



FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER



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Fire Chief Richard Howard – Is hanging up his boots



After 36 years of dedicated work for Franklin Township Fire Chief Richard Howard is retiring. Beginning his career as a volunteer firefighter in 1979, as a second generation firefighter, Chief Howard has seen his fair share of the unthinkable and the amazing. Becoming Lieutenant January of 1991, Captain in May 2002 and Chief in June 2004, Howard has spent time in all aspects of the fire department, including paramedic,

arson investigator, fire inspector and Fire Company Officer. Chief Howard has served the township his entire career at stations 192 and 193.

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Chief Howard holds not one but two Medals of Valor. The first awarded in 1990 and second in 1997. When asked, he smiles ear to ear, proud as he should be and tells about being recognized from the Ohio General Assembly. It goes without saying a wonderful accomplishment for Chief Howard.

Even though he has seen the heartache that the job can bring to families and fellow firefighters, one of the positive memories he holds is an apartment fire on the night of May 4th, 1997. He along

with fellow firefighters observed heavy smoke from the rear of the building that housed twelve individual apartments. Radio transmissions alerted crews to the possibility of trapped people. Continuing past the fire two victims were located and brought to safety. Entering the building again above the fire on the third floor four more citizens were brought to safety.

The firefighters at Stations 192 and 193 will miss his true undying passion for the job, his humor, dedication, and the care he showed for them.

After retirement Chief Howard is looking forward to spending time with Kathy, his wife of 40 years, his kids, fishing, enjoying his many hobbies and just relaxing. When asked what advice would he leave for the next Fire Chief he replied, *“Always take care of your guys.”*



FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Police Department News

Vacation home safety tips.

Ask a Friend to Help

Ask a friend or neighbor to keep an eye on your house while you're away. Give this person a key to the house and your car. Also give them your contact information and a copy of your itinerary in case of emergencies.



Don't Tip Off Criminals on the Web

In a world where it seems everyone is blabbing about their business on social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter. Keep your plans off the web, you never know who is reading your posts.

Do Tip Off the Police

Consider notifying us if you're going on vacation. No need to let us know about a weekend getaway, but do call if you're leaving town for longer than a week. We will do our best to come by and do random security check on your home.

The Lights Are on But No One's Home

Don't leave your lights on at home throughout your entire vacation in an effort to make it look like someone is in the house. Instead, purchase a light switch timer that can turn your lights on and off automatically.

Stop Your Mail

Either place a "stop" order on mail and newspapers or arrange to have a friend or neighbor pick up your mail while you're away.

Remove Your Spare Key

If criminals figure out you're away on vacation, it's likely that he or she will check your porch for a spare key.

Fire Department News

Firehouse Staffing Update

As you are all aware of the Fire Department's financial struggles from State funding cut backs and the failure of last November's fire levy, the Fire Dept. to stay within budget, had to make some hard decisions regarding the budget and staffing. Manpower staffing has been cut and with Firefighters off-duty for training, vacation or sick time, vacant positions cannot be filled with overtime personnel.

When the daily manpower drops to five personnel, Franklin Township has made the decision to close down one of the two firehouses during that twenty-four (24) hour shift. We will place a station closed sign in front of the closed station directing the public to call 911 if you have an emergency.

The firehouse that is chosen to be closed is based on the daily staffing and the out of service time for the commuting firefighters from one station to the other.

Road Department News

Nuisance Grass, Weeds, Trash: On 6/18/15, the Board of Trustees adopted more stringent regulations regarding nuisance grass, weeds, and trash accumulation on Township properties. This action was taken to further work towards improving our neighborhoods making them cleaner and safer while improving property values. These standards mirror requirements set forth in the Franklin County Public Health Regulation # 102 regarding Property Health and Sanitation, and Ohio Revised Code # 505.87 regarding the Township's authority to remove vegetation, garbage, refuse, and other debris and to access liens on properties where action by the Township is required. As part of these new regulations, timelines for compliance has been reduced to seven (7) days after the notice has been given. New regulations require grass to be maintained to a height not to exceed eight (8) inches. The old standard was twelve (12) inches. Additionally, the trash regulations have not been changed in that removal from the premises by Local Waste to an authorized landfill must occur every seven (7) days. The Trustees thank you in advance for adhering to these standards. As always, if you see problem addresses not complying with these regulations, we would appreciate hearing from you to bring them to our attention. Your calls to our business office at (614) 279-9411 while selecting the Secretary option will remain confidential.

