

**RICHFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT  
2012 ANNUAL REPORT**



The Village of Richfield Division of Fire  
is proud to present the 2012 year-end report

From: Acting Fire Chief Phil McLean, serving from May 25, 2012 to January 15, 2013

Dear Mayor Beshara, Village Council and Administration, Township Trustees and to our citizens of Richfield Village and Richfield Township we present our progress report to re-cap 2012.

This past year saw many transitions within our organization. Chief Stopak, served 14 years in the Chiefs position and left that office in May and retired in July. Don Zito and Bob Glover also retired with 37 years of service to the department. All three individuals made memorable contributions to the organization.

Serving as your acting Fire Chief since May I was proud to lead this organization with the help of my officers and members. A transition period such as this can stay at the current status or take a proactive approach to re-structure the organization as a team effort and that's what we did. A general departmental overview was conducted, projects and functions were defined and members were assigned. The overview revealed the need for an administrative assistant and in July working closely with our Mayor Beshara, Mindi Schaetzle filled that position. In 2012 our members continued to deliver outstanding services to our great community while change was taking place. We took delivery of new medical unit # 3012 and removed two older medical units from service that were sold or traded. The operations were re-aligned to meet the needs of the community with additional partime staffing during the day within the current budget structure. The budget has been re structured to follow the operational requirements of the department. Fire Training, Ems Training, Public Education and Prevention, Code enforcement and Employee enrichment categories were established and funded after working extensively with the Mayor and Finance Director. I want to thank council for your support in passing the 2013 budget requests. We wrote and submitted for a federal grant to replace eight sets of our Structural Firefighting gear and should know the outcome later this spring. Capital improvement funds were re-directed to upgrade our radio system to make our radios compatible to talk with Bath, Copley and Fairlawn and the county system.

Emergency response is what we do 24 hours, 7 days. We were challenged this year with three structure fires in residential areas and medical calls that keep two medical units on the road each day to transport patients to Cleveland area and Akron area hospitals. Fire station tours, Inspections, Prevention programs at our schools and businesses and our first Fire Department Open House demonstration made for a busy year and as always, it all got done effectively and efficiently by our professionals. We continued to stay current with in service Fire Training and EMS to meet State of Ohio standards.

I would to thank our Village Administration especially Mayor Beshara for entrusting me to lead The Richfield Fire Department over this past year. I also want to thank our Service Director, Police Chief, Finance Director and our valuable service department mechanic. Our goals could not have been accomplished without you and your contributions.

Last but not least, the old saying there is no I in team is correct, I want to thank all of our Firefighters and my Officers who stood by me through this past transition, because without you and your continued dedication none of the above would have been possible. It is this type dedication that allows us to deliver exceptional protection to the citizens of our community.

