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**Learn CPR: Knowledge is key!**

The need to educate ourselves to handle a cardiac emergency remains a priority. According to the American Heart Association, recently published scientific data indicates that about 90% of the 350,000 people who experience a cardiac arrest outside of the hospital each year will not survive. Less than half of people receive the immediate help that they need before professional help arrives. Ideally, every household or family should have at least one person who knows CPR, and be able to help their family, friends and their community.

Learn CPR and how to use an automatic external defibrillator, or AED through a Washington Township class. Developed by the American Heart Association, this

class addresses pediatric and adult CPR, recognizing and relieving a choking victim, recognizing the signs of a heart attack, and how to use an AED. Sign up now!

**To find a class that works for you, visit our website [wtwp.com](http://wtwp.com)**

In addition, Washington Township is incredibly fortunate to be a part of the Pulse Point network. This life saving app is easy to download and use. When CPR-trained individuals receive an alert from the PulsePoint Respond app, it tells them where a cardiac arrest event is happening to help. In these situations, time is critical. You could help save a life or become a life saved. **Download the Pulse Point app today.**



**Block party fun!**

Invite us to your block party! Is your neighborhood having a block party this summer? Firefighters will stop by during your neighborhood event with one of our available trucks (emergency calls may alter our arrival time and/or duration of visit). To schedule a visit, call Kori at 614-652-3947 or email [khurley@wtwp.com](mailto:khurley@wtwp.com).

## Central Ohio Fire Museum and Learning Center

The Central Ohio Fire Museum contains fire trucks, firefighting equipment, artifacts, and horses capturing the history of firefighting and all housed in a restored 1908 fire station. Glistening fire engines built by Seagraves and Sutphen here in Central Ohio are on display in the museum. There is also a fire safety and fire prevention learning center. In the near future, the very first Heartmobile will be on display assembled again right here in Central Ohio with the Ohio State University Hospital. All of this is knowledgably and steadfastly curated by George and Susan Hudak.



While firefighting may have started in Rome, it was organized in the United States by Benjamin Franklin in 1736 in Philadelphia. In the early years of firefighting, there was no 911 service, so citizens volunteered to walk the city keeping an eye out for any fires and then sounding alarms using large wooden rattles. The first responders raced to the fire in part because the first fire station team to squelch the fire would be paid by the insurance company. The first pumpers were pulled by 10 to 20 men lined up in twos until horses and steam pumpers replaced them. And when the first pumpers arrived at the fire there were no readily accessible fire hydrants; instead they had to rely on bucket brigades for a supply of water.

Just the history of the firefighting equipment is captivating. Eventually, horses were used to power the steam pumpers through the city streets. Once at the scene of the fire, in the 1800's the firefighters were able to tap into water mains which were made from the trunks of trees. In order to start pumping the water, the firefighters tapped into the water and then had to place a large wooden plug back into the water main. This was called a fireplug, now known as a fire hydrant. The leaders used fire horns to direct the men who now had fire hats and uniforms, the fancier the better for recruiting new members.

Eventually, engines replaced horses and trucks were equipped with hooks and ladders. Firefighters lived in the stations and used fire poles for quick access to the equipment. Speed in responding to the scene of a fire was assisted with communication improvements such as the telegraph and the steam fire engine and of course diesel engines.

Ohio was the state with the first professional and paid fire department in the U.S. This notable accomplishment stemmed from the competition between volunteer fire companies in Cincinnati in 1851. The rival teams sought to be first to the fire in order to be paid for their services from insurance companies sometimes leading to brawls while the fire raged. This led to the term "plug uglies" and to the establishment of professional paid services in many cities in the United States.

Ohio has another notable first—beginning in 1934, the Columbus Division of Fire was one of the first departments in our Nation to offer Mobile Emergency Medical Care. In the 1960's emergency medical care began to receive national attention where paramedics could be at the scene of a medical emergency. The EMTs were most effective against the number one leading cause of death at the time heart attacks. This led to the creation of the Nation's first ALS response vehicle aka the "Heartmobile." The Heartmobile was placed into service in 1970 several years before the show "Emergency" inspired youngsters to be EMTs. This historical vehicle is being restored and will soon be available for viewing.



