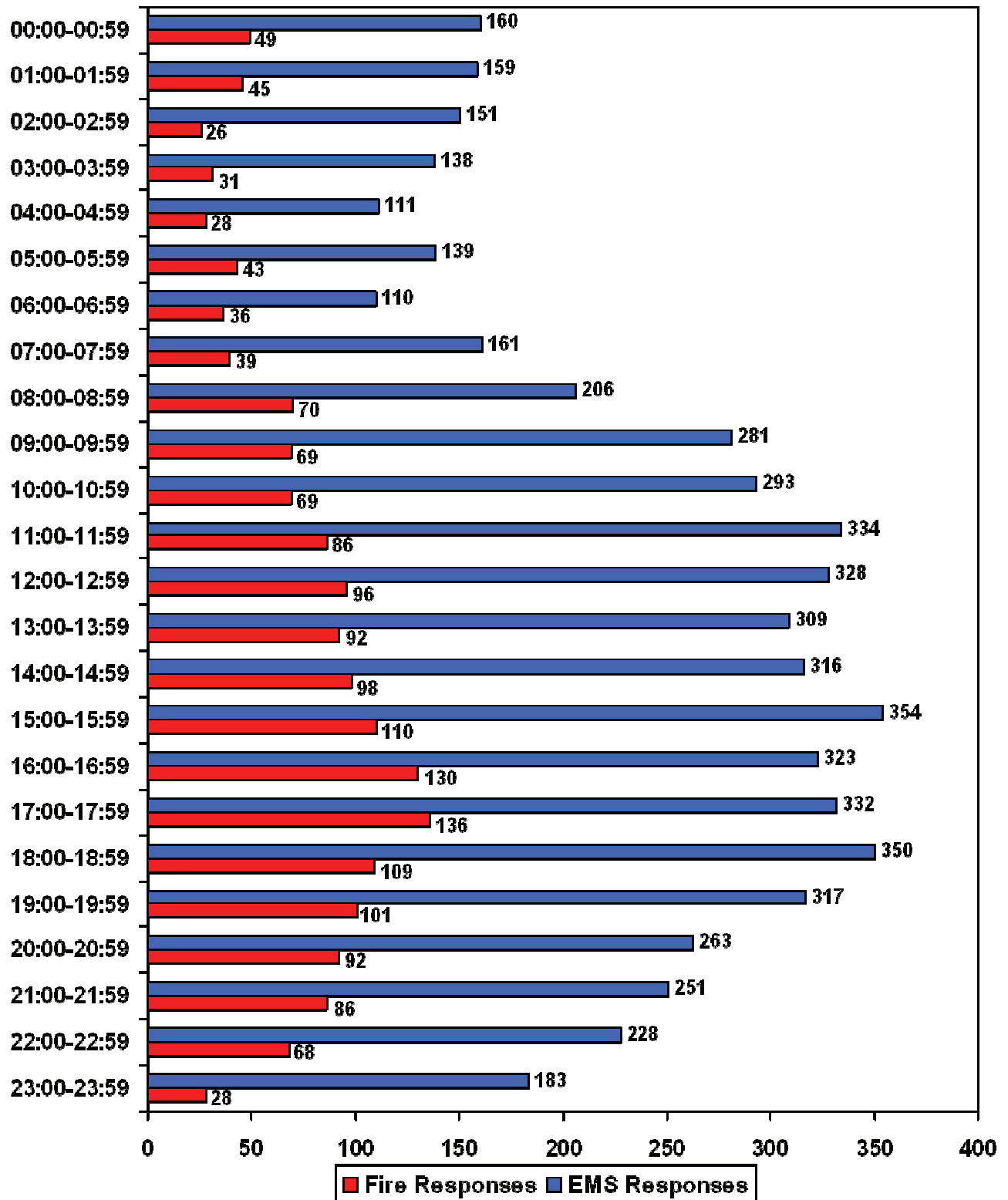
Fire Loss



EMS Transports

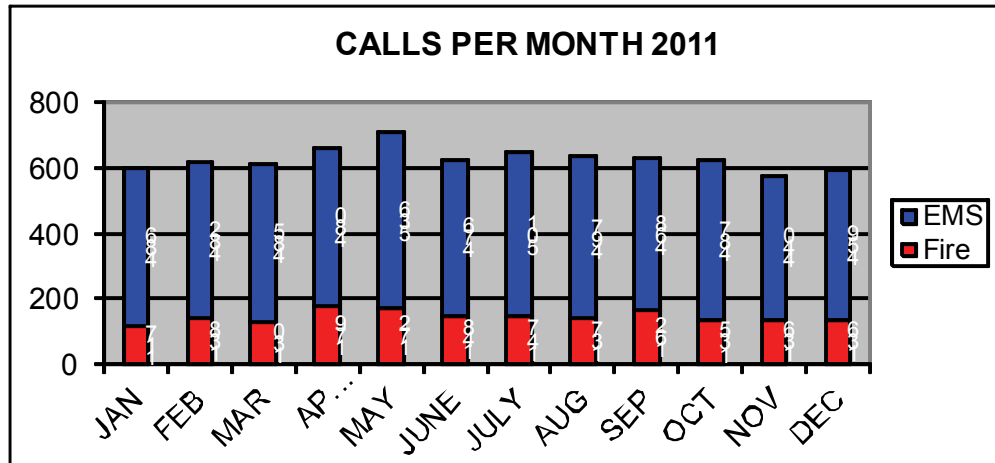


Fire and EMS Responses—Time of Day



Fire Department

2011 Fire and EMS Calls By Month



SMOKE DETECTORS AND SEATBELTS SAVE LIVES!



Information Technology

To the Board of Trustees and Administrator Geis:

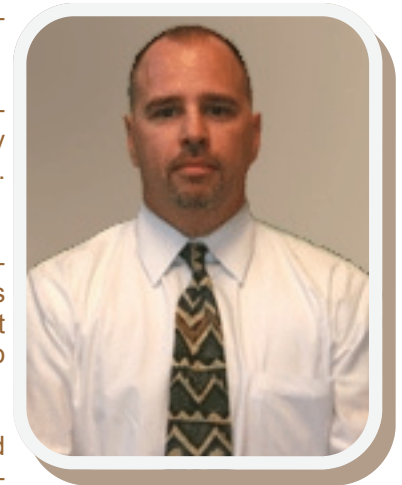
I am pleased to present the 2011 Annual Report for the Union Township Information Technology Department.

As Union Township expands with planned development and growth, the Information Technology (IT) Department remains an integral part of its operation by providing state of the art technology to each of the township's departments. Each and every year, our goal is to improve and enhance the services we offer.

IT is responsible for the management and support of the technology architecture, hardware, software, telecommunications, and respective resources throughout township administration. Each new year brings further development and implementation of projects that provide cutting-edge technology solutions to the ever-expanding needs of our departments, and 2011 was no different.

Last year, IT continued to upgrade the public safety dispatching software and network environment, and expand VM server technology and thin client workstations. Multi-level RSA Security and secure VPNs were implemented.

IT will continue to strive to ensure that up-to-date, state of the art technology is available to all users of the township's IT infrastructure to improve and increase their productivity.



Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Chip Stewart". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Chip Stewart

Information Technology

OPERATIONS

IT manages all servers, workstations, laptops and peripherals, as well as eight proprietary software applications, office productivity software, four in-house developed databases, and the wide area network (WAN) and local area networks (LANs) at 10 facilities. IT is also responsible for the township telecommunications, including land lines and mobile phones. The township website, intranet and internet, and audio/visual systems fall under IT. IT also supports the township's access control and security systems, as well as the police department's 911 system.

PUBLIC SAFETY SOFTWARE APPLICATIONS

The IT Department has played a major role in the support of the public safety software applications utilized by the police and fire departments. In 2010, upgrades to the dispatch workstation and network were completed to enhance the speed of computer-aided dispatching (CAD) software. New workstation computers were installed in each of the four dispatch positions, utilizing new 64-bit operating systems and increased memory. The overall township network and related dispatch segments were upgraded to gigabit Ethernet. In 2011, the database environment was enhanced, providing more memory and processor resources. New enhancements to the software were also provided by the developer and installed.

TOWNSHIP WIDE AREA NETWORK

IT upgraded the township wide area network (WAN). Since the WAN inception in 1998, the network had been operating at 100-bit Ethernet. In 2011, the core switches were replaced with 1000-bit (gigabit) Ethernet. This has had a tremendous impact on network speed. Plans to upgrade the remaining facility switches in 2012 are in effect.