Sincerely Submitted

Acting Fire Chief

Phil McLean

CHIEF

Joe Stopak

CAPTAIN-ACTING CHIEF

Phillip McLean

LIEUTENANT

Bruce Butler

Robert Jones

LIEUTENANT

Jason Purkey

Ronald Urban

FIREFIGHTERS

Brian Abbott

Ron Boryk

Steve Kamp

Jason Mihalek

Tom Olechnowicz

Thomas Sullivan

Steve Weinert

Robert Benza

Daniel Elbert

Michael Lester

Christopher Najsztup

Jeremy Parkhurst

Mark Tibbs

Mark Willis

Eric Boleman

Eric Ellis

Daniel Merryman

Matthew Null

George Seifert

Kevin Urban

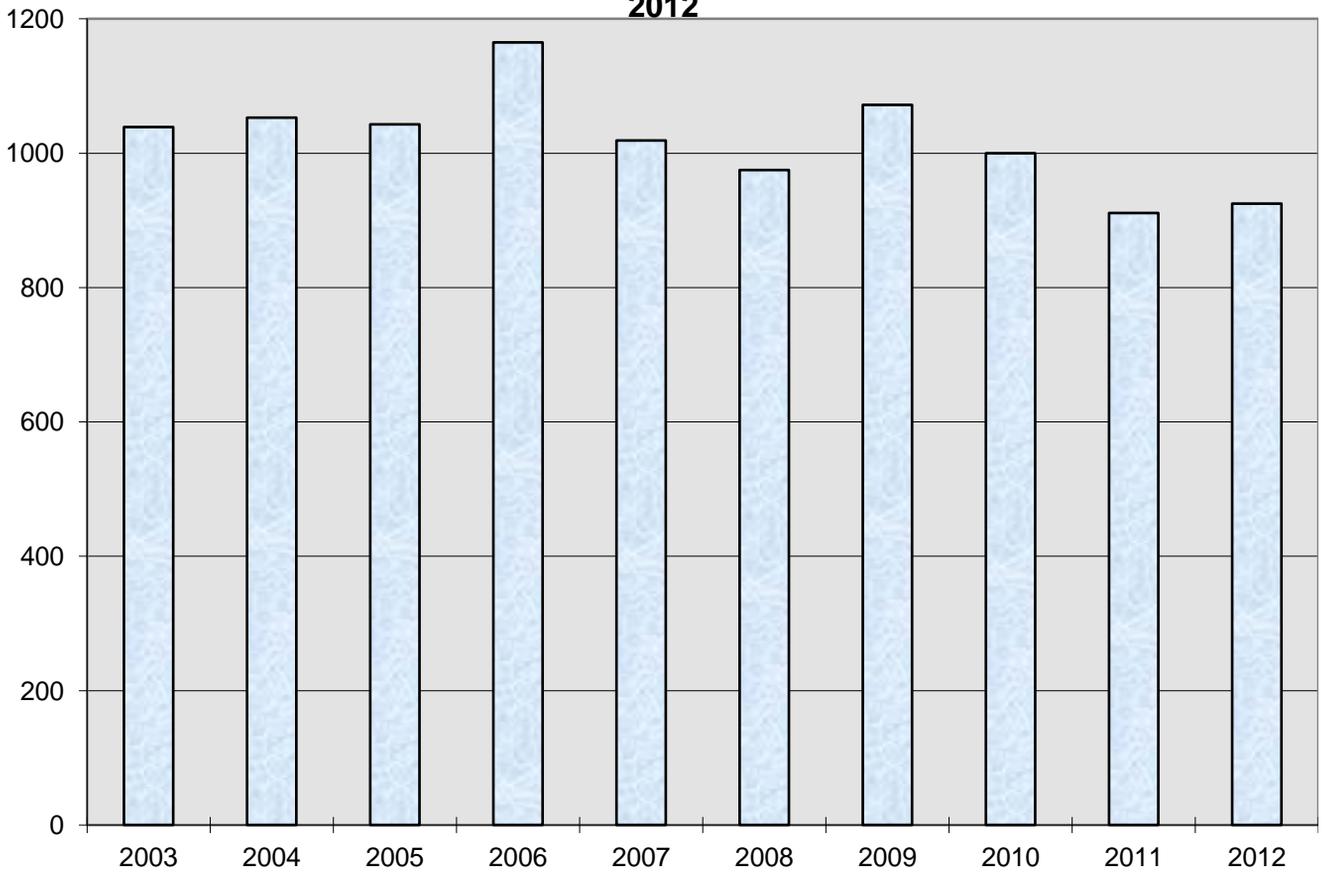
Donald Zito



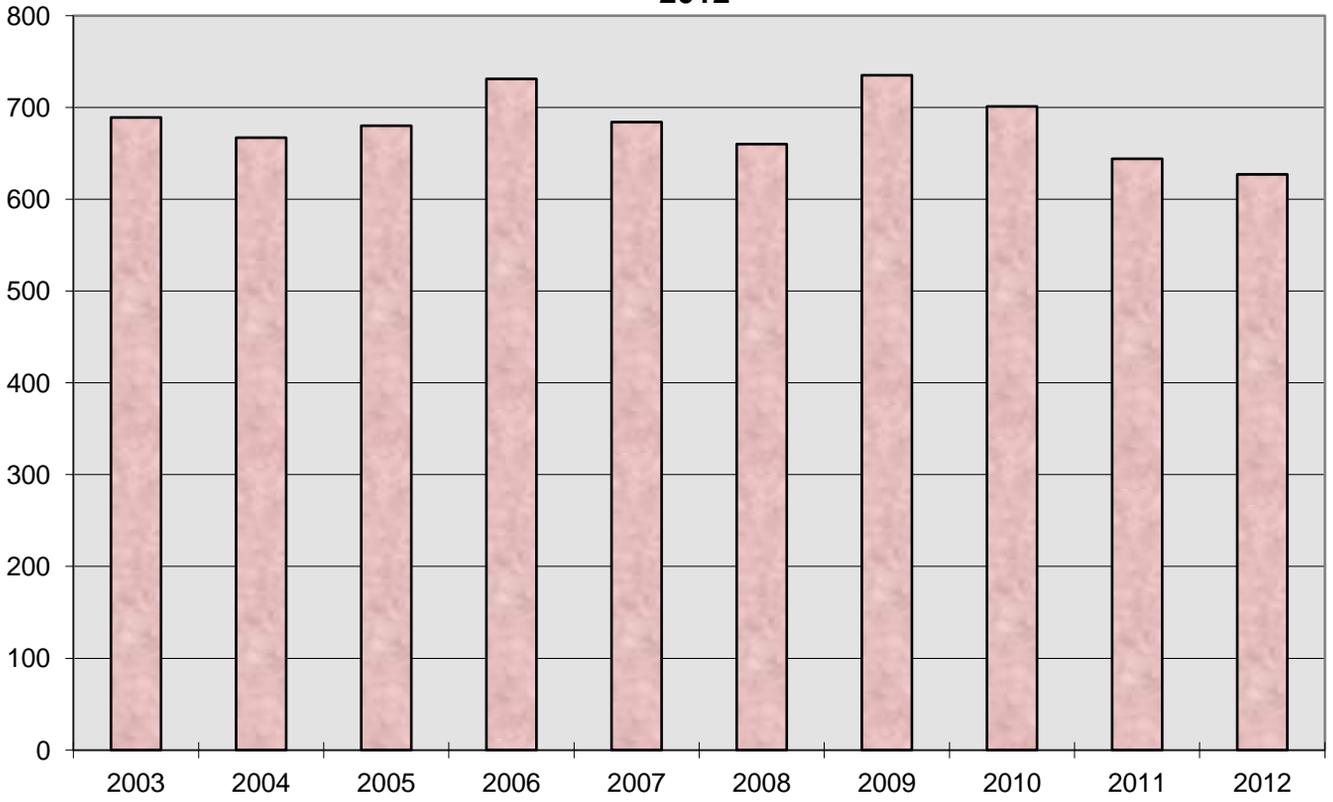
## STATISTICS 2012

<b><u>TOTAL CALLS</u></b>	<b>954</b>	
<b><u>TOTAL FIRE</u></b>	<b>288</b>	<b>30%</b>
VILLAGE FIRE	174	60%
TOWNSHIP FIRE	78	27%
MUTUAL AID FIRE	36	13%
<b><u>TOTAL RESCUE</u></b>	<b>666</b>	<b>70%</b>
VILLAGE RESCUE	441	66%
TOWNSHIP RESCUE	194	29%
MUTUAL AID RESCUE	31	5%

