



# the township *Scribe*



Washington Township . . . Your Community, Your Future

## Fire station renovations “LEED” the way

**T**he Fire Department’s remodeling projects at Stations 91 and 93 are underway. These two remodeling projects will be different from any the Township has ever completed in that they will comply with a nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings called the Leadership in Environmental Design (LEED®) Green Building Rating System™.

LEED gives building owners and operators the tools they need to have an immediate and measurable impact on their building’s performance. LEED promotes a whole-building approach to sustainability by recognizing performance in five key areas of human

and environmental health: sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality.

Through the agency that established and governs LEED, the U.S. Green Building Council, Washington Township’s projects will have the opportunity to achieve LEED certification at one of four levels: Certified, Silver, Gold and Platinum.

LEED certification provides verification that a building project meets the highest green building and performance measures. All certified projects receive a LEED plaque, which is the nationally recognized symbol demonstrating that a building is

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## Computer aided dispatching improves service

**I**n 2007, the Fire Department and City of Dublin Emergency Communications Center deployed a communication system that will expedite the process of getting emergency responders to the scene.

With the installation of wireless laptop computers in all emergency response vehicles, Washington Township Fire Department now has access to a very comprehensive mapping program, MECCMAP, detailing over 66,000 individually identified address points. The map can be scaled from miles to



feet, taking the driver to the location faster and more reliably.

While radio communications will still be used, the electronic map

information adds another layer of assurance to the dispatching process ensuring that the Fire Department’s response times remain well below national averages. MECCMAP also allows multiple layering of hydrant locations, water main sizes and locations, building utilities, Fire Department stand pipe and sprinkler connections, all of which are visible now on the electronic maps.

The geographic region covered on the map includes the Township, City of Dublin and surrounding areas. When

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# FIRE DEPARTMENT

## New medic chair cot is in service

You have to go back to the 1960s, when avocado-colored appliances were cool and bright pink, blue or yellow tile illuminated far too many bathrooms to have been around when the original Ferno Model 28 Chair Cot hit the market for medic transports.

It featured a low-slung design, sat right on the floor and was as durable as a rock.

The 28 could be quickly deployed as a cot and when confronted with tight turns, narrow hallways or those smaller-than-useful elevators, it could be converted into a chair almost instantly. Despite all its attributes, patients often commented on the chairs bumpy ride.

We have recently deployed a new 28Z Chair Cot in Medic 95. This retooling of a true industry classic brings a number of improvements and innovations to the market.

It's the lightest roll-in cot on the market and has a carrying capacity of 700-pounds which enables us to safely transport an increased weight range of patients. To safely meet the increased capacity and to improve cross-field and lifting stability, pull-out handles are included and optional flip-out foot handles were added.

The straps that secure patients are now part of a movable system which adjusts as the cot position changes from flat to a chair configuration, eliminating any discomfort from straps pinching or becoming too tight.

The larger, thicker mattress actually locks in place with a mechanism that is easier to clean than the former hook and loop velcro system.

The cot features a gas-assist backrest that provides unlimited choices for backrest position, allowing medics

to find the most comfortable and clinically optimal position for their patient.

We added the optional arm rests, equipment tray and soft-net head end storage pouch for oxygen and suction as well as an IV pole.

The wheel diameter was increased from 4" to 6" with two rolling and two swivel wheel locks for additional safety.

One of the major complaints about the old model 28 was its potential for tipping. Ferno engineers listened to their customers and have delivered a cot with vastly greater stability and patient comfort.

Each transport medic will have a Model 28Z cot issued in the very near future.

## Free diagnostic screenings and shamrocks at *Dublin Celebrates...Senior Citizens' Day*

The Fire Department will offer blood pressure, EKG and CO<sub>2</sub> screenings to Seniors at the City of Dublin's annual event, *Dublin Celebrates...Senior Citizens' Day*.

The event is scheduled for Tuesday May 20, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Dublin Recreation Center.

During these hours, paramedics will be available to answer questions and provide information about the Fire Department's programs and services.

Free shamrock bulbs (corms) and pots will be available on a first-come, first-served basis to those in attendance.

