



# **RICHFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT 2018 ANNUAL REPORT**

**OUR MISSION: TO PROVIDE THE CITIZENS OF  
RICHFIELD THE BEST EMERGENCY SERVICES  
THROUGH RELENTLESS TRAINING AND  
CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE.**

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# Richfield Fire Department 2018 Year End Report

## Richfield Fire Department 2018 Year End Report

Dear Mayor Beshara, Village Council, Township Trustees, Local Businesses, and the Citizens of Richfield, we are pleased to present our 2018 Year End Report.

This past year saw an increase of call volume and response to a variety of incidents. Emergency Medical calls have increased, while structure fires, specialized rescue calls and hazardous materials spills have stayed the same.

In 2018 we continued to invest in our infrastructure, our members. We added Cody Bennett as a Fire Instructor and Kyle Janis and Lt. Mike Lester as a CPR Instructors. We sent members to Leadership Seminars, Fire Ground Tactics, Investigation classes, and Rope Rescue.

Our members continue to do basic and advanced training in all areas of Fire Suppression and Fire Ground Command and Operations as it relates to our combination department and exceed the state required standards for training.

Our affiliation through University Hospitals and Medical Director Dr. Anthony Daher, brings us state of the art technology and training on a monthly basis for all Medics and EMTs. Medical response and patient care are delivered on a daily basis to residents, assisted living facilities, skilled care facilities, and transients' that travel over our 24 miles of freeways.

In 2018 we had new construction projects underway that start with a plan review process with the building owners and contractors to the occupancy permit and final approval with the Summit County Building Department. Our valuable business community is the focus of the Fire Inspection Bureau. In 2018 we instituted a quality assurance checklist for our monthly building inspections. We conduct safety training for local business and pre-fire planning. We increased our visibility in Richfield Elementary School, as Kevin Urban became certified as a Life Safety Educator who coordinates all the school safety training.

We have taken an additional step with Bath Fire with a single tone response for structure fires and motor vehicle accidents on the I-77 corridor.

We received our rating from Insurance Service Office (ISO) in early 2018. We were at listed as four (4) and this year we now have a split rating between three (3) and a four (4). The reduction is due to increased water lines, additional training, the addition of the brush truck, and very detailed record keeping since our last audit.

As stated, when I took this job in January of 2017, I am honored and humbled to serve as the Fire Chief and work with such a talented group of individuals. I continue to look at the organization now and into the future to prepare officers and members for succession in their career.

Our in-house, self-study program on leadership continues to gain momentum. Fulltime and part-time members are participating and this process will continue the development of good leadership qualities at all levels.

To the officers of this department; We, the community are fortunate to have the talent, experience and dedication of each of the officers, as they display it to all the members.

# Richfield Fire Department 2018 Year End Report

I want to thank officers and members, and my colleagues of the Village Administration, Mayor, Council, and Township Trustees for the support and cooperation over this past year.