VM SERVER TECHNOLOGY

In 2011, IT built on the VM server environment. Another VM server was installed to handle the increase in demand on resources primarily dictated by the CAD system and increased number of thin clients. The VM environment has greatly reduced the power requirements in the datacenter, as well as IT management.

THIN CLIENTS

IT continued to expand the number of thin client systems. Thin clients increased from five in 2010 to 16 in 2011. As the older PCs are retired, they will be replaced by thin clients. Thin clients have no local operating system or applications, yet are capable of delivering a full PC experience to the user. This addresses the needs for reduced hardware costs, "greener," smaller footprint devices, a faster user environment, and simplified and reduced IT management.

Planning & Zoning Department

To the Board of Trustees and Administrator Geis:

It is with great pleasure that I present to you the 2011 annual report for the Union Township Planning & Zoning Department. The department staff remains committed to encouraging responsible growth while providing knowledgeable, friendly and courteous customer service to both residents and businesses alike. Additional efforts have been made this year to enhance quality of life through enhanced enforcement, revitalization initiatives, cooperative relationships with other outside agencies, and advocacy on behalf the township with regard to planned transportation enhancements. Staff continued to engage in short term and long term planning projects in 2011, with the Union Township Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Planning Project completed this year, in anticipation of the upcoming FY 2012 funding cycle. Additional funding was also secured for enhanced pedestrian activity, in concert with the CCTID and OKI Regional Council of Governments. The past year also saw increased development proposals of significant magnitude, including a revitalized Eastgate South commercial district, revitalization in the Mt. Carmel area, and several significant development requests for rezoning and numerous Focus Area Overlay development requests as well. Certainly, all of these activities contribute to the fact that Union Township remains a great place to live, work, and play!



The Planning Department actively works to forge and strengthen economic development partnerships, to review development plans and uphold the adopted land use plan, and to issue permits for new development and redevelopment activities. Additionally, the department works daily to fairly and diligently enforce existing zoning regulations in order to preserve the character and charm of existing neighborhoods and business districts. The Planning & Zoning Department staff looks forward to striving for continuous improvement in all of these areas in the months and years to come, and would embrace input as to how we can better serve the community. Continuing utilization of technology will better assist the staff in streamlining permitting, inspection, and enforcement activities in 2012 and beyond.

As we move forward into 2012, the Planning Department remains poised and ready to plan for and guide continued growth and prosperity within Union Township. We are certainly thankful for the opportunity to serve the township and its residents over the past year, and do sincerely hope that 2012 holds great promise as well.

Very truly yours,

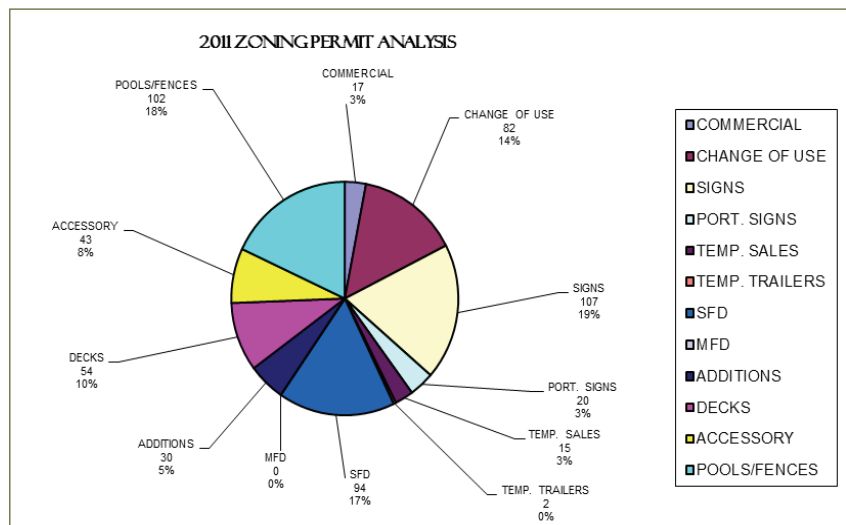
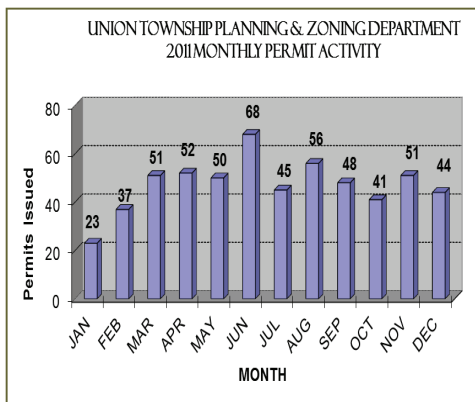
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cory Wright', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Cory Wm. Wright
Assistant Township Administrator
Director of Planning & Zoning

Planning & Zoning Department

ZONING ADMINISTRATION:

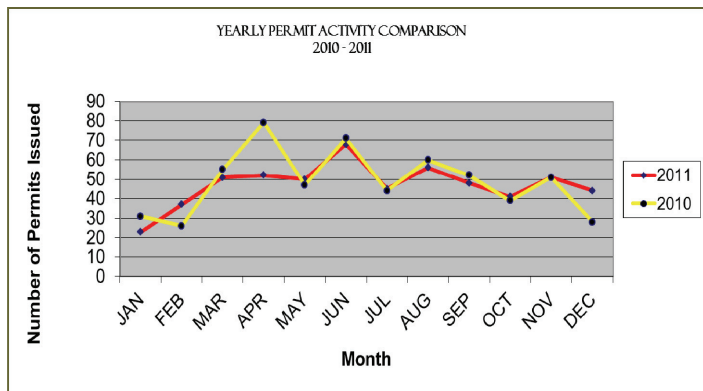
The Union Township Planning & Zoning Department issued 566 permits in 2011, and, with the exception of April, permit levels approached previous yearly totals. New commercial activity remained steady with 2010 levels, whereas changes of use/occupancy permits declined slightly year-over-year (-8.89%). However, signage permits increased precipitously over the previous year totals (+21.6%). Residential permit activity remains strong, inclusive of new single-family dwelling (SFD) permits, compared to the previous yearly totals. While activity declined in March and April, compared to the previous year, most months saw permit applications for new single family dwellings equaling or exceeding the number of applications received in 2010. It is worthy to note that some residential permit activity from 2010 may have been a result of stimulus programs targeted towards home buyers, whereas 2011 activity levels are reflective of a stabilizing housing market, at least locally. Permit activity at the end of the year also exceeded totals for the previous year as well. Revenues collected in 2011 also increased slightly over the previous year totals (+0.4%).



ZONING ENFORCEMENT

In 2011, the Planning & Zoning Department continued aggressive enforcement efforts in order to maintain gains in overall aesthetic appearance and quality of life made during the past four years. The department recorded 175 zoning violation complaints from the public in 2011, down from the 218 received during 2010. During the course of investigation and routine inspection efforts, 128 properties were found to be in violation of the *Union Township Zoning Resolution*. Throughout completion of enforcement action, a majority of complaints were resolved without a need to pursue further action through the courts.

Declared nuisance properties remained steady in 2011, with 26 nuisances declared throughout the year (+/- 0.0%). Additionally, nuisance complaints rose slightly from the previous year as well. The percentage of properties declared as compared to the overall number of complaints continues to decline, as the department carries on its efforts to track down responsible parties to secure abatement prior to the need for public action. However, in the event that a property is declared a nuisance and public action is ultimately taken to clean up the community eyesore, public monies expended to seek out, declare, and ultimately remedy the situations are recovered. The township's partnership with private firms to abate grass has been a success, due in part to the ability to respond quickly and avoid burdening limited public resources.



Planning & Zoning Department

2011 INSPECTION DATA

ACTIVITY CATEGORY	TOTAL
Inspections	720
Complaints	175
Unfounded Complaints	67
Warning Citation	85
15 Day Noncompliance letter	5
30 Day Violation letter	1
Forward to Township Attorney	0
Resolved w & w/o action	128
Miscellaneous Issues	196
Violations Monthly Total	200
Re-inspection of Violations	233
Nuisance Filed	26

YEAR-OVER-YEAR INSPECTION DATA

ZONING VIOLATIONS & INSPECTIONS	2010	2011
Public Complaints Received	218	175
Properties in Violation	210	128
Warning Citations Issued	148	85
15 Day Noncompliance Letter Issued	36	5
30 Day Violation Letter Issued	37	1
Violations Resolved	207	128
Legal Action Pursued	3	0
Zoning Violation Follow-Up Inspections	382	233
False Complaints Received	61	67
Miscellaneous Issues	209	196
Inspections	795	720
Nuisance Abatement Actions	26	26

BZA AND ZONING COMMISSION

The Union Township Board of Zoning Appeals heard seven cases in 2011, with the majority of those requests consisting of variance applications. In total, the board issued approval in nine cases and issued a single denial. The Zoning Commission had three new cases filed for review in 2011. Overlay District regulations adopted by the Board of Trustees in 2005 have further reduced barriers to development on otherwise challenging parcels. In fact, the Board of Trustees reviewed 10 Overlay District Applications in 2011. Facilitating reinvestment leads to a reduction in blighting influences, thereby ensuring that all the township's business corridors remain vibrant.