"Washington Township Fire Department is Dublin's Fire Department and the shamrock is

represented in the City's logo. So we thought a shamrock might be a good way we could remind City



residents that the Township serves the City of Dublin as well as the unincorporated Township," said EMS Manager Jack McCoy. "Shamrocks are easy to grow too."

## Pipes and drums tradition takes new direction

Pipe bands have a rich tradition in the fire service. They originated to honor the lives of those lost in the fire service and provide support to their families by playing at funerals and memorial services.

While pipe bands have been around for a long time, not every fire department has a band.

Pipe bands are more common in larger departments because they require an investment in uniforms, instruments, and time to practice and perform. However, no matter how much financial backing is provided, band members' willingness to represent their Department in this capacity and dedicate time to practice and play at events is voluntary.

In Ohio, four city fire departments in Toledo, Cleveland, Columbus, and Cincinnati each have a pipe band.

In Central Ohio, individuals from several smaller fire departments are members of a regional pipe band, the Central Ohio Safety Forces. Among the departments with members in this band are Washington, Norwich, and Concord Townships, the City of Westerville, and the City of Urbana.

Bass drum player Scott Thomas from Washington Township Fire Department is one of the founding members. "We had interest enough from firefighters in the area to offer a pipe band but not enough members in any one of our departments for a band," explained Thomas. "We needed a way to increase our membership so we would be able to honor requests for performances. We believe there are pipers and drummers throughout Ohio who aren't formally affiliated with any band and may want to be."

Out of this need grew the idea that several departments might combine resources to create a regionally-based band rather than a department-based band. And for the past six years, the Central Ohio Safety Forces have served firefighters and their families throughout Central Ohio.

Using this model, Scott Thomas and Cleveland Pipe Band Manager Ken Rybka would like to help fire departments in other parts of Ohio develop regional pipe bands. Their vision is to create an organization called the Ohio Fire Pipe Band, to which any paid or volunteer fire fighter or EMS professional can belong. This organization would serve as a "clearinghouse" of pipers and drummers who are available to perform near or far from their Department's service territory, as needed.

One important requirement of membership in the Ohio Fire Pipe Band would be learning marches and play sets that are common to all members. This would enable any member who is available for a performance to work with any other member at a moment's notice. Scott and Ken's hope is that by unifying the members all over Ohio, they will attract more pipers and drummers and be able to provide support to the families of their fallen brothers and sisters.

To help spread the word about the Ohio Fire Pipe Band and recruit new members, Scott and Ken are planning to create a web site and a patch. The web site will make it easy for anyone interested in becoming a member to contact other members in their area. While musicians will still represent their Departments with their kilts and patches, the Ohio Fire Pipe Band patch will provide unity to musicians as members of this organization. If you are interested to become a member of the Ohio Fire Pipe Band or have questions about it, contact Ken



Central Ohio Safety Forces members Jeff Fowler (Washington Township Fire Department) and Mark Morgan (Franklin County Sheriff's Office) play in the Dublin Irish Festival Parade.

Rybka at 440-221-6246 and firepiper1@aol.com or Scott Thomas at 614-460-0878 and sthomas@wtwp.com.



# FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Replace carbon monoxide alarms every five years

Dublin homes that are in the 5-7 year old range are prime candidates for their carbon monoxide (CO) alarms to need replacement. These alarms are most often connected to the home's electrical system as is required by Dublin's residential building code. They also have a battery in the event that the electricity fails. CO alarms generally last less than five years and have batteries that need routine replacement.

When Washington Township Fire Department answers an emergency for carbon monoxide, it is more often after a CO alarm sounds rather than for reported symptoms of CO poisoning.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, 54% of all CO-related non-fire calls reported to fire departments were either false alarms or no CO was found. Last year, of the 100 CO calls to which the Washington Township Fire Department responded, 62 of them were false alarms due to malfunctioning CO alarms that needed replaced or new batteries.

To ensure you have a working CO alarm in your home:

- Test your battery operated CO alarm once a week by pushing the device's button. Plug-in carbon monoxide alarms should be checked monthly.