Township Brush Collection: The Township Road Dept. will continue to pick up Brush throughout the year. Please make sure that you put the brush in the Right-of-Way and not in the road way. If you have a large pile of Brush that needs picked up please call 614-279-9411, option # 1 and leave a message for the Road Dept. so we can schedule that pickup.



THE SWACO 2015 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Dates and Times:

The complete list of acceptable items is available online at <http://www.swaco.org>

- Weekly; 12pm - 6pm Wednesday & Fridays 645 E. 8th Ave., Columbus
- Weekly; 9am - 5pm Thursdays 645 E. 8th Ave., Columbus

2015 Mobile Collection Drives:

Sept. 12, 8am-2pm

Westerville Service Garage
350 Park Meadow Rd.
Westerville, OH 43081

Oct. 3, 8am-2pm

Grove City Service Garage
3262 Ventura Blvd.
Grove City, OH 43123



Summer Safety Tips

Bicycle Safety

- A helmet protects your child from serious injury, and should always be worn.
- Your child needs to wear a helmet on every bike ride, no matter how short or how close to home.
- When purchasing a helmet, look for a label or sticker that says the helmet meets the CPSC safety standard.
- A helmet should be worn so that it is level on the head and covers the forehead, not tipped forward or backwards. The strap should be securely fastened with about 2 fingers able to fit between chin and strap.

Pool/Water Safety

- Always watch your children when they are in or near a pool.
- Teach children basic water safety tips.
- Keep children away from pool drains, pipes and other openings to avoid entrapments.
- Have a portable telephone close by at all times when you or your family is using a pool.
- If a child is missing, look for him or her in the pool first.
- Share safety instructions with family, friends and neighbors.



National Night Out

Nominations for the recipient of the Juanita Kaufman Award are being accepted now and must be received in the Franklin Township office by July 24, 2015. The nominee must be a resident of Franklin Township and have set a high standard for the Franklin Township community in which they live. To view the criteria for this award, please visit our website. Forms are available at the Franklin Township Business Office or can be downloaded from our website to submit your nominations for the award.

In 2008 the Franklin Township Trustees established Juanita Kaufman Day to recognize township resident Juanita Kaufman for her exemplary efforts and the many hours that she has worked in her community. This award is presented by the Township Trustees each year on National Night Out, also known as Juanita Kaufman Day, in Franklin Township. This year National Night Out will be celebrated on Tuesday August 4, 2015 at 6:00 P.M. at Central Baptist Church 1955 Frank Rd.

Helping seniors beat the heat.



~Drink Plenty of Liquids

Dehydration is the root of many heat related health issues. Drink plenty of water, even if you're not thirsty. But remember to avoid alcoholic or caffeinated drinks.

~Wear Appropriate Clothes

When it's hot out, wear light-colored, lightweight, loose-fitting clothes and a wide-brimmed hat.

~Stay Indoors During Mid-day Hours

During periods of extreme heat, the best time to run errands or be outdoors is before 10am or after 6pm, when the temperature tends to be cooler.

~Watch the Heat Index

When there's a lot of moisture in their air (high humidity), the body's ability to cool itself through sweating is impaired. The current heat index can be found on all popular weather websites, and is also usually announced on local TV and radio weather reports during periods of warm weather.

~Seek Air-conditioned Environments

Seniors whose houses aren't air-conditioned should consider finding an air-conditioned place to spend time during extreme heat. Seniors without convenient access to any air-conditioned place might consider a cool bath or shower.

~Know the Warning Signs of Heat-related Illness

Dizziness, nausea, headache, rapid heartbeat, chest pain, fainting and breathing problems are all warning signs that help should be sought immediately.

2015 Franklin Township Business Meeting Schedule

The Franklin Township Business Meetings are held on a bi-weekly basis at 2193 Frank Road, and start at 6:30 P.M. Below are the dates for the upcoming meetings this quarter.