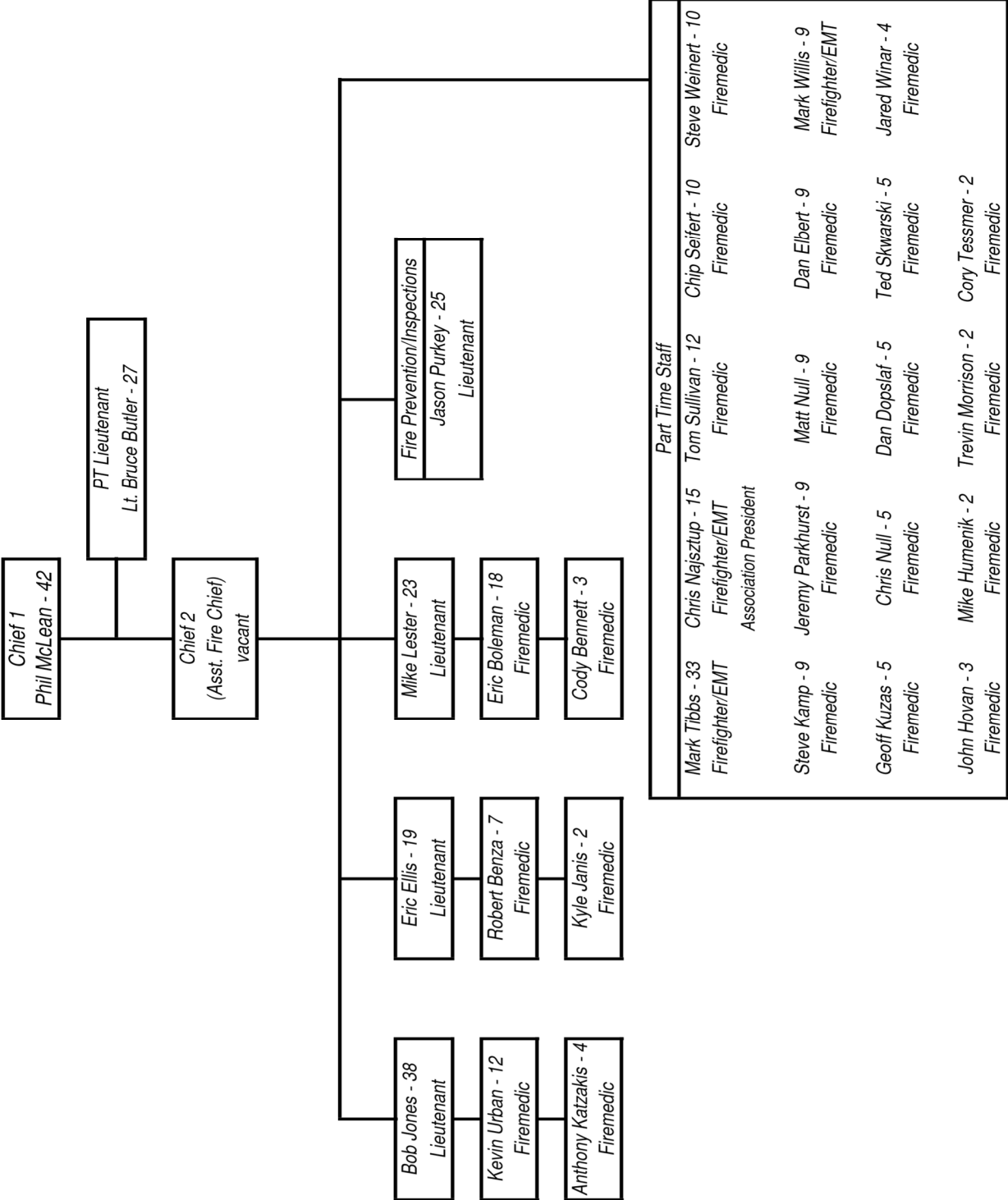
And to our citizens, please stop and visit us and thank you for your continued support.

Fire Chief, Philip W. McLean



# Richfield Fire Department Organizational Chart

## Richfield Fire Department Organizational Chart



# Fire Department Officers

## Fire Department Officers

**Fire Chief Phil McLean – 42 Years of Service** - As the Chief, the operations and the budget are my main focuses for our organization. The day to day operations is run by each shift Lieutenant with regard to call response. Many duties also include interaction with the community at all events, council meetings and trustee meetings and the response to all structure fires or large-scale incidents. The Chief of the Fire Department needs to be prepared to step from the administrative environment to fire ground operations as we function as a combination department.

**Lieutenant Bob Jones – 38 Years of Service** - Bob serves as the Operations Lieutenant. He manages payroll, procedures and departmental rules and regulations.

**Lieutenant Eric Ellis – 19 Years of Service** – Lt. Ellis manages and plans all fire training activities. He coordinates and plans training sessions. He monitors activities from training sessions to call responses. He also assists in maintaining all continuing education certifications.