- Replace your CO alarm every five years unless the manufacturer recommends sooner. The average life span of many carbon monoxide alarms is less than five years. Top carbon monoxide alarm models have an electrochemical sensor, continuous digital readout with large back-lit display, peak-level memory which records the highest danger level, and a low battery indicator.
- Choose a CO alarm that has been listed by an independent testing laboratory.
- Do not place new CO alarms right next to or over a fireplace or flame-producing appliance. They will emit some CO when initially turned on.
- Never plug a CO alarm into an outlet that is controlled by a switch.

CO alarms are not substitutes for smoke alarms. Know the difference between the sound of smoke alarms and CO alarms.

If the alarm sounds, evacuate your home and call 9-1-1. Leave it to the professionals to determine the source of carbon monoxide.

### Free Radon Test Kits

Radon test kits are available (while supplies last) for residents in Dublin and the unincorporated Washington Township. Kits can be picked up at the Township Administration Building (6200 Eiterman Road) Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Instructions are provided in the kit, which are made possible through a grant to the Franklin County Board of Health from the Ohio Department of Health. One per household, please.

### Dublin St. Patrick's Day Parade

The Fire Department will be one of the many participants in the Dublin St. Patrick's Day parade on Saturday March 15. Show your Irish spirit and join in the fun. The parade begins at 11 a.m. For more information, consult [www.dublin.oh.us](http://www.dublin.oh.us)

### *Computer aided dispatching continued from page 1*

the Fire Department is called to assist another department outside their service territory (determined by reciprocal agreements), personnel will be able to navigate areas with which they are not familiar.

This same mapping software will soon be deployed in the vehicles of the Fire Inspectors, who will use the addresses as part of a database which will contain inspection histories and other related information. With on-board computers, Inspectors will be able to input inspection information on site, and print and deliver the inspection report, thus eliminating the need for a return trip to the business.

This year will bring yet another feature to the dispatching system, that of an automatic vehicle locator (AVL). This will enable Dublin's dispatchers to "see" the location of every emergency response vehicle in real time so the closest and most appropriate vehicle is dispatched faster and more easily. Without the AVL system, dispatchers have to track and update manually where every vehicle is. This can be quite a daunting task considering the number of vehicles and their changing locations throughout the day.

# Celebrate EMS Week

May 18-24 is National Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week. Celebrate with your friends and loved ones at the EMS Celebration. All activities will be offered at the Dublin Recreation Center on Saturday May 17 from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. (unless otherwise noted).

## Adult & Child CPR Certification 8:30 a.m.- noon

This will be the only time this year the Fire Department will offer this course at no charge. Registration is required by May 7 and is limited to 60 (call 652-3920).

## Youth Bicycle Helmets

Helmets can protect your child if they fit and are worn properly. Members of the EMS Bike Patrol will fit your child with a free bicycle helmet and show you how it should be worn to get the most protection possible.

## Sparky's Safety House Tours

Learn how to stop, drop and roll to escape from a "smoke-filled" room. This specially-equipped mobile classroom helps prepare all ages for the unexpected occurrence of fire through the use of several real-life



Children crawl under "smoke" during their lesson about fire safety in Sparky's Safety House.

simulations. Inspector Bob Westbrook will also present a puppet show at 10:30 a.m., 11:15 a.m., and noon with his friends Jimmy and Hector the Smoke Detector. Balloons, popcorn, and printed materials will be available.

## Fire Truck and Medic Sneak Peek

Climb in and we'll show you around. Ask us questions about the equipment we use to fight fires, perform rescues and stabilize and treat our patients.

## Blood Pressure, EKG, Glucose Checks

Paramedics will check your blood pressure, EKG and glucose, free of charge.

## Child Car Seat Checks

In many cases, children are either not properly buckled into their seats or parents don't realize that a booster seat is vital to ensuring children fit safely in their vehicle's seat belt. Have your child's safety seat professionally inspected by our great staff! Reservations are required. It is helpful if the child who uses the seat can be at the check. Call 652-3920 for an appointment.

## *Fire Station Renovations continued from page 1*

environmentally responsible, profitable and a healthy place to live and work.