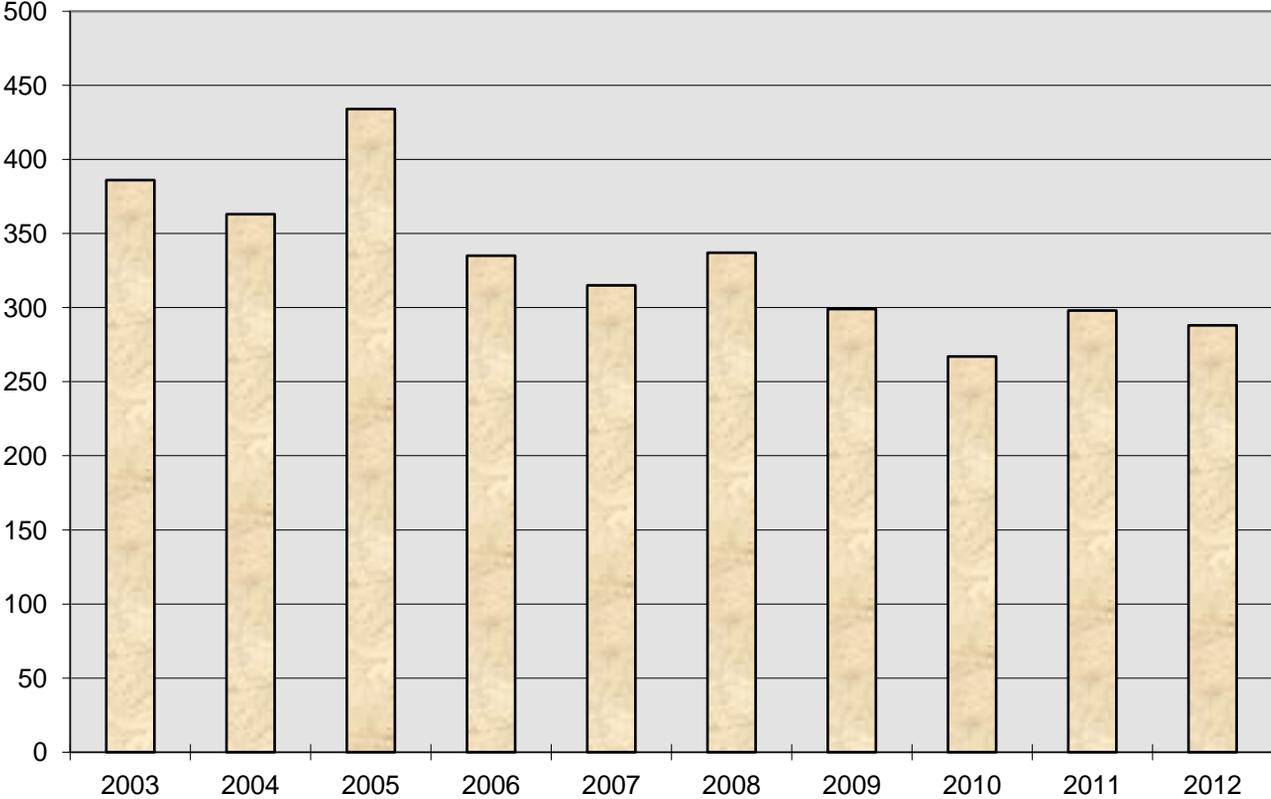
# TOTAL CALLS 2012



# RESCUE CALLS 2012



# FIRE CALLS 2012



## TYPE OF ALARM REPORT 2012

TYPE OF CALL	COUNT
CODE 1 – HEART	65
CODE 2 – BREATHING	70
CODE 3 – INJURY	112
CODE 4 – VEHICLE ACCIDENT	70
CODE 5 – UNKNOW MEDICAL	21
CODE 6 – POISONING	7
CODE 7 – ILLNESS	234
CODE 8 – BLEEDING	10
CODE 9 – SHOOTING	2
CODE 10 – AUTO RESPONSE	3
CODE 11 – CAR FIRE	19
CODE 12 – GRASS FIRE	6
CODE 13 – MISC. FIRE	40
CODE 13A – STRUCTURE FIRE	32
CODE 13AD – ALARM DROPS	96
CODE 14 – INVESTIGATION	81
CODE 16 – D.O.A.	3
CODE 50 – HAZARDOUS MATERAIL	11
CODE 90 – MEDICAL ASSIST	72
TOTAL	954