Everyone in your family will enjoy the Central Ohio Fire Museum and Learning Center. The curators have placed their heart and soul into the building and it shows. The museum has a fire safety learning center, a good place to learn about fire safety, and their own mascot, Boots the Fire Mouse.



By Washington Township Trustee Stu Harris

## Resident Stakeholders Meeting

We're planning our Resident Stakeholder Forum and we need YOUR help! Our goal is to keep the Dublin Community safe and we rely on our wonderful residents for their cooperation and feedback on important safety topics and we're asking for your participation. Sign up to represent your neighborhood and help us, help you!

This meeting will take place on Saturday, June 24 at our township administration building for a small and select group of people in the community. The purpose of this event is to discuss the partnership between our individual establishments, evaluate the trends in our neighborhoods, and better understand how Washington Township can address the current and future needs of our residents.

We value your opinion and your attendance and participation in this event is greatly appreciated. In order to help us prepare as efficiently as possible, please RSVP at your earliest convenience. We hope to see you there!

SCAN QR CODE FOR REGISTRATION



**Resident Stakeholder Forum**  
**Saturday, June 24**  
**Washington Township Fire Department**  
**6200 Eiterman Road**  
**Dublin, OH**  
**Time: 9am-noon**



## Firefighter Focus: Training

Training is a core part of Washington Township Fire Department's Day. Each firefighter serves a rotating schedule of 24 hours on, and 48 hours off. During these hours, they are actively taking part in training sessions that include firefighting, EMS, physical fitness, and technical rescue training that includes rope, vehicle, trench, structural collapse, confined space and water rescue. In 2022 31,616 hours were spent training.

The purpose of continued training makes sure that our crew is always prepared and ready for whatever might be needed. A training schedule is established before the year starts that also includes core competencies which are the basic skills that are necessary to work a scene properly.



EMS:	4,834
Fires:	1,665
Mutual Aid:	549
Auto Accidents:	190
TOTAL:	7,238





### In Memoriam: Charles Swank

If you were lucky enough to know Charles Swank, you were lucky. By all accounts, he was a person of honor, integrity & dedication to serving others. Losing him this past December left a void in the hearts of so many, including all of us at Washington Township Fire Department. Those around him called him “a top-tier firefighter in the fire service,” considering the loss of Swank a devastating blow to the fire service industry, especially the Washington Township Fire Department. Charles passed away in December while attending a training on behalf of Washington Township Fire Department.

For those who may not have had the privilege of knowing him, let this serve as a reminder that there are people out there that work hard with the desire to serve others without wanting anything in return and that life is sometimes all too short.

Charles Swank was an established leader throughout his life & career. Growing up in a tight-knit community, Charles worked at the local gas station his dad owned. Upon graduation from high school, he immediately joined the Army following the 9/11 attacks and served for six years, including tours in Iraq and Afghanistan in the US Army’s 82nd Airborne where he earned a Bronze Star. A patriot by all accounts, Charles left the army after 6 years returning home to marry his high school sweetheart, Alaina, and start a family. Joining the fire service industry was in his blood. His father, also a revered firefighter, served his community until his death. While overcoming this great loss at a young age, Charles never shied away from following in his footsteps and was hired by Mount Vernon’s Fire Department, serving for 7 years as a firefighter/paramedic. But he strived for more.

He wanted to help both veterans and their families and started the Honor Guard in Mount Vernon, becoming Commander to lead others. Charles was critical in bringing the honor guard to both Washington Township & Bellville, where he was set to become Commander.