ZONING STATISTICS 2011

*	Major Amendments to Approved Planned Developments heard by the Board of Trustees:	4
*	Minor Amendments to Approved Planned Developments resolved by Administrative Action:	6
*	Zoning Commission Cases:	
	Total Number of Cases Filed	3
	Zone Changes	2
	Zone Changes Pending 12/31/11	1
	Text Amendments	0
*	Final Action of the Board of Trustees:	
	Zone Changes Approved	4
	Zone Changes Pending	1
	PD Major Amendments Approved	4
	Text Amendments Approved	0
	Focus Area Overlay Requests	10
	Overlay Approvals	10
*	Board of Zoning Appeals:	
	Total Number of Cases Filed	7
	Appeals	0
	Conditional Use	1
	Variances	6*
	Action: Approvals	10*
	Denials	1

* Totals do not match because many cases contain multiple requests.

Planning & Zoning Department

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

Several major projects made their mark on Union Township in 2011, thereby increasing economic prosperity for the township and the region. Most notably, the redevelopment of the former Biggs Plaza continues, with Jungle Jim's International Market well underway. The transformation of the site thus far has been remarkable, with landscaping, a monorail bridge, and other significant improvements underway at the conclusion of 2011. Further to that end, retail vitality is already appreciably greater in the immediate area and significant interest continues in the Eastgate South area.

Louiso Feed and Seed relocated operations to Union Township from a neighboring community, redeveloping a long-vacant property in the Willowville Corridor. In 2011, the Summerside area also saw increased interest in new development in conjunction with planned roadway improvements in the area; specifically, Grammas Pizza plans a new multi-tenant facility, and another office development is approved near the planned intersection of relocated Old SR 74. Carepointe LLC also partnered with Union Township to bring a flagship senior retirement community to the township, adjacent to Veteran's Park. Willie's Sports Café was also approved at Waterford Glen in 2011, along with a new KFC/Long John Silver's location.

Additionally, Ohio Mulch opened its new location on Mt. Carmel-Tobasco Road, which again represents a remarkable transformation from this previously underutilized and decaying property, and providing a much-needed landscaping outlet in the southern portion of the township. Mt. Carmel also experienced great success in 2011, with the establishment of the Mt. Carmel Revitalization Grant Program. Several property owners participated in this program in 2011, with new windows, doors, roofing, pavement improvements, paint, and other aesthetic improvements completed with matching assistance from the township CIC. The former Stables Bar/Naz-car Café was converted to Eastgate Martial Arts Academy, with the ownership making a significant investment in the renovation of the property. Pinnacle Environmental completed restoration of Historic Union Hall, preserving a part of the township's heritage and the introduction of a new business and employees to Mt. Carmel. Healthsource of SW Ohio broke ground on a new flagship facility in the Mt. Carmel area as well.

PLANNING INITIATIVES

Planning staff is committed to participating in short, medium, and long-range planning studies being administered through Clermont County – specifically, the Middle East Fork Watershed Collaborative Balanced Growth initiative currently winding down at this time. Staff continues to participate with the CCTID's Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) by providing local input into the regional transportation planning process. Staff also represents Union Township at the Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana (OKI) Regional Council of Governments on a monthly basis. Further, staff also participates as a member of the Eastern Corridor Development Team, formed to continue the progress of this multi-modal plan.

Additionally, in 2011, Union Township, in partnership with the West Clermont Local School District, completed a Safe Routes to School Travel Plan that encourages walking and/or biking to school. The Safe Routes to School Plan was approved by ODOT in early summer, 2011, and the committee remains active at this time. Currently, the Safe Routes to School committee is in the process of prioritizing projects for the upcoming FY 2012 funding cycle through ODOT. It is hoped that the township can obtain significant funding for sidewalks in targeted areas responsive to the plan. It is also expected that as sidewalk networks are constructed, the plan will continue to evolve to reflect enhanced access and connectivity.

Police Department

To the Board of Trustees and Administrator Geis:

I am pleased to present the 2011 annual report for the Union Township Police Department

2011 was another year of individual and group efforts, resulting in remarkable accomplishments. The Union Township Police Department continued to provide exceptional services during a trying economy. Annual crime statistics provided in this report are consistent with our socio-economic situation. National crime numbers indicate that crime is down across the United States, as it is in Union Township. Similar to the previous year, Union Township experienced a reduction in total crime reported of two percent, a total of a 12 percent reduction over the last two years. After experiencing years of declining numbers of calls for service, the Union Township Police Department recorded a two percent increase totaling 56,861.

Violence against police officers rose nationally in 2011. Union Township police reported only an increase of two deliberate assaults on officers over 2010 and a reduction of officers using force against suspects by 20 percent. The introduction of the *Taser* and the diligent training with that instrument has had a positive result in reducing the use of force and injury to officers.

The Union Township Police Department remains committed to traffic safety by aggressively patrolling 130 miles of township roads, 400 miles of county roadways, two major state routes and Interstate 275. UTPD continues to participate in the Ohio Governor's Traffic Safety Grant Program.

As a nationally CALEA accredited agency, the Union Township Police Department continues to work cooperatively with all Clermont County agencies to provide safety and security to our township residents as well as neighboring Clermont County communities. In the interest of interoperability, the Union Township Police Department's Communication Section and individual patrol officers remain linked, when needed, to county resources and vice-versa.

Respectfully submitted,,



Terrence D. Zinser
Police Chief

Police Department



The members of the Union Township Police Department are committed to the principles that define democracy, including the protection of constitutional rights and equal protection under the law. Officers of the Union Township Police Department are expected to strive for:

- making the maximum contribution to enhance the overall quality of life in Union Township;
- having the courage to always fight injustice;
- dedication to protecting the innocent and providing aid to those who cannot care for themselves;
- prevention, resistance, and elimination of crime and the fear of crime;
- fostering a relationship of genuine mutual respect with the members of the community;
- achievement of personal and professional excellence;
- the ethical, consistent and equitable exercise of police powers and discretion.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Lieutenant Scott Gaviglia is assigned as Commander of the Operations Bureau. He has been a member of law enforcement for 18 years and has been with Union Township since 1997. He has served as a patrol officer, road patrol sergeant, and detective sergeant prior to his appointment to Operations Lieutenant in January, 2006. Lt. Gaviglia possesses a Master's Degree in Business Administration, is a graduate of the Southern Police Institute, Northwest Command School, and the Certified Law Enforcement Executive Program.



Sergeant Mike Mills Commands the Staff Services Bureau. He is a veteran police officer with 16 years' experience, serving 13 of those years with the Union Township Police Department. He has served as a police officer and sergeant of road patrol prior to being appointed as Staff Services Sergeant in November 2009. Sergeant Mills possesses a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice and is a graduate of the Southern Police Institute

Heather Brown is the Administrative Assistant to the Chief of Police. She has held that position since her hire in 1997. She continues to be a vital part of the administrative staff. Her duties are many, including human resource responsibilities.