## NEW EQUIPMENT PURCHASES FOR 2012

To: Chief Mihalek

From: Lt. R. Urban

In order to maintain the excellent fire and medical services for the citizens and businesses of Richfield while ensuring the safety of our fire department personnel, the following new equipment was purchased during the year 2012:

**2012 Horton Rescue Squad:** The Richfield Fire Department took delivery of a new Horton Model 553 Rescue Squad in July 2012. The Horton Model 553 is a large-body rescue squad with rugged durability and a tremendous payload capacity. The GMC/Chevrolet Type III chassis provides an excellent ride with outstanding handling capabilities. Five exterior compartments provide sufficient outside storage for all of our backboards, immobilization devices, SCBA and other rescue equipment. The all aluminum, custom designed interior cabinetry along with 72 inches of interior headroom provide sufficient storage for all of our medical supplies and equipment. Our new Horton Rescue Squad will continue to provide a critical service to the citizens and businesses of Richfield for many years to come.

**Power-Pro XT Ambulance Cot:** The Power Pro-XT ambulance cot is a battery powered hydraulic system that raises and lowers our patient with the touch of a button and fully retracts in 2.4 seconds, reducing the loading and unloading times of the patient. This battery powered ambulance cot significantly reduces strenuous lifting and the related risk of back injury. Our fire personnel experience frequent spinal loading due to the repetitive motions of lifting, lowering, carrying and bending. The Power Pro-XT ambulance cot has proven to reduce spinal loading, resulting in reduced injuries, lost or modified workdays and workers compensation costs. The battery powered hydraulic system raises and lowers patients effortlessly. In the event of a power failure however, there is an easy to use manual back-up system that provides complete cot operation. Since the Power Pro-XT cot has a proven history of reliability, we are very confident that this cot will provide our Department many years of trouble free service.

**Lion Turnout Gear-Janesville Turnouts:** As part of our continued efforts to insure that all of our fire personnel have the best protection while fighting fires, we purchased three (3) new sets of Janesville V-Force turnouts. Certified to the NFPA 1971 standards on protective ensembles for structural fire fighting, the Janesville V-Force turnout gear provides our personnel with the highest quality of protection on the market. The V-Force turnouts take the best of technology from combat and professional sports clothing and apply it to turnout gear resulting in an optimum balance comfort, thermal protection and mobility. The patented Semper Dri System reduces water absorption in the pants legs, coat cuffs and yoke to keep the firefighter's working weight lighter. In addition, the Ever-Dry Reach System provides the firefighter full protection from water, steam and flame when reaching or extending their arms. The Janesville turnout gear will absolutely provide our personnel with the finest thermal protection now and well into the future.

We are very fortunate to have funds available to purchase new equipment and protective clothing that will enhance the safety of our firefighters and enable us to continue to provide the highest level of fire and emergency medical care to the community of Richfield.

## **FIRE INSPECTION PROGRAM 2012**

To: Chief Mihalek

From: Lieutenant Jones

Fire safety inspections are a very important part of our job, these inspections are done to ensure the safety of our citizens, individuals who work in Richfield and for the firefighters who will enter these building during times of emergencies. We will continue to witness fire alarm tests, fire hood system tests and sprinkler tests. By having the on duty crews present at these test allows our members to become familiar with the many different buildings and fire safety systems that are located in Richfield.

During the past year we have worked with Summit County Building Department on two new commercial buildings and several remodeling jobs. We will continue to work with the Summit County Building in the year to come and look forward to continuing our good relations.

Also during the past year we have continued to work closely with the Richfield Village Zoning Inspector Brian Frantz as we have worked on several different projects together. The upcoming year promises to be another busy year as we continue to meet the needs of our community.



## TRAINING HOURS 2012

To: Chief Mihalek

From: Lieutenant Jones

During the year 2012, members of the Richfield Fire Department participated in all kinds of training. Total training hours for 2012 was 1184 hours, this includes all EMS and Fire training.