July 2nd	July 16th	July 30 th
August 13 th	August 27 th	September 10 th

SWAC Meeting Dates for 2015

SWAC is the abbreviation for the Columbus City Area Commission that covers portions of the southern end of our Township, SWAC stands for Southwest Area Commission. Its boundaries are the railroad tracks just west of 3C highway on the west, Mound Street on the north, Interstate 71 South on the east, and I-270 on the south. This area encompasses land that lays 50% in Columbus, 40% in Franklin Township, and 10% in Jackson Township.

The meetings are held at 1665 Harrisburg Pike every third Wednesday of the month starting at 7:00 P.M., but are subject to change. For the latest information on dates and times for the meetings view their web site at:

Call Before You Dig

Ohio Utility Protection Services (OUPS), or "Call Before You Dig", urges you to please for the safety of all, prior to digging in your yard or road right-of-way, call 811. This will connect you to the appropriate office to schedule utility markings. The turnaround time is 48 business hours. This call could save a life or at least prevent interruption of service to you and your neighbors. Ever wonder what the colors painted on the ground meant? Red is for electric lines, yellow is for gas, orange is for communication and alarm signals, blue is for water, purple is reclaimed water and irrigation lines, green is sewer and drain lines, pink is temporary survey lines, and white is proposed excavation lines.

Tire Disposal:

Liberty Tire
3041 Jackson Pike
Grove City, Ohio 43123
614-871-3088
Hours: 7:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.
weekdays, closed Saturday & Sunday



Follow us on the Web, Facebook, and Twitter

Your Trustees want to get the latest news, events, and emergency information to you as soon as we can about Franklin Township and the surrounding area. Look for our updated web site soon at www.franklin-township.com, follow us on Twitter at @Franklin_Twp, and like our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/FranklinTownshipOhio.

Franklin Township Directory

Fire Department Emergency911
Chief Richard Howard..... 279-1537
4100 Sullivant Ave., Columbus, 43228
Houses; Engine 192, Medic 192
Foam Truck 199, Total of 32 Full-time
Firefighting Personnel in both houses.

Station 193..... 279-1441
2193 Frank Rd, Columbus, 43223
Houses: Engine 193, Medic 193

Fire/EMS Inspector/Investigator
Contact Number..... **279-9411**

Fire Prevention Bureau
Lt. Larry Geiger **279-9411**

Road Department
Supervisor, Jim Stevens
Four Person crew..... **279-9411**
2193 Frank Road, Columbus 43223
Road garage houses 3 dump trucks, jet-vacuum,
brush chipper, leaf vacuum, asphalt roller, and 3
snowplows.

Police Department Emergency 911
Non-emergency Dispatch..... 525-3333
Chief Al Wheeler..... 279-9411

Headquarters
2193 Frank Road, Columbus, 43223
Total of 4 full-time Police Officers

**Security check on your home while you're
away 279-9411**

Local Waste 409-9375

Franklin County Offices
Public Health **525-3160**
Trash **525-4539**
Tall grass/weeds..... **279-9411**
Environmental Control Task Force (Nail a
Dumper)..... **871-5322**

Zoning 525-5627
150 South Front Street, Suite 10

Engineers 525-3072
970 E. Broad Street

Board of Trustees:

Don Cook, Trustee: 272-2094
Serving term 01/01/14 – 12/31/17

John Fleshman, Trustee 272-8595
Serving Term 01/01/14 – 12/31/17

Timothy Guyton, Trustee: 276-6946
Serving term 01/01/12 – 12/31/15

Lisa Morris, Fiscal Officer: 279-9411
Serving term 04/1/12 – 03/31/16

Melissa Schopp, 279-9411
Business Office Secretary

Board of Elections: 525-3100

Animal Control: 525-3400

Prosecutors Office: 525-3520

Juvenile Bureau: 525-3355

Reflective House Number Signs

Reflective house number signs (18" x 6") can be purchased at the Township Business Office. The signs are aluminum with a green reflective background and white reflective numbers. Signs can be mounted either horizontally or vertically and with numbers on both sides. The cost is \$6.00 per sign, \$0.70 per number.