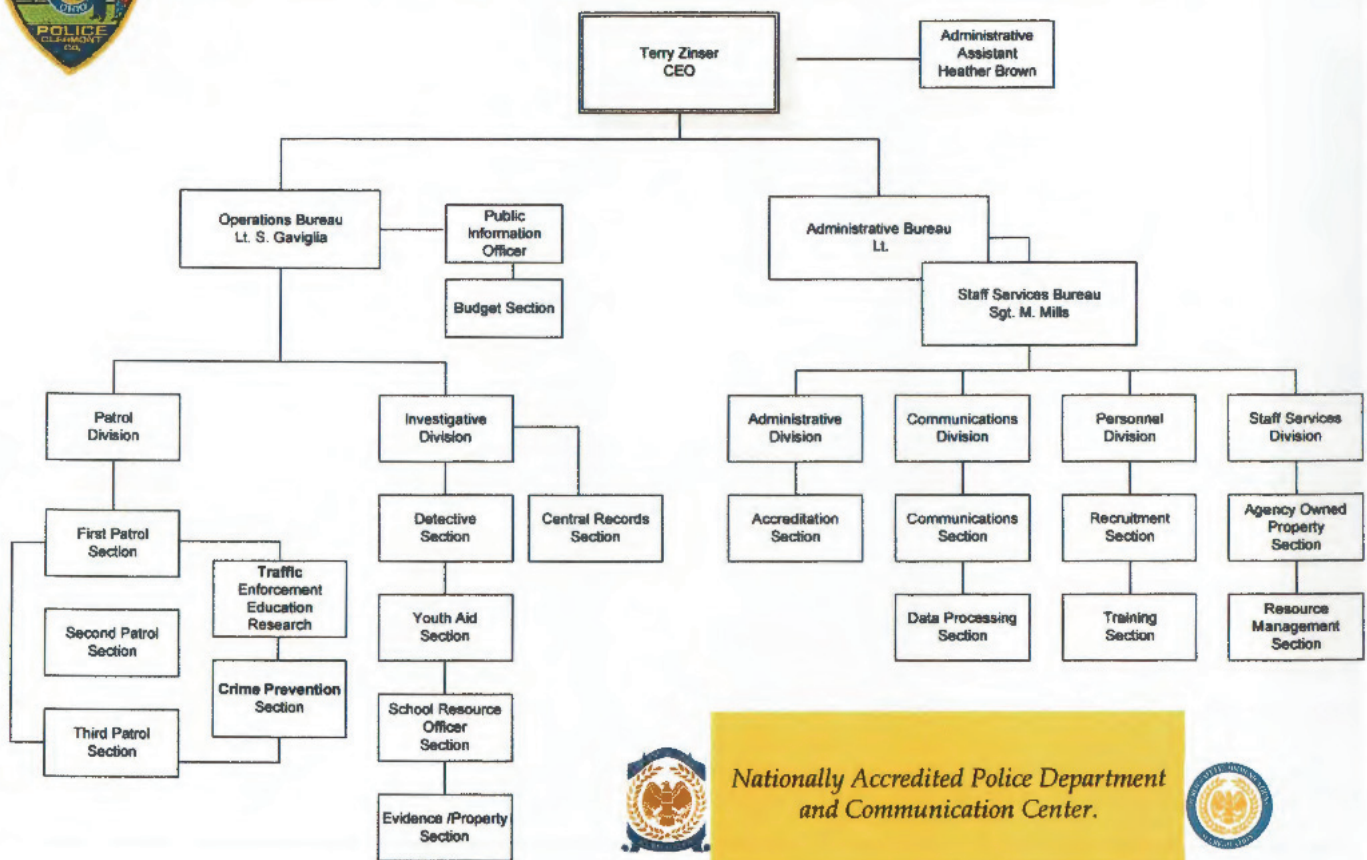


Police Department

Organizational Chart



Union Township Police Department



*Nationally Accredited Police Department
and Communication Center.*



7/20/2011

2011 Crimes Reported, Traffic Enforcement, and Calls for Service

Crimes Reported	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals
Part 1 UCR													
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	3	2	1	0	2	6	0	0	2	2	3	21
Robbery	1	2	0	1	2	0	1	3	2	2	0	3	17
Assault	11	8	14	14	19	10	17	11	8	11	11	11	145
Burglary/B&E	22	10	21	33	21	36	55	38	25	32	28	26	347
Theft/Larceny	144	99	145	147	146	169	179	187	172	145	166	141	1840
Auto Theft/Unauthorized Use	4	0	7	11	3	5	8	13	6	3	8	3	71
Arson	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	4
Domestic Violence	12	14	16	22	26	17	22	12	14	19	22	12	208
Total	194	136	206	230	217	239	288	265	227	215	237	199	2653

Other Non-UCR/General*	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals
DUI	32	29	20	29	19	16	19	25	16	20	21	17	263
All Other Offenses	146	206	203	156	193	181	232	203	162	188	192	193	2255
All Other Non Offenses	235	189	205	203	191	192	189	173	165	148	128	133	2151
Total	413	424	428	388	403	389	440	401	343	356	341	343	4669
Total Crimes Reports	607	560	634	618	620	628	728	666	570	571	578	542	7322

Traffic Enforcement	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals
Citations	246	315	331	254	266	293	267	256	279	309	308	292	3416
Warnings	426	532	570	380	366	357	331	306	378	400	401	491	4938
Traffic Stops	648	824	862	568	612	610	568	522	613	678	642	734	7881
Traffic Crashes	116	106	128	119	102	127	115	124	142	141	162	150	1532
Traffic Crashes on Private	29	23	21	32	27	29	40	34	33	45	34	45	392
Total Calls for Service	4364	4302	4878	4560	4730	4953	5082	4865	4678	5024	4664	4761	56861

*includes all non-UCR and other non-criminal information reports.

Police Department

OPERATIONS BUREAU

The Operations Bureau is commanded by Lieutenant Scott Gaviglia. The Operations Bureau consists of the **Road Patrol** and **Investigative Divisions**, the largest bureau in number of members, forty-seven.

The **Road Patrol Division** is responsible for handling citizen calls for service, tactical response to apprehend criminals, community problem solving, enforcement of traffic laws, and investigation of traffic crashes. All three patrol shifts, consisting of 37 sworn road patrol officers, are managed 24/7 by six patrol sergeants. A state-certified canine unit, trained and experienced in patrol, search, and drug detection is scheduled within second and third shift.



Traffic Unit officers, trained in advanced traffic accident investigations, are scheduled within all three shifts as well. Traffic officers are trained and equipped to deal with any degree of accident investigation, documentation and recreation. Traffic officers are actively involved in traffic education, research, and traffic development. Traffic officers are available to participate in and educate youthful drivers within the local West



Clermont Local School District, develop and share ideas with the local engineering departments, and perform research upon request, much of which contributed to this annual report.

The traffic unit supervisor is responsible for applying and managing traffic enforcement grants, maintenance of traffic equipment, and monitoring officers' certifications. Union Township experienced one fatal accident upon a state route late in 2011, involving an intoxicated pedestrian. No charges were filed.

The Crime Prevention Section is managed by Sergeant Tony Rees. Many Union Township Road Patrol officers are tasked with ancillary duties. This is never more evident than in the *Crime Prevention Section*. Sergeant Rees plans, designs, schedules, and assigns personnel to programs such as Neighborhood Watch groups, National Night Out events, Citizen Police Academies, Women's Unarmed Self-Defense classes, and children's events. Sergeant Rees compiles quarterly and annual reports documenting the Crime Prevention Section's performance.

National Night Out is a nationally held event by law enforcement agencies across the country with the purpose of bringing the public and their local police departments closer together for crime awareness and prevention with a festival atmosphere. The Union Township Police Department enjoys one of the most popular and successful events in the region. This event has gained popularity every year while under the direction of Sergeant Rees.



The Union Township Police Department conducted its seventh **Citizen's Police Academy** in 2011. During this ten-week program, citizens spent time learning more about the work that police officers do. Citizens learn about police procedures, self-defense, crime prevention, experience the patrol environment and go to the range to fire police duty weapons. In return, the police department increases its league of ambassadors in the community.

Neighborhood Watch programs remain the most effective tool in combating crime where we live. During 2011, officers from the department attended Neighborhood Watch meetings and presented safety talks to interested groups. As a result of these meetings, the department formulates strategies designed to address concerns. Last year, the concerns most often expressed dealt with traffic problems caused by speeders and reckless drivers as well as concerns about disorderly juveniles in neighborhoods. In response to these concerns, the department employed a number of strategies. Electronic radar signs, securely fastened to existing poles, were placed in a number of neighborhoods. These devices use radar to measure speed and display the speed on a board that motorists can see.

Police Department



These devices are designed to encourage voluntary compliance of speed laws by the community. In those instances where voluntary compliance could not be achieved, the department deployed patrol officers into problem areas with strict enforcement of all laws. This strategy was continued until compliance was achieved. The department then conducted follow-up patrols in those areas to ensure that compliance continued. During meetings, citizens were encouraged to abide by the mantra, "If you see it, report it."



Citizens are often the eyes and ears for the police and community safety must be a joint effort between the police and the community. Citizens are urged to rely on and communicate with their neighbors, for the residents know who belongs and who does not. Crime prevention education is the responsibility of every officer and every citizen contact is an opportunity to educate and leave a positive impression.



Women's Unarmed Self-Defense Classes have increased in popularity every year. The Union Township Police Department has increased the number of classes because of special group requests and demand. These classes are offered free of charge and are instructed by our state certified police officers. The course is designed to teach the basic skills and maneuvers to make women more aware and give them the confidence and ability to protect themselves.