**Lieutenant Mike Lester – 23 Years of Service** – Mike manages all EMS training activities in cooperation with UH Hospital. He also monitors all certifications and continuing education requirements. He quality checks all EMS runs and patient care.

**Lieutenant Jason Purkey – 25 Years of Service** - Lt. Purkey manages the inspection and prevention bureau. This covers all commercial building inspections, special home and residential inspections as well as construction and modification to current commercial buildings. Plan reviews are done on all new construction by the bureau.

**Lieutenant Bruce Butler – 27 Years of Service** – Bruce coordinates First Aid, CPR and AED activities on a part-time basis. He monitors certification levels, response levels as well as fill-in shift activity levels.

**Firefighter/EMT Chris Najsztup – 15 Years of Service** – Chris is President of the Richfield Firefighters Association. The Richfield Firefighters Association history also goes back to 1934 as the creation of the Township Fire Department. The purpose of the Association is to support the Fire Department through social and community-based activities. The Association has held over its history fund raisers, steak fries, open houses, and within the past few years some new events for the community, both educationally and socially.

# Specialized Fields of Training 2018

## Specialized Fields of Training 2018

### INSTRUCTORS:

CPR: JANIS, BUTLER, HOVAN, M. NULL,  
C. NULL, LESTER

ACLS & PALS: PURKEY, MORRISON

FIRE SERVICE & LIVE BURN: MCLEAN, JONES, ELLIS, DOPSLAF,  
KUZAS, SEIFERT, SULLIVAN

### TRAINING/TEAM MEMBER:

FIRE SAFETY INSPECTOR: MCLEAN, PURKEY, JONES, URBAN,  
ELLIS, BENZA, LESTER, BOLEMAN,  
DOPSLAF, HUMENIK, KUZAS,  
MORRISON, NULL, SEIFERT,  
SKWARSKI, SULLIVAN, WEINERT,  
WINAR, C. NULL

ICE RESCUE TECH: PURKEY, URBAN, KATZAKIS, ELLIS,  
JANIS, LESTER, BENNETT, BUTLER,  
MORRISON, NAJSZTUP, SKWARSKI,  
SULLIVAN, WILLIS, TIBBS

FIRE INVESTIGATION TEAM: URBAN, ELLIS, BENNETT, KUZAS, C.  
NULL

METRO-SWAT MEDIC: LESTER

COUNTY HAZMAT TEAM: KATZAKIS, MORRISON, SULLIVAN

TECHNICAL RESCUE OPERATIONS TEAM: ELLIS, SULLIVAN, JANIS, C. NULL

# Specialized Fields of Training 2018

## TRAINING/TEAM MEMBER (CONTINUED):

BUSTR:	JONES
CODE 10 COMMITTEE:	JONES – CHAIRMAN
STATE FIRE BOARD DIV. EMS:	MCLEAN
OHIO STATE FIREFIGHTERS EDUCATION	MCLEAN – CHAIRMAN
SUMMIT CO. STATE RESPONSE COORDINATOR	MCLEAN, ELLIS



Firemedic Janis during Rope Training

# Statistics 2018

## Statistics 2018

### Statistics 2017 and 2018

	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	
<b>Total Calls</b>	<b>1141</b>	<b>1215</b>	
<b>Total Fire</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>414</b>	
Village Fire	234	232	
Township Fire	85	87	
Mutual Aid Fire	66	95	
<b>Total Rescue</b>	<b>755</b>	<b>801</b>	
Village Rescue	507	546	
Township Rescue	199	205	
Mutual Aid Rescue	49	50	



Extrication Training



Air Bag use to lift Trailer off vehicle

# BUSTR Program 2018

## BUSTR Program 2018

During 2018 the Richfield Fire Department oversaw the repair of two (2) refueling facilities. These repairs were made and inspected in a timely matter, with minimal disruption to the local business. It is very important that the Richfield Fire Department continue to be involved in these projects as this allows us to know what is going on with the underground storage tanks in our community.