There are both environmental and financial benefits to earning LEED certification. LEED-certified buildings:

- \* Lower operating costs and increased asset value
- \* Reduce waste sent to landfills
- \* Conserve energy and water
- \* Are healthier and safer for occupants
- \* Reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions
- \* Qualify for tax rebates, zoning allowances and other incentives in hundreds of cities
- \* Demonstrate an owner's commitment to environmental stewardship and social responsibility

Examples of ways the station projects could meet LEED standards are use of increased efficiency HVAC units and appliances, recycled steel in structural components, medium

density fiberboard in countertops and casework, recycled cellulose in insulation, engineered wood products for interior trim and cabinets, asphalt which incorporates recycled tires, and interior ceramic tile from recycled glass.

By meeting LEED standards, the Township's buildings will provide for the safety of staff and visitors and help make Dublin/Washington Township a greener place to live.

[www.wtwp.com](http://www.wtwp.com)

The Fire Department offers CPR certification classes on the second Saturday of every month and First Aid classes quarterly. Consult the Township's web site for more information about these and other programs.

# PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

## Eagle Scouts contribute to the community

The rank of Eagle Scout is the highest level of accomplishment a Boy Scout can achieve. One of the requirements for earning this rank is completion of a community service project.

Local agencies often serve as the host for Eagle Scout projects, offering a wide selection of projects that fit the criteria of an Eagle Scout project: addresses a community need, provides service to a worthy institution other than the Boy Scouts, and offers the candidate challenges in leadership, organization, and communication skills.

Over the past 18 years, Washington Township's three parks and cemetery have served as the backdrop for 24 Eagle Scout projects. Eagle Scouts have made possible many Township improvements and additions such as the herb garden at The Homestead

Park, the restoration of head stones at the Township cemetery, and landscaping to name a few.

Last year was an especially busy year for Eagle Scout projects with six projects completed: Nick Stanton, Troop 185, built a tree identification display and planted tree seedlings. Garret Quist, Troop 356, installed a rain garden. Daniel Dellostritto, Troop 299, secured and installed landscaping around the Kaltenbach Park Community Center. Jonathan Lee, Troop 117, assembled and installed 18 recycled-content park benches. Mark Riggelman, Troop 356, secured and planted 15 trees to replace ash trees that are expected to succumb to emerald ash borer; Steven Richardson, Troop 185, created a fire safety game for use with groups and at special events.

Each boy was responsible for securing funding or donations for the materials and organizing volunteer labor. Collectively, the six boys clocked 586 hours of labor in completing their projects and secured \$2770 in donated materials from local businesses.

By enhancing Township programs, facilities, and educational opportunities, these Eagle Scouts contributed to the Washington Township/Dublin community in ways that will be realized for years to come.

Dave Gibson, Maintenance Supervisor for the Parks and Recreation Department, has worked with many Eagle Scouts. "While the Township commits some staff time to Eagle Scout projects, the investment is small when compared to the benefits these projects generate for the community."

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## New playground at Homestead Park

Since opening its doors in 1992, over 3,000,000 people have visited The Homestead Park. One of the most popular spots in the park is the playground. Wear and tear and the need to maintain facilities that are compliant with the American Disabilities Act necessitated a new playground with features that will improve the safety, accessibility, and comfort for those who use it.

Trees will provide shade for those who are watching or resting. And benches will allow caretakers to keep a watchful eye without compromising their comfort. Visitors with strollers will also appreciate the easy access to the play area.

Norwich Township Trustees who were partners in the park's original development, contributed \$50,000 toward the \$125,000 project.



## Interior and exterior updates for Community Center

Last year, the Kaltenbach Community Center got a face lift on its exterior. This spring, renovation will be completed with updates to its interior. Ceiling tile, flooring, wallpaper and paint, counter tops, cupboards, and fixtures will be replaced. New tables and stackable chairs will also be added.

"We anticipate the demand for the Community Center rentals to increase once these updates have been made," said Parks Director Janell Thomas. "It's a great place to hold family reunions, birthday parties, youth group meetings, and neighborhood and business meetings."

The Community Center is available for use by residents and community groups. Details about the size of the rooms, fees, room capacities, and photos of the facility are available at [www.wtwp.com](http://www.wtwp.com).

## Household hazardous waste collected April 26 in Dublin

Most households have hazardous waste materials that cannot legally be disposed with regular trash because they pose an environmental risk in sanitary landfills. Items such as non-latex paint, lighter fluid, gasoline, paint thinner, kerosene, adhesives, pool chemicals, acids, drain cleaner, paint stripper, antifreeze, insecticides, rat poison, mercury/Ni-cad and lithium batteries should be taken to a hazardous waste collection.

The Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio will sponsor a collection at Ashland Inc. in Dublin on April 26 from 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

If you are not able to make it to this collection, take advantage of SWACO's new permanent HHW collection location at 1249 Essex Avenue (corner of E. 8th and Essex Avenue). The hours vary with the season. From November through March, the hours are Wednesdays, 2 - 6 p.m. and

Thursdays 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. From April through October, the hours are Wednesdays, 2 - 7 p.m. and Thursdays, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

If your business has hazardous waste materials to dispose, call the Ohio EPA (614) 728-3778. For alternative ways to dispose of latex paint and a complete list of all 2008 collection dates

and locations, visit [www.swaco.org](http://www.swaco.org).



## Parks and SWACO partner to close the recycling loop

The next time you rest your weary walking feet at the Kaltenbach or Homestead Parks, you could be sitting on a pile of plastic milk jugs—1700 of them to be exact. With a \$5000 grant from the Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio (SWACO), Washington Township recently purchased 20 benches made from a material that incorporates recycled milk jugs.

The material is called recycled plastic lumber or RPL, a wood-like product made from recovered plastic (#1 polyethylene terephthalate or PETE) or recovered plastic mixed with other materials.

RPL is an especially attractive material for park benches because it is nonporous and lasts longer than wood. It is also chemical and graffiti resistant, splinter free, doesn't need sealants or preservatives, is colored throughout (doesn't need paint), impervious to insects, and flexible. These advantages translate into cost savings for local

governments like the Township through lower long-term maintenance costs.

Using RPL also helps divert plastic from the landfill, one of the reasons the grantor, SWACO, offers grants for recycled-content products. SWACO operates the landfill closest to Columbus (10 miles south of Columbus). Since it opened in the early 80's, SWACO's landfill has grown from its original 120 acres (now full) to 363 acres. At the end of 2006, it was estimated that the landfill would be full in less than 28 years or by 2033 (based on current annual average waste receipts). SWACO hopes to extend the life of our community's landfill by doing what they can to encourage residents and businesses to decrease the amount of waste they generate and increase the amount they collect for recycling. With a portion of the fee waste haulers pay to dump their loads, SWACO develops innovative waste

reduction programs, like the grant program which helped purchase the Township's benches.

Products made from recycled materials are becoming more readily available in the marketplace. Decking, compost bins, flower pots, picnic tables, and roofing shingles are just a few of the items being manufactured with recycled plastic.

If you put plastic in a recycling bin to be collected by your waste hauler, close the recycling loop by purchasing items that contain recycled plastic. It is the demand for these products that supports the recycling industry. Rumpke will collect from Dublin and Washington Township residents plastics marked with the numbers 1 and 2 and plastic bottles with a neck that are marked with numbers 1 through 7.

And the next time you rest on one of Washington Township's park benches, look for the recycling symbol and think about all those plastic milk jugs.

# WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

## Board of Trustees

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## Fiscal Officer

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## Administration

6200 Eiterman Road

Dublin, Ohio 43016

(614) 652-3920

Hours: 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Allan Woo, Chief

Leslie Dybiec, Communications Manager

Catherine Grossman, HR Manager

Bob Weisenberger, Zoning Officer

## *Our Mission*

Orchestrate a safe,  
healthy, and exhilarating  
living experience for our  
community.

## Fire Stations

Station 91: 6255 Shier Rings Road

Station 92: 4497 Hard Road

Station 93: 5825 Brand Road

Station 95: 5750 Blazer Parkway

## Parks and Recreation

4675 Cosgray Road

Hilliard, Ohio 43026

(614) 652-3922

Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m M-F

Janell Thomas, Director

The Homestead Park

4675 Cosgray Road, Hilliard, Ohio 43026

Community Center & Kaltenbach Park

5985 Cara Road, Dublin, Ohio 43016

Amlin Crossing Park

5468 Cosgray Road, Dublin, Ohio 43016

## Road and Bridge

4675 Cosgray Road

Hilliard, Ohio 43026

(614) 652-3921

Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Janell Thomas, Superintendent

Dave Gibson, Assistant Superintendent