The Union Township Police Department's award-winning Honor Guard Unit continues to grow in popularity. Their appearances range from major sporting events to funerals, award banquets, and senior citizens' special events. The Honor Guard Unit is scheduled to participate and compete during the upcoming 2012 National Law Enforcement Memorial Services in Washington D.C.



The Canine Unit, initiated in 2007, is an effective public relations and crime fighting tool in the detection of drugs and tracking of suspects.

Action Type	2011 Total
Vehicle investigations	306
Suspect tracks	23
Drug related arrests	57
Public relations details	6

The Investigation Division is made up of one detective sergeant, five detectives, two narcotics investigators, and one school resource officer. Although all detectives shared in 484 criminal complaints in 2011, the detectives are specifically assigned to white collar offenses, juvenile and sex offenses, computer forensics, crime scene processing and forensic, polygraph operators, and generalists. Last year resulted in the arrests of 165 persons and the closure of 219 cases (55 percent). All investigators are trained and authorized by UTPD standards in the State of Ohio's new and stringent photo line-up protocols. In addition to their own caseloads, detectives are committed to assisting and advising road patrol officers on daily investigations.

2011 highlights include convictions in a long-term investigation leading to federal convictions for interstate prostitution originating in Orlando, Florida. Union Township police continue their efforts to protect the moral fiber of our community with the first successful conviction and closure of an adult cabaret in Ohio.

Police Department

Criminal Investigations Totals	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Yr.
New Assigned Cases	37	26	38	26	27	55	66	68	43	41	31	26	484
Current Caseload	147	146	155	157	156	170	178	196	202	192	196	188	n/a
Number of Persons Arrested	12	9	10	18	16	16	17	20	17	11	9	10	165
Closed - Arrest	9	8	9	10	12	13	22	15	15	8	9	8	138
Closed - Otherwise	6	5	7	0	8	3	6	13	5	8	5	5	71
Closed - Inactive	34	0	10	13	10	25	24	27	27	32	12	24	238
Closed - Unfounded	2	1	1	1	2	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	10
Missing persons	2	1	1	1	3	1	3	6	3	3	2	1	27

Union Township Police Department's **Polygraph Unit**, operated by the detective division, is the only one in Clermont County, Ohio. A second operator was added in 2011, resulting in a total of twelve exams being performed for outside agencies as well as in-house. The exams resulted in five individuals passing, six found to be deceptive, and one inconclusive. Five admissions were extracted during post-test interviews.

The Polygraph Unit found early success with a polygraph examination leading to the admission and arrest involving the homicide of a three-year old infant by his caretaker.



The Central Records Section is under the auspices of the Investigation Division, due to the daily needs and review of reports by managing Detective Sergeant Scott Blankenship. The Central Records Section processes all documents generated by the police officers and manages a computerized records system, which includes all crime reports, traffic crash reports (available on line at no charge), warrants and contacts with persons. All record requests, expungements, state mandated traffic crash reporting, and towed records are processed through this section. Records personnel are also fully certified in the emergency 911 dispatching of police and fire.

ADMINISTRATIVE/STAFF SERVICES BUREAU

Staff Services Bureau and the Administrative Services Bureau were merged in 2011. Recognized for his leadership abilities and appreciation for detail, Sergeant Mike Mills is tasked as the commander. The Administrative/Staff Services Bureau is comprised of four Divisions; Administrative, Communications, Personnel, and Staff Services.



The Administrative Division is responsible for the accreditation process. Union Township is dedicated to the accreditation philosophy throughout its government services to include national recognition of Police, Emergency Communications, Fire, and Public Works. The Union Township Police Department and its Emergency 911 Center were nationally accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies in 2010 and is scheduled for its seventh and second reaccreditation respectively in 2013. Upon its sixth award in 2010, the Union Township Police Department was recognized as a *Flagship Agency* based on prior awards, its 2010 review by outside assessors, and its overall performance and example of professionalism.



Police Department

The members of the Union Township Police Department are guided by policies and procedures that are reviewed annually and heavily influenced by accreditation standards that reflect the best accepted practices for law enforcement and emergency dispatching for police and fire services.

The Communications Division is the second largest in the number of members. Twelve communications specialists, who provide 24/7 dispatching services, are trained and certified by the Association of Public Safety Communication Officers International® (APCO). Communications specialists are provided advanced training and certification in emergency medical dispatching and emergency fire dispatching by The National Academies of Emergency Dispatch®. In addition to CALEA assessors, the dispatch center and central records section is monitored and reviewed by the State of Ohio's Law Enforcement Automated Data System (LEADS). Union Township's emergency 911 communication center is one of only two in Clermont County and is equipped and structured to work separately or as one in the case of emergencies through interoperability. The communications center serves the residents, visitors, and businesses of Union Township, as well as the neighboring community of Amelia, Ohio. In addition to the 56,861 call for service for Union Township, the dispatch center handled 4,600-plus calls for Amelia police as well as 571 fire and medical service calls for Amelia.

In 2011, Union Township Communications Center incorporated the ability to activate the critical incident sirens directly from the center for the surrounding areas.

Sworn Positions	Allocated	Male	Female	All	Vacancies
Sworn Total	58	48	3	51	7
Non-Sworn Total	15	1	12	13	2
Grand Totals	73	49	15	64	9

The Personnel Division includes the Recruitment Section and the Training Section.

Recruitment

In the interest of fiscal responsibility, the Union Township Police Department refrained from replacing members lost through attrition over the last five years. The agency remains active in job fairs to guide and assist those interested in law enforcement as a career, yet active recruitment has been curtailed as it pertains to sworn personnel.

Training

Under the direct supervision of Staff Services Commander, Sergeant Mike Mills, the training received by Agency personnel is second to none. Training in lethal and non-lethal force far exceeds those standards set by the State of Ohio. Training requests from members directly correspond to annual evaluations, endorsed by one's supervisor and approved by a training committee. The agency takes advantage of all local, state, and federal training offers. In 2011 the agency entered into a contract for an outside company to provide continual on-line graded training. Union Township offers its members a generous college tuition reimbursement. In 2011, the agency enhanced its critical incident training with "Safe City." Members are given the opportunity for hands-on training in various scenarios supported by classroom instructions by in-house certified instructors. Union Township Police Department members completed a total of 2,692.5 hours of training in 2011.



Police Department

The Staff Services Division

Agency-Owned Property and Resource Management Sections are responsible for all agency-owned equipment, vehicles, and facilities to include the ordering of approved purchases, inventory, inspection, and repairs. All agency owned firearms are inspected on schedule and any repairs are performed by trained and certified agency personnel. **All** member-issued equipment is inspected by their respective supervisor annually and they in turn report subordinates' needs to the Staff Services Commander.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Internal Affairs and Citizen Complaints

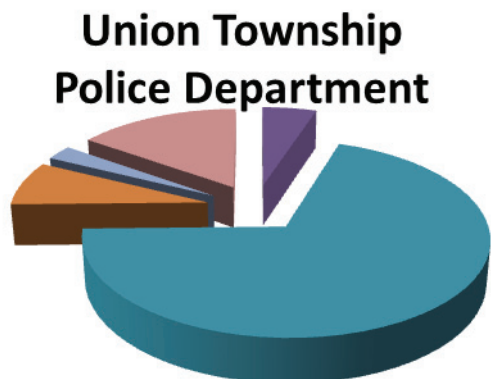
The Union Township Police Department maintains careful records of all internal investigations and citizen complaints. An internal affairs investigation is prompted by any alleged violation of criminal or civil law or corrupt activity. A citizen complaint is a non-criminal violation of agency policy or standards of conduct. The citizen complaint program requires written documentation and supervisory involvement in every complaint received. The Chief of Police responds to every complaint in writing as to the outcome. The complaint process and statistics are available to the public as required by CALEA standards. In 2011 there were no internal investigation and four citizen complaints.

Employee Grievances

The collective bargaining process provides a grievance procedure where disagreements about the application of the collective bargaining contract between Union Township and the Fraternal Order of Police may be resolved. There were no grievances filed in 2011.