Lieutenant Jones



Self-Rescue thru a 16" wide wall space.

# Maintenance and Repairs 2018

## Maintenance and Repairs 2018

To meet the ongoing demands for service and safety the Richfield Fire Department maintained its fleet of 2 engines, 2 medic units, 1 water tanker, 4 passenger vehicles and 1 UTV. Reserve Engine 13 was sent to Fallsway Equipment for Pump repacking and corrosion repair. Engine 13 which is 11 years old and has begun to show the effects of the harsh Ohio winters. Progress was made in the refurbishment of Tanker 18, which is a 16 year old Freightliner. Many advancements in safety have been made in the past 16 years and the department is working to explore the options to update the current vehicle lighting, pumping and operations to meet the newer safety standards. The squad committee worked diligently in 2017 and placed an order for a 2018 Horton Medic unit that replaced a 2008 Horton Medic unit.

Many repairs have been made “in-house” by the fire department staff and the Village service department. This practice not only reduces the overall cost of repairs, but greatly limits the amount of “down-time” that sending a vehicle out to a vendor often causes.

The fire station itself is now 15 years old and has needed some service. Ongoing projects include: kitchen remodel, painting, garage door safety updates, training room updates. The department is looking forward to meeting the ever changing and increased demands on its equipment and members. Through the use of committees, made of the members, we are developing guidelines for all future purchases.



Car 36, Utility Vehicle

## Maintenance and Repairs 2018



In 2018 we took delivery of Medic 11. This is a Horton medical unit mounted on a Freightliner M2 chassis. The heavier chassis combined with the advent of Liquid Spring technology will provide durability and has greatly improved patient comfort. The newer unit also allows the ability to carry basic extrication equipment along with basic rescue equipment. The total for this new purchase was \$251,00.00 and replaced a 2008 Horton/Ford medic unit with over 100,000 miles.

# Maintenance and Repairs 2018



The Richfield Fire department is proud to present an in-house project. This unit named “Brush 4” was the culmination of Fire and Service departments’ hard work and ingenuity. The platform was a 2000 Ford F250 Super Duty that was slated for replacement. The “skid pump” unit was purchased used from the Akron Fire Department and placed by the service department onto a new flatbed purchased at Chuck’s Customs Equipment in Medina. After bodywork, the vehicle was color wrapped and outfitted to meet our changing landscape. This project was completed on just \$11,000.00 and will allow us flexibility in difficult to access responses.

Firemedic Boleman

# Fire Training and Training Hours in 2018

## Fire Training and Training Hours in 2018

For the year 2018, the Richfield Fire Department has once again maintained our tradition of an aggressive approach to deliver the highest quality of training to our members. We have a highly motivated instructor staff that continually strives to attend both regional and national conferences and seminars to bring back the latest knowledge and skills to share and implement in our department.

The Division of Emergency Medical Services in Ohio is the certifying agency for all of EMS and fire certifications such as firefighter, paramedic, fire inspector and fire instructor. Each of these certifications require a minimum of the continuing education hours as shown below:

- Firefighter training hours 54 hours
- Emergency instructor 6 hours
- Fire inspectors 30 hours
- Emergency Medical Technician 48 hours
- Paramedic 92 hours

All of the above certifications are on a three-year cycle and the individual holding these designations are responsible for acquiring the necessary hours to keep their certifications current. Our training division at Richfield Fire Department provides these needed hours in addition to other valuable training hours in specialized areas such as ice rescue, hazardous materials response, and other technical rescue skills (ropes, confined space,...).

In 2018 we had the opportunity to train in an acquired structure and conduct live fire evolutions as well as search and rescue operations. This also gave our members the ability to observe fire behavior and how rapidly conditions can change during actual structure fires. All of the evolutions were conducted following NFPA 1403 standard for Live Fire Training. The added benefit was the ability to train and work with our mutual aid departments that we frequently work with on actual incidents. The following community's departments participated in these training – Bath, Granger, and Valley Fire Departments.