Charles came to Washington Township just over ten years ago, quickly making friends with all those he served with. In addition to his service at WTFD, he also volunteered in Bellville and worked part-time at Fredricktown Fire Department as a Lieutenant. Charles always wanted those to be the best at what they were doing and was constantly in motion training himself and others. It didn’t matter what he was doing as long as it was helping make him a better firefighter. No task was too big or too small because the more you know, the more you know. On many of his off days, Charles could be found at the fire station cleaning gutters or volunteering in some way. Those around him knew that every day, Charles was doing something to help others. Serious & dedicated to service, he was also a fun-loving, humorous guy who loved to laugh and prank the new crew. However, nothing was more important than working to be better than the day before and to be of service to others.

Swank was the founder of the Fraternal Order of Leatherheads Society (“F.O.O.L.S.”), a nonprofit training ground for firefighters. Putting together all of the training programs on his own time, without pay, just to help others be more and do more.

Many knew Charles as “the firefighter,” but he was also a dedicated family man, the Patriarch of his family, devoting his life to his beloved wife of 18 years, Alaina, and their 5 children. Living on two acres in Bellville, he enjoyed a simple life doting on his kids and loved nothing more than supporting them in their activities. We lost a great firefighter, but more importantly, we lost a great man. His legacy will continue to live on in the memories of those he served with and the lives he touched daily.



### Words from a Firefighter: (written by a Friend & Colleague)

“From the very first moment I met him I knew he had “it”. That special drive and charisma that everyone thinks of when they imagine what being a firefighter embodies. He had a commanding presence, a domineering swagger, and an obvious zeal for what he does. He came to us with an impressive fire background and an even more impressive and distinguished decorated military career.

He was the embodiment of grit, knowledge, toughness, and charm that naturally drew people to him. There are so many great traits he possessed that I myself was envious of. He was a man of faith and a family man above all. When I speak of his faith, it was not just a simple acknowledgment of it, he lived it. He had no favorites with his children. Each of them was special and he was deeply involved in his children’s activities. Most of all, he committed himself to raise them as contributing men and women, not just spectators in life.

No man gave more to his community than Charles did. Everyone knew who Charles Swank was. More so than any politician that came before him. He was a member of his local fire department before he came to us and continued training and teaching there long after he arrived here because he thought it was what he owed them. His gratification was making them better. Making those around him better seemed to drive everything he did. He was a leader and a mentor both in the fire service and in his local Legion Post. He had a natural knack for organizing people and rallying around just and important causes and was a man of passionate steps.

He simply made those around him better. He demanded it without saying a word. He just set the bar all the time every time. It’s easy to say how things could be, but Charles was able to be the example of what things should be. He gave so much to me, his family, and his friends in such a short window of life. I have stated before that every man meets a real man once in their life. That man was Charles.”



# Classes

## Red Cross Babysitting

This course educates young individuals with the knowledge and skills necessary to safely and responsibly give care for children and infants. This class helps participants develop the leadership skills, learn how to develop a babysitting business, keep themselves and others safe, help children behave, and learn about basic child care. Please bring a lunch to class.

**Ages:** 11-15  
**Date:** Thursday, June 8  
**Time:** 9am-3pm  
**Location:** Washington Township Administrative Offices • 6200 Eiterman Rd, Dublin, OH 43016  
**Fee:** \$45 (Township/Dublin residents), \$50 (non-residents)

## CPR for Teens

Do you need CPR training for your summer job? Are you starting to babysit? Learn CPR and how to use an automatic external defibrillator, or AED. Developed by the American Heart Association, this class addresses pediatric and adult CPR, recognizing and relieving a choking victim, recognizing the signs of a heart attack, and how to use an AED.

**Ages:** 12-17  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 31  
**Time:** 5:30pm  
**Location:** Washington Township Administrative Offices • 6200 Eiterman Rd, Dublin, OH 43016  
**Fee:** \$35 (Township/Dublin residents), \$45 (non-residents)



## CPR for Healthcare Provider Certification

This course is specifically designed for those who work in the healthcare field. Topics include recognizing several life-threatening emergencies, providing CPR, using an AED and relieving choking in a safe, timely and effective manner.