Personnel Distribution

2011 Citizen Complaints	
Exonerated	1
Not Sustained	0
Unfounded	3
Sustained	0
TOTAL	4



Personnel Distribution

Sworn Positions	Cur- rent	Cur- rent	Cur- rent
	Male	Female	All
CEO	1	0	1
Lieutenant	1	0	1
Sergeant	8	0	8
Police Officers & Detectives	39	3	42

Sworn Total	49	3	52
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Non-Sworn Positions	Cur- rent	Cur- rent	Cur- rent
	Male	Female	All
Administrative Asst.	0	1	1
Comm. Spec.	1	11	12

Non-Sworn Total	1	12	13
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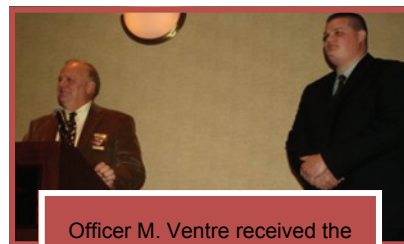
Totals	50	15	65
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Police Department

ACHIEVEMENTS

The Union Township Police Department recognizes that certain actions or activities performed by members of the department, whether planned or in response to emergency circumstances, should be recognized and rewarded. For that reason, the agency participates in recognition programs within, as well as outside, the department. Examples of recognition include the agency's Annual Chief's Award, *Serving Our Community* on the UTPD website, The Clermont County Citizens' Law Enforcement Association Banquet, the Stuart G. Luginbuhl American Legion Post 72 Annual Appreciation Banquet, the Proclamation & Special Presentation segment of the bi-monthly trustees' meeting, the issuance of Letters of Commendation, among others.

Detective John Pavia was the recipient of dual awards for his diligent work while assigned to Investigations. He received the American Legion Post 72's *Officer of the Year* award as well as the Clermont County *Investigator of the Year* award.



Officer M. Ventre received the *Medal of Honor* award at the 2011 Police Awards Banquet for saving a person's life. Sheriff Tim "AJ" Rodenberg presented the award.

Union Township Police Department had a strong showing of nominees at the 2011 Clermont County Police Awards banquet. Of the nominees, Lt. S. Madsen, Det. J. Pavia, Officer M. Ventre, Officer D. Perkins and Officer J. Hathorne, three ended the evening with awards.

Lt. S. Madsen received the *Officer of the Year* award at the 2011 Police Awards Banquet. Rich Jaffe of WKRC News presented the award.



Officer B. Dunkman received the *Annual Chief's Award* after serving Union Township for 25 years. He retired from public service after 30 years of service.

All letters of commendation, regardless of the author, along with compliments received from the public, are entered in the agency's *Serving the Community* section of the department's website.



The American Automobile Association (AAA) presented its second highest award, the AAA *Gold Community Traffic Safety Award*, to the U.T.P.D. in 2011. This was the first time the department had applied for this award, which honors agencies for their outstanding work to improve the safety of local roadways for motorists and pedestrians. From left are Lt. Scott Gaviglia, and Officer Brent Grammel.

The Union Township Police Department



PRIDE

PROGRESS

PROFESSIONALISM

Service Department

To the Board of Trustees and Administrator Geis:

It is with great pride and pleasure that I present the 2011 Annual Report for the Union Township Service Department.

The primary role of the Union Township Service Department is “to improve and preserve the quality of life in our community by the pursuit of unparalleled services for our residents”. Union Township is the most livable community in Clermont County, Ohio, and one of the most desired destinations in the Greater Cincinnati region. All the Union Township departments, including the Service Department, work together to sustain a positive momentum for the community and the residents we serve.

Our department enjoyed a banner year in 2011. In June, we completed the self-assessment phase of the accreditation process. In this phase of the process, we studied every facet of our operations, recognizing opportunities to become more efficient and effective. We developed policies and procedures to help guide our department toward our ultimate goal of becoming the most successful public works agency in the nation.

In July, we became the first township Public Works Department in North America to be awarded accreditation through the American Public Works Association (APWA). This honor speaks volumes of our staff's commitment to excellence.

We are proud to be members of several prestigious organizations, including the American Public Works Association (APWA), the National Parks and Recreation Association (NP&RA), the Ohio Turf Grass Foundation (OTGF), the International Cemetery and Cremation Funeral Association (ICCFA), and the Ohio Cemetery Association Inc. (OCAI).

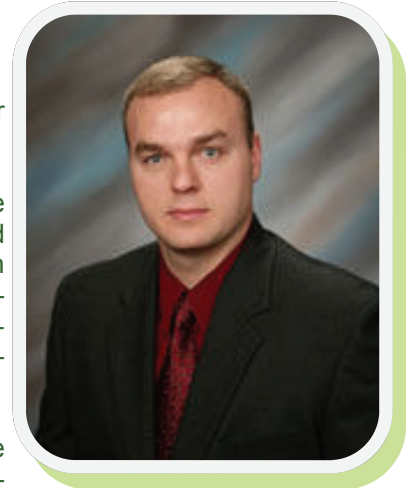
From repairing township roads to the maintenance and upkeep of the cemetery, and the various responsibilities in between, the Service Department is proud to be the caretaker of this growing and diverse community.

As always, I welcome any recommendations or suggestions on how the Service Department can progress in providing the types of services needed and desired by our residents, business owners, and visitors to this wonderful community.

Very truly yours,



Matt Taylor
Service Director



Service Department

The Union Township Service Department takes great pride in being the only Township Public Works department in North America to be accredited through the American Public Works Association (APWA), the authority in public works in the United States. We are extremely proud of the level of professionalism the members of our staff have achieved through their commitment to education and training.

Education and training are always major themes in the Service Department, and 2011 was no exception. In January, all employees received departmental mission, vision, and values training, as well as ethics training. All employees participated in a Mock Emergency Exercise to determine readiness for emergency preparedness. In February, two employees graduated from the Parks and Recreation Maintenance Management School, a two-year program through the National Parks and Recreation Association. In March, all employees received training in the areas of ergonomics, confined spaces, lock-out/tag-out, and personal protective equipment. Two employees attended a course on pavement preservation; three employees attended a conference on "Snow and Ice Control." In April, two employees attended APWA Accreditation Evaluators Training. Two employees received training in ASE Suspension & Steering and Auto Brakes in May. One employee attended an APWA Fleet Management Workshop. In September, two employees completed course work, passed exams, and became Certified Playground Safety Inspectors. In October, one employee attended Safety Training through the Ohio BWC. One employee attended a Snow & Ice Workshop through the University of Wisconsin. In addition, many members of staff completed continuing education hours for their Commercial Pesticide Applicators licenses.

The Union Township Service Department is comprised of four major divisions and employs 18 full-time staff members. The four divisions of the Service Department are (1) Roads, (2) Parks, Buildings and Grounds, (3) Fleet Maintenance, and (4) Cemetery.

ROADS DIVISION

The Union Township Service Department's Roads Division is responsible for the preservation of 129 center lane miles of public roadways. These roads range from high volume traffic roads to small cul-de-sac streets. Many of these roads have concrete curbs and gutters. The maintenance of these roads includes drainage improvements within the public right-of-way, pavement resurfacing, patching of potholes, line-striping, the treatment of roads due to snow and icy conditions, the installation and replacement of guardrails, and street and traffic control signs. All these activities work to help ensure safe road conditions for the traveling public.

The Roads Division completed 382 work order requests in 2011. These requests included full-depth asphalt base repairs, patching of potholes, ditching, curb repairs, the installation of new catch basins, the maintenance of existing catch basins, and many other miscellaneous items. In compliance with the Federal Highway Administration, the Service Department continues to be committed to a program to replace all existing signage with newly mandated retro-reflective signage by the year 2015. This past year, 379 new signs were installed. This included both regulatory and non-regulatory signage.

Additional responsibilities of the Roads Division include maintenance of the road right-of-way. This routine maintenance includes cleaning roadway ditches, repairing drainage systems, trimming trees, and mowing the grassy areas in the road right-of-way.

Snow and Ice Operations

A major role for the Service Department is snow and ice operations. Many improvements were made to the snow and ice operations this past year. A comprehensive snow and ice plan was developed and adopted. Salt usage was reduced by using more liquids, and all employees received additional training in winter operations. The township roads were treated for snow and icy conditions a total of 18 times in the winter of 2011. Each time the roads are treated for icy conditions, the usage of salt is approximately 70 tons. More than 1,260 tons of salt were used in 2011 in the battle to keep the roads clear and safe.

In addition to the roads, the Service Department takes care of all township-owned facilities as part of the snow and ice removal program. These facilities include the Civic Center's parking areas with the adjacent Park and Ride, the Police Department, all five fire stations, all four township parks, and Mount Moriah Cemetery. The salt used to treat the township roads is stored in a salt storage dome located at Clepper Park. This structure holds approximately 1,800 tons of salt.



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Our entire staff takes great pride in keeping our roads clear and safe for the traveling public. In 2011, we received many phone calls from business owners and residents thanking us for a job well done!