In 2018 our department logged over 1,700 hours of fire training in various disciplines to be ready to deliver the highest level of performance and care to both our residents and the business community we serve. Training is an investment in our future and one of

## Fire Training and Training Hours in 2018

the core values of our mission statement to the citizens of Richfield. I would like to thank our dedicated group of instructors that have spent many hours with the goal of keeping our department one that we all can be proud of.

Lieutenant Ellis



# Smoke Detectors 2018

## Smoke Detectors 2018

In March of 2017, the Richfield Fire Department partnered with Operation Save-A-Life; which is a program of the American Red Cross Northeast Ohio Region. This program provides free smoke alarms to all Summit County residents. These smoke alarms provide early warning of fire and can increase the chances of a safe escape in the event of an emergency. The smoke alarms are installed by the members of the Richfield Fire Department, which not only assures proper installation of the detectors but allows us the opportunity to meet with our residents in a non-emergent atmosphere.

The Richfield Fire Department started installing the detectors in May 2017, and has continued with the installation of over 100 detectors in fifty (50) homes. As the Operation Save-A-Life program supplies free photoelectric sensor smoke detectors, the Richfield Fire Department has also provided the residents with ionization sensor smoke detectors. Both types of the detectors are installed in each level of the residents' home and have a ten (10) year life expectancy.

The Richfield Fire Department is in the process of expanding this program to also include Carbon Monoxide detectors for all Richfield residents as well. We strive to improve and will continue to educate fire safety to everyone here in Richfield Ohio.

Firemedic Katzakis



Community Day Fireworks

# EMS Training 2018

## EMS Training 2018



**Richard Hanson, President of Community Hospitals, Dan Ellenberger, EMS Director, UH Hospitals (center), and Chief McLean**

In the year 2018, the Richfield Fire Department members continued the monthly medical trainings provided by our Medical Director Dr. Anthony Daher through University Hospital Ahuja campus. We conducted these trainings on the second Wednesday of every month. There were also several off site trainings that our paramedics and EMT's attended, as well as quarterly fire chief and EMS coordinator meetings.

In April of 2018 the fire department took possession of a new rescue squad that we had been working on since early 2017. The new rescue squad was built by Horton which is located in Columbus Ohio. It was put into service in early June and has been excellent throughout the year. The Rescue Squads are on a 10 year rotation at the fire department. They are used for 5 years as the first out rescue squad and then 5 years as the backup rescue squad. We will be looking to replace the backup squad in about a year.

The Richfield Fire Department EMT's and Paramedics continue to provide Exceptional service to the citizens and visitors to Richfield through our dedication to our community and all of our continual training and education.

Lieutenant Lester

# Fire Inspection Bureau 2018

## Fire Inspection Bureau 2018

The Richfield Fire Department performs fire inspections on all businesses in the Village and Township of Richfield. This is done to prevent a loss of life or injury to all who come to businesses in our jurisdiction. During the inspection, the property owner or their representative is advised of any concerns or violations that are found on their property. The Ohio Fire Code is the standard that is enforced to ensure the safety of the occupants and to prevent damage or loss of the owner's property. All new construction receives a plan review from the Richfield Fire Department. These inspections also provide essential intelligence to firefighting operations and provide the community a face to the fire department.

There are approximately three hundred different businesses in both Richfield Township and Village. The majority are in the Village of Richfield. The majority are inspected at least once a year. There are several businesses in some occupancies and each one gets a separate fire inspection. Some of the common violations are blocked exits, combustibile storage, non-working emergency lighting, extinguishers out dated, and use of extension cords in place of permanent wiring. These violations are often corrected during the inspection process before leaving. There are sometimes more serious violations and hazards that are found which cannot be fixed right away. These include required fire suppression systems not functioning, fire alarm failure, kitchen hood systems failing, and fire doors not functioning. These violations must be corrected by a licensed fire protection contractor and usually cannot be corrected the same day requiring multiple inspections to ensure that the required system is restored. There are currently approximately 37 kitchen fire suppression systems in service in Richfield. These are required, by code, to be serviced twice a year and thus receive an inspection twice a year. If we are not able to be present, the company is required to submit a report to the Fire Department.