Fire training for the year 2012 included a live fire training at Dominion East Ohio fire training grounds, located in Richfield. At this location we were able to discuss fire safety issues with natural gas and then extinguish some high pressure gas fires. Fire department members also participated in a school bus extrication drill, a special thanks to Ohio Operating Engineers for allowing us to hold the drill at their location on Newton Road.

During 2012 Richfield Fire Department sponsored several continuing education programs for Fire Safety Inspectors. These programs were opened to all neighboring fire departments and were well attended. Being able to sponsor these programs allows for our inspectors to meet the continuing education requirements set by the State of Ohio.

Richfield Fire Department members also attend two classes sponsored by Bath Fire Department. The first class was a hands on rope class taught at Camp Christopher, the class included setting up of hauling systems, repelling and stokes basket removals. The second class was taught by Assistant Chief Jones from Hopkins International Airport Fire Department on helicopter safety during emergencies. Bath Fire was able to land three different helicopters at AGMC Wellness center for all participates to look at.



## **RESCUE TRAINING 2012**

To: Chief Mihalek

From: Lt. Jason Purkey

During the year 2012, the Richfield Fire department offered its members 53 hours of continuing medical education. Continuing education is mandated by state law for all Paramedics and EMTs.

The Richfield Fire department is also a training site where continuing medical education can be obtained by members of other departments. The state Division of EMS requires strict record keeping and issuing of certificates for any member of another agency who wishes to attend our trainings to obtain continuing education.

Dr. Thomas Lloyd, of Akron General Medical Center, retired from the Richfield Fire Department as our medical advisor. Dr. Lloyd was our director for almost 30 years and made us one the finest EMS service in Summit County. Dr. John Pakiela took over as medical director near the end of the year and we are transitioning to an updated protocol. He will also critique patient pre-hospital care based upon the EMS report that is generated on every medical call.

In 2012 our department were instructed in pediatrics, cardiology, geriatrics, behavioral emergencies, ethical issues, and environmental reactions. The Richfield Fire department used Med flight to do many of our. Our members also attended classes provided by Akron General at the hospital on a variety of topics. Several of our members also completed online training on their own time through an accredited source to obtain continuing education.

## TRANSPORTS BY FINAL DESTINATION 2012

DESTINATION	COUNT	PERCENT
PARMA COMMUNITY	19	2.5%
MARYMOUNT	52	9.7%
MARYMOUNT SOUTH	15	2.8%
SOUTHWEST GENERAL	6	1%
METROHEALTH CLEVELAND	3	.5%
SAINT VINCENT CHARITY	20	3.7%
MEDINA GENERAL	11	2.1%
AKRON CITY	21	3.9%
CHILDRENS MEDICAL OF AKRON	11	2.1%
ST. THOMAS	3	.5%
AKRON GENERAL MAIN	98	18.3%
AKRON GENERAL WEST	191	35.6%
AKRON GENERAL NORTH	4	.5%
OTHER FACILITIES	14	2.6%
NOT APPLICALE	68	12.7%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>536</b>	





## SPECIALIZED FIELDS OF TRAINING 2012

### INSTRUCTORS :

**C.P.R.:** Boleman, Boryk, Butler, Merryman, Null, R. Urban

**Advanced Cardiac Life Support:** Boryk, Purkey  
**Emergency Medical Technician:** Boryk, R.Urban  
**Fire Service:** Boleman, Boryk, Ellis, Jones, McLean, Mihalek

### TEAM MEMBERS :

**Rope Rescue:** Boleman, Boryk, Butler, Ellis, Lester, Merryman  
Mihalek, Purkey, Sullivan, R. Urban, Zito

**Paramedics:** Abbott, Boleman, Boryk, Elbert, Ellis, Jones, Kamp,  
Lester, Mihalek, Null, Parkhurst, Purkey, Seifert,  
Sullivan, K.Urban, R.Urban, Weinert, Zito