Annual Road Resurfacing Project

Every year, a portion of the Service Department's budget is set aside for the Annual Road Resurfacing Project. In 2010, Union Township hired a private company to do an in-depth pavement analysis of all township roads. This process assigns each street a pavement rating number. The rating system takes into consideration many different characteristics for each road. This rating system determined the roads selected to be paved as part of the 2011 annual paving project. Those roads were:

STREET NAME	FROM / TO
<i>Crescent Drive</i>	Beginning to township line
<i>Lily Lane</i>	Entire Road
<i>Brookview Drive</i>	Southridge to Blackberry
<i>Beech Tree Lane</i>	Entire Road
<i>Breezy Lane</i>	Entire Road
<i>Blackberry Lane</i>	Brookview to Brookview
<i>Van Vista Drive</i>	Entire Road
<i>Anna Mae Drive</i>	Entire Road
<i>Marjorie Drive</i>	Entire Road
<i>Shaylor Crossing</i>	Beginning to Creekstone
<i>Blossum</i>	Township line to End
<i>Musket</i>	Entire Road
<i>Flintlock</i>	Entire Road
<i>LeMaster Drive</i>	Entire Road



In addition to these roads being repaved, the scope of services included performing full depth asphalt base repairs, replacing damaged cross tiles, and any damaged curb and gutter. Finally, an evaluation of all signage and a tree inventory in the road right of way is performed for each street.

PARKS, BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

The Parks, Buildings and Grounds Division is responsible for the maintenance, repair, and beautification of the township's four parks, buildings, township gateway areas, and the landscaping on Ivy Pointe Boulevard. The Parks Division also plays a key role in many township events such as concerts, National Night Out, the Christmas tree lighting event, etc. The primary role of the division is the day-to-day operations of Veterans Memorial Park, Clepper Park, Mt Carmel Park, and Ivy Pointe Park.



Veterans' Memorial Park

Veterans Memorial Park remains one of the most popular gathering places in Union Township. With a wide range of amenities, the park is the perfect setting for numerous events throughout the year. The 25-acre park offers all types of recreational facilities, including tennis courts, 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. Families and groups can enjoy sheltered and unsheltered picnic areas with grills.

Service Department

These shelters can be reserved by residents, and not-for-profit organizations at no charge. Last year, 76 shelter reservation requests were filled.

Some of the many organizations that take advantage of the sports facilities are teams from the Southeast Cincinnati Soccer Association and select soccer teams, and both boys' and girls' knothole baseball teams. Many other organizations take advantage of the park, such as The Eastgate Community Church and Clermont County Senior Services.

Some of the memorable events in 2011 included the Union Township Police Department's annual "National Night Out," Cincy Kids-4-Kids Carnival, the 24-hour National Day of Prayer Observation, a walk for the Leukemia and Lymphoma associations, Clean and Green Spring litter pickup, (A Caring Place), and The American Cancer Society's "Relay for Life."

A tradition that began about 17 years ago is a Memorial Day vigil sponsored by the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 649. The veterans erect a mock military cemetery by surrounding the area near the helicopter with approximately 555 white crosses, each representing a Vietnam casualty from the tri-state area. Over the years, this event has gained both regional and national attention.

There are many more events that are celebrated at Veterans Memorial Park and the Service Department's Parks Division keeps up with these events by making sure that all aspects of the park are operated and maintained in such a manner that we can be proud of.

Day-to-day maintenance includes mowing and trimming the soccer fields, baseball fields and play areas, trash removal, keeping the restroom facilities clean and in working order, dragging the baseball fields, repairing and replacing playground equipment, and pruning and mulching the landscaped areas.

In addition to the daily maintenance, every year the Service Department completes new projects designed to enhance the park. In 2011, the parking lot, and walking paths were sealed and stripped. Mile markers were installed on the walking track. A new practice board was added to the tennis courts. Landscape improvements were added to the entrance off of Glen Este-Withamsville Road. All of these improvements were made by the Board of Trustees, for the enjoyment of the community.

Clepper Park

Union Township views its parks as a major attraction, providing both active and passive recreational facilities for all to enjoy, and our 50-acre Clepper Park is no exception.

With entrances from Summerside and Barg Salt Run roads, the park offers basketball courts, soccer fields, baseball diamonds, a football field, walking track, fishing lake, and an equipped playground area. Sheltered and unsheltered picnic areas with grills and public restrooms complete the full range of facilities found at Clepper Park. All the shelters have picnic tables that are handicap accessible. These shelters can be reserved by residents and not-for-profit organizations at no cost. In 2011, fifty-five shelter reservation requests were filled.

These amenities are used by many organizations throughout the year. The basketball courts are used daily and many people use the track to walk, jog, and inline skate. The fishing lake is a "catch and release" operation and offers both the experienced and novice anglers a place to test their skills.

The Service Department operates and maintains Clepper Park, including repairing and replacing existing playground equipment, installing new benches and trash containers, dragging the baseball fields, mowing and trimming the soccer and football fields and play areas, trash removal, maintenance of the restroom facilities, and pruning and mulching the landscaped areas.

As with all four of the township's parks, an effort is made every year to improve the grounds. In 2011, mile markers were installed on the walking path. Improvements were made to the baseball fields, including fence repairs. The permanent soccer goals were replaced with portable goals in an effort to add flexibility to the field layout. These concentrated efforts were made to further enhance the beauty, and pleasure of Clepper Park.

Mt. Carmel Park

Mt. Carmel Park is the township's smallest park, often being referred to as a "Pocket Park." It is a neighborhood park to serve the area for which it is named. Mt. Carmel Park is a beautiful green space located at Dameron Lane and Ravenwood Court. This neighborhood park includes a completely equipped playground area with several benches throughout. In 2011, special attention was paid to the turf grass and trees at the park. Extra applications of fertilizer were applied and a tree inventory was performed. The township views its parks as a key attraction, providing both active and passive recreational activities for all to enjoy.

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Ivy Pointe Park

Ivy Pointe Park is the township's newest park. This park is located on Ivy Pointe Boulevard. It is a pet-friendly park situated on just over eight acres. Ivy Pointe Park is graced with two beautiful gazebos, a paved walking trail, a pond, and a restroom facility. This park is unique in the sense that as the surrounding business district grows, the walking path from the park will eventually encompass the entire business district. The Service Department is very excited about the future development of this incredible green space. In 2011, significant improvements were made to the park, including sealing and stripping the parking lot and walking track, installation of mile markers and the installation of additional landscaping. A special effort was made to enhance the turf areas by overseeding, and extra applications of fertilizer were applied throughout the year.

FLEET MAINTENANCE

The Union Township Service Department employs an ASE certified mechanic. The Fleet Maintenance Division maintains all service, police and administration vehicles. The Fleet Maintenance Division filled 488 requests for service in 2011. These requests ranged anywhere from routine maintenance to major repairs. The division also plays a key role in maintaining the department's snow and ice control equipment.

CEMETERY

The Cemetery Division is responsible for the operations at Mount Moriah Cemetery.

The mission statement of the Union Township, Mt. Moriah Cemetery is, "To operate and maintain an historic burial ground in a park-like setting, with a commitment to preserve and honor the heritage of past generations, to serve and respect the needs of the present generation, and to provide a legacy for future generations." The cemetery staff strives to accomplish this mission year round.

In keeping with Mt. Moriah Cemetery's legacy of beauty and serenity, several major projects were completed in 2011. The addition of a beautiful gazebo in the turn-around of Sections 13-14 was completed. This area was greatly enhanced by the installation of the gazebo. A cement pad was poured in the middle of the circular grass area for the construction of the gazebo. The "New Lexington Colonial" 24 foot, white vinyl classic gazebo is topped by a green metal roof. In addition, a concrete walkway was installed from the road to the entrance of the gazebo. The new gazebo is a focal point of Sections 13-14. It will be used for funerals and to provide a serene place of meditation for visitors to the cemetery.

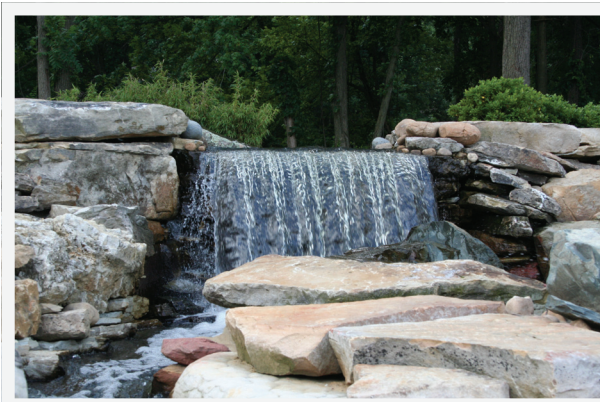


Another ongoing project throughout 2011 was the tree removal and planting project. Mt. Moriah Cemetery recognizes a commitment to the public for the removal of hazardous trees throughout the cemetery. In 2011, 111 hazardous trees were removed from the cemetery grounds. In addition, the cemetery planted 40 new trees. The new trees included Oak, Pink Dogwood, Gum, Maple and Crabapple. The new trees will add to the diversity of species and greatly enhance the landscape of the cemetery.