### National Interstate Ribbon Cutting Ceremony



In 2018 several major construction projects were completed. These included the National Interstate Headquarters, The Inn at Apple Ridge, GMS, and Nexen Tire. The Fire Department worked closely with the

# Fire Inspection Bureau 2018

builders, installers, owners, and the county and state inspectors to ensure the safety of the occupants. Each of these structures required a plan review, hydro tests for fire suppression, fire alarm tests, and an occupancy fire inspection prior to completion. There were also several major renovations to existing businesses in our town. These also require all or most of the same inspections for new construction.

2018 sadly brought an end to the old Taverne of Richfield. The Taverne was in a poor condition in regards to fire safety. The Richfield Fire Department had no other choice than to order the ceasing of operations due to unsafe conditions in the building until improvements could be made. This unfortunately led to the restaurant closing. The Taverne has since been sold and the Fire Department is working with the new owners on bringing the new restaurant up to code to prevent a loss of life or injury if a fire were to occur.

Lt. Jason Purkey

**Kinross Lake Parkway Extension Ribbon Cutting Ceremony**



# Richfield Firefighter's Association 2018

## Richfield Firefighter's Association 2018

The third annual 5K trail run and one-mile walk took place on Saturday May 5<sup>th</sup> at the Richfield Heritage Preserve. Weather for this year's event was dry, however the course was extremely wet. Despite course conditions we had eighty-four (84) runners for the 5k event and twenty-seven (27) one-mile walkers participated this year. With the help of the Fire Explorers as well as association members, pancake and sausage breakfasts were served to over 150 individuals.

Total proceeds raised from this year's event totaled \$10,982.00. These funds went towards the following events and services throughout 2018:

- AED Trainer
- Richfield Fire/American Red Cross residential smoke detector program
- Smoke house training materials and supplies
- Station open house with mock extrication scenario during Community Day weekend
- Trick or Treat at the Fire Department Halloween night
- Christmas with Santa was held on December 1<sup>st</sup> at the Station.

Richfield Firemen's Association President  
Firefighter/EMT Najsztup



Richfield Firefighters 5K Trail Run/1-Mile Walk



Pictures with Santa, Dec. 2018

# CPR/AED and First Aid Education 2018

## CPR/AED and First Aid Education 2018

2018 Richfield FD in a partnership with University Hospitals has given the fire department access to new technology in education which provides the students a better understanding of CPR.

New instructors have been added to the fire department. This will provide the businesses and citizens of Richfield with more CPR/AED Classes. We are continually working on adding more instructors.

Improvements to the Richfield Fire Department's CPR Program include:

1. New training equipment.
2. New, dedicated, iPad is used to keep track of all the CPR/AED classes.
3. New visual feedback wrist band devices have been added to meet requirements by AHA and shows the students how effective their CPR is by measuring compression rate and depth.
4. There is a plan to purchase tow (2) new automatic external defibrillators (AED) trainers and mannequins to support CPR/AED Education.

The members of the Richfield Fire Department understand the value and support having a community of residents and employees trained to provide CPR/AED and First Aid. The Richfield Fire Department remains committed to providing high quality education to all interested individuals.

Firemedic Janis



Wheatley Road Roof Ventilation Training

# AED Program 2018

## AED Program 2018

There are seven Phillips HeartStart AEDs easily accessible throughout the Village and will provide a survival rate of over 60% to a victim in cardiac arrest. The Phillips HeartStart AED is a limited maintenance unit that is user friendly. CPR and AED training has been offered to all Village employees in 2018.