**Fire Safety Inspectors:** Boleman, Boryk, Ellis, Jones, Mihalek  
McLean, R.Urban, Zito

**Ice Rescue Technicians:** Boleman, Boryk, Butler, Elbert, Ellis, Kamp, Lester,  
Merryman, Mihalik, Najsztup, Purkey, Sullivan, Urban

**Honor Guard:** Boryk, Butler, Ellis, Lester, Merryman,  
McLean, Najsztup, Purkey

**Fire Investigation:** Boryk, Ellis  
**Metro Swat Medic:** Lester  
**County T.R.O.T.:** Ellis



**INCIDENT TYPE REPORT  
2012**

<b>INCIDENT TYPE</b>	<b>COUNT</b>
<b>1 FIRE</b>	
111 BUILDING FIRE	17
113 COOKING FIRE, CONFINED TO CONTAINER	8
114 CHIMNEY FIRE, CONTAINED TO CHIMNEY	3
131 PASSENGER VEHICLE FIRE	8
132 ROAD FREIGHT, VEHICLE FIRE	6
143 GRASS FIRE	5
150 OUTSIDE RUBBISH FIRE	2
161 OUTSIDE STORAGE FIRE	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>2 OVERPRESSURE RUPTURE, EXPLOSION, OVERHEAT (NO FIRE)</b>	
251 EXCESSIVE HEAT, NO FIRE	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>3 RESCUES AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE</b>	
300 EMS INCIDENT OTHER	18
311 MEDICAL ASST.	3
320 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE OTHER	9
321 EMS CALL, EXCLUDING VEHICLE ACCIDENT	478
322 VEHICLE ACCIDENT WITH INJURIES	43
324 VEHICLE ACCIDENT NO INJURIES	19
350 EXTRICATION RESCUE	1
362 ICE RESCUE	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>572</b>

<b>INCIDENT TYPE</b>	<b>COUNT</b>
<b>4 HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS (NO FIRE)</b>	
400 HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS OTHER	4
410 COMBUSTIBLE/ FLAMABLE OTHER CONDITION	2
411 FLAMMABLE LIQUID SPILL	1
412 NATURAL GAS OR LPG LEAK	6
413 OIL OR COMBUSTIBLE LIQUID SPILL	6
422 CHEMICAL SPILL OR LEAK	1
424 CARBON MONOXIDE INCIDENT	1
440 ELECTRICAL WIRING/EQUIPMENT PROBLEM	2
441 HEAT FROM SHORT CIRCUIT	1
442 OVERHEATED MOTOR	1
444 POWER LINE DOWN	26
445 ARCING ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>5 SERVICE CALL</b>	
500 SERVICE CALL OTHER	7
510 PERSON IN DISTRESS	19
511 LOCK-OUT	2
512 RING OR JEWELRY REMOVAL	1
522 WATER OR STEAM LEAK	5
531 SMOKE OR ODOR REMOVAL	6
550 PUBLIC SERVICE ASSISTANCE	4
551 ASSIST TO OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY	10
553 PUBLIC SERVICE	4
554 ASSIST TO INVALID	41
561 UNAUTHORIZED BURNING	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>102</b>