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In 2011, all cemetery roads were repaved. The road improvements included full depth asphalt base repairs with an increase of width in the turning radii. Approximately 1.8 miles of roads were repaved throughout the cemetery grounds. The repaving improved the traffic conditions as well as the overall aesthetics of the cemetery grounds. In addition, the visitor parking lot was sealed and restriped.

The waterfall enhancement project was necessary to preserve the spectacular waterfall that was originally constructed in 2008. In 2011, 18 tons of washed stone were added, in addition to one ton of Tennessee flat stone. Also, two benches were installed at the top of the waterfall. This magnificent waterfall continues to be a place of beauty and serenity for visitors to the cemetery. On July 29, 2011, the waterfall was a spectacular backdrop for a summer wedding.



A major event at Mt. Moriah Cemetery in 2011 was the fourth annual “Lantern Lighting Ceremony.” The Union Township Board of Trustees provides dinner for the guests, who have decorated rice paper lanterns with messages to departed loved ones. The lanterns are placed on waterproof platforms with a centered votive candle and placed on the lake at sunset while a bugler plays “Amazing Grace.” A string trio from the Clermont Philharmonic Orchestra performs throughout the evening, and Cub Scout Pack 671 and Boy Scout Troop 671 lead guests in the “Pledge of Allegiance” and the “National Anthem.” The Veteran Marine Corps League Detachment 393 performs the color guard presentation. This event is ever growing in popularity and this year, more than 550 people attended.

Many ongoing programs were continued, benefiting the overall appearance of the cemetery grounds. These programs included the planting of spring bulbs, annual flowers and rose bushes, fertilizing the grounds, mulching the landscaped areas, removing dead trees and unsightly bushes, geese control, and trimming the tree limbs. Twenty knock-out rose bushes were planted in the parking island at Heritage Memorial Grove, and ten knock-out rose bushes were planted at the border of Section 3-C. New Signage was added.

All projects and events did not detract from the main business of the cemetery. In 2011, the cemetery staff prepared 201 burial sites, sold 132 new gravesites, poured 163 monument foundations and installed 43 government markers. Nine families used the Cremation Scattering Garden, which opened in 2005. The garden offers families an alternative to memorialize cremation.

Recognizing that Mt. Moriah Cemetery is a place of serenity as well as history, the Board of Trustees implemented all improvements with a focus on providing a proper and dignified setting for both those who are buried at the cemetery and those who are paying their respects.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

As part of community service outreach, the Union Township Trustees sponsor “Junk Collection Days” twice a year, once in April, and once in October. The spring “Junk Collection Days” are held over a six-day period, including a Saturday, while the fall “Junk Collection Days” are held over a three-day period, also including a Saturday. This community service provides an opportunity for the residents of the township to dispose of unwanted items in an environmentally sound manner. In 2011, unwanted items included 64 refrigerators, with 41 garbage trucks filled with furniture, clothes, bicycles, electronic equipment, and lawn equipment.

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In 2011, the Union Township Board of Trustees continued to sponsor a “Tree and Brush Voucher” program. This program allows any township resident to drop off unwanted tree and brush debris at Bzak Landscaping at no cost. Any township resident can receive as many vouchers as they need. In 2011, the Service Department issued 327 Tree and Brush vouchers.

Each January, the township offers free Christmas tree disposal services. Township residents can drop off their Christmas trees at the Service Department complex, located behind the Union Township Police Department, where the trees are chipped and used for mulch. In 2011, 212 Christmas trees were dropped off, and recycled.

IN CONCLUSION

2011 will unquestionably go down in history as one of the greatest years ever for the Service Department. Some of the year’s highlights included the department receiving National Accreditation through the American Public Works Association (APWA), two members of our staff becoming evaluators for the APWA accreditation program, two employees graduating from the Parks and Recreation Maintenance Management School, a two-year program through the National Parks and Recreation Association, two members of our staff becoming nationally recognized as Certified Playground Safety Inspectors through the National Parks and Recreation Association, and one employee achieving the prestigious ASE certification for automobile repairs.

In 2011, we lived up to our motto, *“Around here we don’t look backward. We keep moving forward, opening new doors and doing new things.”* 2012 will be no exception as we continue to reach for our ultimate goal of becoming the most effective and efficient public works department in the nation.



Union Township Television

To the Board of Trustees and Administrator Geis,

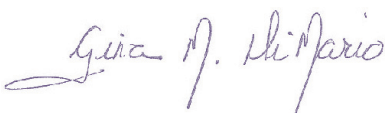
After more than five years in operation, Union Township Television has made its mark on the local community through the services the station provides.

In 2011, total programming hours were up by 3 percent, but more significantly, equipment reservations increased by 16 percent and editing training grew by more than 41 percent over 2010, translating into more local interest in getting involved.

UTTV is also responsible for creating, printing and distributing the quarterly township newsletter, *Talk of The Township*, as well as the annual report, and other media functions, such as press releases, public service announcements, Union Township web site press releases and announcements, and signage. The department also manages the Civic Center gym and meeting room reservations.

Union Township Television remains committed to promoting community involvement and awareness in all the activities we manage, from the production of locally-produced television programs to the quarterly newsletters, PSAs, press releases, and daily interaction with the public.

Sincerely,



Gina M. DiMario
Media / Communications Manager

Union Township Television

The mission of Union Township Television is to support the development of a local volunteer program to facilitate, encourage and promote community involvement in the production of locally-produced television programs that will be available for cablecast on the township's access channels.

The station strives to round out local-producer offerings by providing professional, high-quality educational and entertaining programs. Union Township Television will provide the means to local producers to create programs that educate, entertain and enlighten the people of the township.

We encourage public participation to promote interest in local government, education and cultural events by providing quality programming that is consistent with state and federal laws.

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Our participation in the Brown Mackie College Audio-Video Production "externship" program resulted in two interns working at UTTV in 2010, and we added another intern from UC Raymond Walters College. These interns, as well as several regular volunteers, helped man the equipment at the ever-expanding Summer Concert Series.

We continued our project of regularly-scheduled Public Service Announcements (PSAs) with Clermont Senior Services Inc. and the Stuart G. Luginbuhl American Legion Post 72, both of which feature information about the many services each organization provides. We also added the voices of West Clermont Local School District elementary school children greeting early morning UTTV viewers with the Pledge of Allegiance.

UTTV has historically produced four flagship programs: *Crime Talk*, *Fire Chat*, *Cooking With Rita*, and *Painting with The Masters*. Last year, we added a new project, *Thanks for The Memories*, which brings a more personal relevance and long-range value, as lifelong resident Stanley Wilfert provides history lessons on this township that celebrated its bicentennial in 2011.

To tie in with the bicentennial, and with the generosity of Wal-Mart Eastgate's donation of a 48-inch flat-screen television, our video contest resulted in an outstanding submission of township history by winner Cory Woodruff.

Our most ambitious project to date, the UC Health Air Care & Mobil Care documentary, was completed and aired with such success that it will now be used annually as a training film for all incoming physicians in the UC Health Emergency Department residency program. In early 2012, we learned that the program had been awarded a national Pegasus Award of Distinction. This award joins the Certificate of Appreciation UTTV received in March from the Stuart G. Luginbuhl American Post 72 for our partnership with them in promoting their various programs and services.

A Guide to Feeling Better
American Democracy TV
Army Newswatch
Around The World in Ohio
Backwoods Outdoors
Beyond Today
Clermont County Today
Clermont Philharmonic Orchestra
Cooking with Rita
Fire Chat
Crime Talk
Crosspointe Baptist Church
Finer With Age

UTTV is located on the
third floor of Fire Station 51,
860 Clough Pike.
The television facility consists of
offices, playback area, editing bay,
studio, and storage.

Call 947-7336 for an appointment
to meet with staff about your crea-
tive production needs.

In The Fight
Jazz Cardio Strength Stretch
Love and Faith Christian Center
Missionary Stories
Mt. Carmel Christian Church
New Life Fellowship
Painting with The Masters
Pet Alliance
Smart and Sober
The Road to Recovery
Today's Air Force
TV Toastmasters
Two Wheel Thunder