Firemedic Urban



Firemedic Urban with Safety Trailer, at Hillcrest Elementary

# Health Watch Program & Lockbox Program 2018

## Health Watch Program & Lockbox Program 2018

Since 2001 the Village and Township had offered the Health Watch program for the senior citizens in Richfield. That service is now being handled by the Health Watch Monitoring Agency (contact 1-800-860-4230). It consists of a pendant that the resident wears that when activated calls, a monitoring service. The monitoring service then calls Richfield Dispatch and we respond to the resident's home.

The Fire Department lockboxes for residents, at no cost to them. These are small safe-like boxes that are able to be mounted by the resident's door, and inside is a resident supplied key allowing the Fire Department easy access in the event of an emergency. I strongly encourage any house that has a resident that is often alone in which a Health Watch is installed to also have a lockbox installed.

Firemedic Urban



Community Day



Residential Lock Box

# Public Education Report 2018

## Public Education Report 2018

I am the Fire Department's Fire Education Specialist, and I teach the Fire Prevention program at Richfield Elementary and Saint Peregrine's Academy. Although the focus of the program is fire prevention, other safety topics are presented as well.

In April, the child Safety Trailer was used to teach severe storm and tornado safety and preparedness. A discussion with the children helped them to understand the importance between a fire safe or meeting place and a safe place to shelter during severe storms or tornados.

In June, students who attended Safety Town were taught the importance of never touching or playing with matches, getting outside whenever a smoke detector makes noise, having a meeting place, never hiding in a fire, crawling under the smoke and never trying to save toys or pets.

In September, the Safety Trailer was used once again to teach grades one, two, and three how to exit a smoky dwelling including using alternate exits such as a window, what it looks like to have smoke at the top of a room and cleaner air closer to the floor, crawling under the smoke, never hiding or trying to save toys or pets, how to check a closed door to see if fire may be on the other side, getting to the meeting place and only calling 9-1-1 once they are outside.

Firemedic Urban



# Bath-Richfield Explorer Post 2542

## Bath-Richfield Explorer Post 2542

The Bath-Richfield Explorer Post completed another year. The group is comprised of ten (10) students from area schools with two (2) advisors. Robert Benza and Mark Tibbs are advisors. Cody Bennett, Kyle Janis and Cory Tessmer, all members of the Richfield and Bath Fire Departments, continue to assist in the training and development of the members. The group continues to receive full support of Chief Phil McLean (Richfield FD), Chief Walt Hower (Bath FD), and Assistant Chief Rob Campbell (Bath FD).

This year we added three (3) members and had four (4) members withdraw due to scheduling conflicts.

The Explorers are scheduled to meet every other Thursday at one of the departments, to include some classroom learning, and then typically engage in a hands-on drill. The student must be between the ages of 14-21 to be a member.

The members are also invited to attend additional Fire Training with the Fire Department members. This training includes:

- Live Fire Training
- Ice Water Rescue
- Extrication
- Tanker Shuttle Operations

The Explorers are also involved with community relations with both departments throughout the year which include:

- Community Day in both Bath and Richfield
- Fireworks Shows in Bath and Richfield
- Pancake Fund Raiser for the Explorers Post
- 5K Trail Run/1-Mile Walk Pancake Breakfast

The Explorers have been called by Bath and Richfield Fire Departments on incidents that require manpower, such as structure fires.

Firemedic Benza



Rolling Hose

Inspecting Gear



## Promotions 2018

### Promotions 2018

Cory Tessmer – Promotion to FireMedic upon his Graduation on June 15, 2018 from the Akron General Paramedic School program.



Lt. Butler, Firemedic Tessmer, Chief McLean, Firemedic Janis

# Presidential Visit 2018

## Presidential Visit 2018

The Richfield Fire Department coordinated with the following departments:

- Akron
- Bath
- Brecksville
- EMA
- Granger
- Green
- Valley

It was an honor to Prepare, Plan, and Execute a plan with the U.S. Secret Service to protect President Trump.

Chief McLean



# Presidential Visit 2018



Chief McLean and Chief Zamiska (Brecksville Fire)