**Ages:** 18 & up  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 14  
**Time:** 5:30pm  
**Location:** Washington Township Administrative Offices • 6200 Eiterman Rd, Dublin, OH 43016  
**Fee:** \$35 (Township/Dublin residents), \$45 (non-residents)



## Storytime at the Fire Station

We'll read a story, meet Sparky, our big furry fire safety mascot, and take a tour of the fire trucks. Pre-registration is required as space is limited. Parents/guardians must accompany children.

**Ages** 3-5 recommended; All ages welcome.  
**Location:** Wednesday, June 21 - Station 93 - 5825 Brand Rd.  
**Time:** 10am  
**Fee:** Free (Township/Dublin residents), Free (non-residents)  
**Please register one spot/ticket per child (child information only)**



## Wetsuits & Way-cool Trucks

Bring your family, friends, youth group, or neighborhood play group for a morning of fun! The Washington Township Fire Department will have a variety of activities to help make your summer safe!

- Tour Sparky's fire safety house
- Watch a fire department's dive team demonstration in the Recreation Center pool (11am)
- Learn about bicycle safety
- Play games
- Check out our fire truck and medic

**Date:** Friday, June 26  
**Time:** 10 am-11:30am  
**Location:** Dublin Community Recreation Parking Lot by amphitheater  
**Fee:** Free!

## First Responder Teen Academy

Interested in a future career as a first responder? This hands-on program will give high school students a chance to explore the exciting career options available in Emergency Responding Services. Dublin Police Officers and Washington Township Firefighters will take you into their world of work as first responders in our community, while teaching and sharing various skills and experiences needed to succeed. **Scan the QR code to register.**

**Age:** 15-18  
**Date:** June 26-29  
**Time:** 9am-3pm  
**Location:** DPD & WTFD



## Free Hands-Only CPR

This course is intended for anyone who wants to learn CPR, but does not need a course completion card to meet a job requirement. It's ideal for community groups, parents, grandparents, caregivers and students. Topics include:

- Adult, child and infant CPR and AED.
- How to help a choking adult, child, and infant.

**Ages:** 12 and up  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 24  
**Time:** 5:30pm  
**Location:** Washington Township Administrative Offices • 6200 Eiterman Rd, Dublin, OH 43016  
**Fee:** Free!

## Infant CPR for Expecting & New Parents

If you expecting or adopting a child, have a newborn at home, or will be babysitting your new grandchild, this class is for you! React quickly with the knowledge and skills that can help a baby if they are choking or need CPR. Although this in an American Heart Association course, you will not receive a completion card. Our certified car seat technician will offer tips on securing your child's car seat.

**Ages:** 18 and up  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 2  
**Time:** 5:30 pm  
**Location:** Washington Township Administrative Offices • 6200 Eiterman Rd, Dublin, OH 43016  
**Fee:** Free!

## Clean up after your dog

Dogs are cute, but their poop is not! It's your job as the dog owner to clean up after your pets. Dog poop is not fertilizer. People often believe that leaving dog waste to decompose in the yard is good for the lawn, but the truth is that dog poop is toxic for your grass and can be an environmental pollutant. In addition, dog waste carries bacteria & diseases that can quickly spread. As a common courtesy to your neighbor and the community, please be a responsible pet owner and clean up after your dog.

Washington Township  
6200 Eiterman Road  
Dublin, Ohio 43016



## Washington Township

### Board of Trustees

**Stu Harris**

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**Charles Kranstuber**

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**Jan Rozanski**

jrozanski@wtwp.com

### Fiscal Officer

**Joyce Robinson**

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### Administration

**6200 Eiterman Road  
Dublin, Ohio 43016**

614.652.3920

M-F 8:00 am-4:30 pm

Administrator

**Eric Richter**

Fire Chief

**Alec O'Connell**

Human Resources Manager

**Catherine Grossman**

### Fire Stations

**Station 91**

6255 Shier Rings Road

**Station 92**

4497 Hard Road

**Station 93**

5825 Brand Road

**Station 95**

5750 Blazer Parkway



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



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