<b>INCIDENT TYPE</b>	<b>COUNT</b>
<b>6 GOOD INTENT</b>	
600 GOOD INTENT OTHER	20
611 DISPATCHED AND CANCELLED ENROUTE	15
622 NO INCIDENT FOUND ON ARRIVAL	8
631 AUTHORIZED CONTROLLED BURING	5
651 SMOKE SCARE	6
652 STEAM OR VAPOR THOUGHT TO BE SMOKE	1
671 HAZMAT INVESTIGATION NOTHING FOUND	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>7 FALSE ALARMS</b>	
700 FALSE CALLS OTHER	11
710 MISCHIEVOUS FALSE ALARM	5
730 SYSTEM MALFUNCTION OTHER	4
731 SPRINKLER ACTIVATION DUE TO MALFUNCTION	1
733 SMOKE ALARM ACTIVATION MALFUNCTION	14
735 ALARMS SOUNDED DUE TO MALFUNCTION	9
736 CO DETECTOR MALFUNCTION	5
740 UNINTENTIONAL TRANSMISSION OF ALARM	6
741 SPRINKLER ACTIVATION NO FIRE	1
743 SMOKE DETECTOR ACTIVATION NO FIRE	21
744 DETECTOR ACTIVATION NO FIRE	9
745 ALARM SYSTEM ACTIVATION NO FIRE	20
746 CARBON MONOXIDE ACTIVATION NO CO	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>109</b>
<b>8 SEVERE WEATHER</b>	
813 WIND STORM, TORNADO	3
<b>9 SPECIAL INCIDENT</b>	
900 SPECIAL INCIDENT OTHER	1

## **RICHFIELD FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION 2012**

To: Chief Mihalek

From: Pres. Eric Ellis

The First Annual Chili Cook-off Fund-raiser was sponsored by the R.F.A. on September 22nd. The Richfield Community supported us as over 250 people came. The cook-off also was a chance to promote fire safety and brought neighboring fire department, Bath, Brecksville, Hinckley, and Fairlawn, here to compete and serve chili. It was lots of fun and ran with the trail dedication ceremony and hike.

The funds raised during this event and donations during the year allows us to purchase books, insurance costs and educational supplies for the Youth Fire Prevention Smoke House program. Additional funds were spent for dues to Summit County and Ohio State Firefighter Associations, the Richfield Bandage Day Camp at the fire station, and promotional materials for Fire Prevention week.

Our Honor Guard participated in the Memorial Day march, the Community Weekend parade, an Akron Areos' game, Veterans Day ceremony at Revere HS, and at a funeral ceremony.

During the year Don Zito and Joe Stopak retired. Sadly in recent years past members Jack Arnold, Elmer Steffen, and Charley Palmer passed away. Those members of the Richfield Firemen's Association collectively had over 75 years of service to the Richfield Community! On behalf of all R.F.A. members, we look forward to continuing our tradition of community service, friendship and professionalism in the coming year.





## Fire Prevention Program 2012



The Fire Prevention Program was very active in the schools during 2012. The program was presented at Saint Peregrines Academy on a monthly basis and four times at Hillcrest Elementary. Children ranged from kindergarten thru fourth grades, with 3 lessons including the 5th thru 12th graders at St. Peregrines Academy.

January-Pond and Ice Safety was taught to all grades, and dressing for the cold weather was included in the lesson presented to students in Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades. Students at Hillcrest Elementary participated in this lesson. February-Kindergarten thru 4th graders at Saint Peregrines Academy learned how a firefighter looks and sounds when they come to rescue you, and the 5th thru 12th graders learned about cooking safety and had a general fire safety review.

March-Students were read a story I wrote that explains how to escape from a burning building and stresses the importance of never playing with matches. Students then had a discussion about what the characters did right or wrong during the emergency. April-The Child Safety Trailer was used for tornado response training.

May-Summer safety issues were reviewed, for the students at St. Peregrines Academy, and the students at Hillcrest Elementary used the Child Safety Trailer for fire escape training. September- Students had a fire safety review that includes stop, drop and roll; go to your safe place; never play with matches; crawling under the smoke; and never hiding in a fire, and calling 911 using a game I created.

October is Child safety Trailer month at St Peregrines for all students grades k thru 12th to reinforce the information learned in September as well as having the children crawl through the smoke while smoke detectors are going off and then going to their Safe Place.

November- Students at St. Peregrines were reinforced the importance of getting out quickly and calmly when the fire alarm sounds. December's lessons all pertained to holiday safety, candle safety and fireplace safety.

I think it was a very good year.

Respectfully submitted,

Lydia Wochna  
Fire Prevention Educator & Kodak, The Fire prevention Dog.

