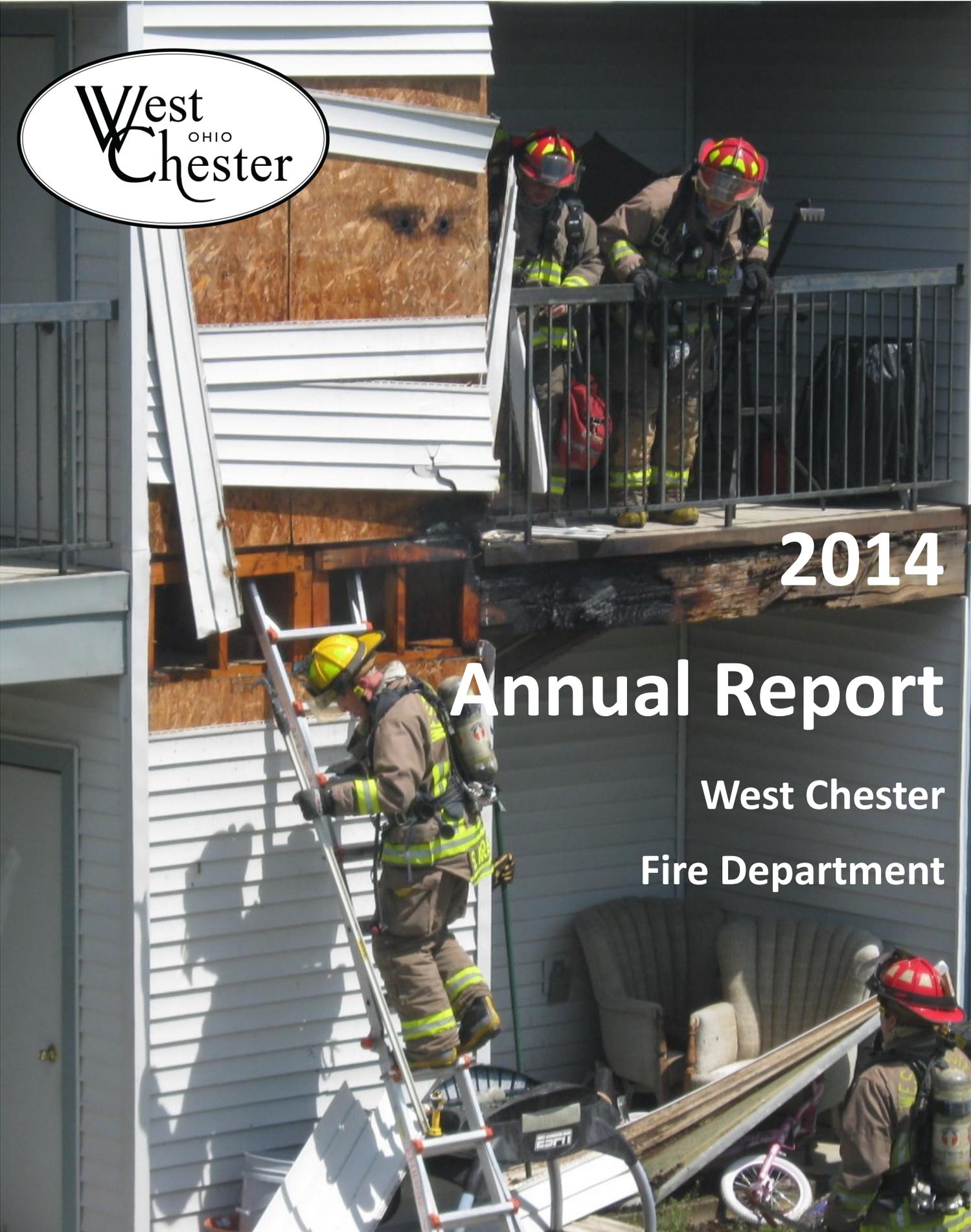




West  
OHIO  
Chester



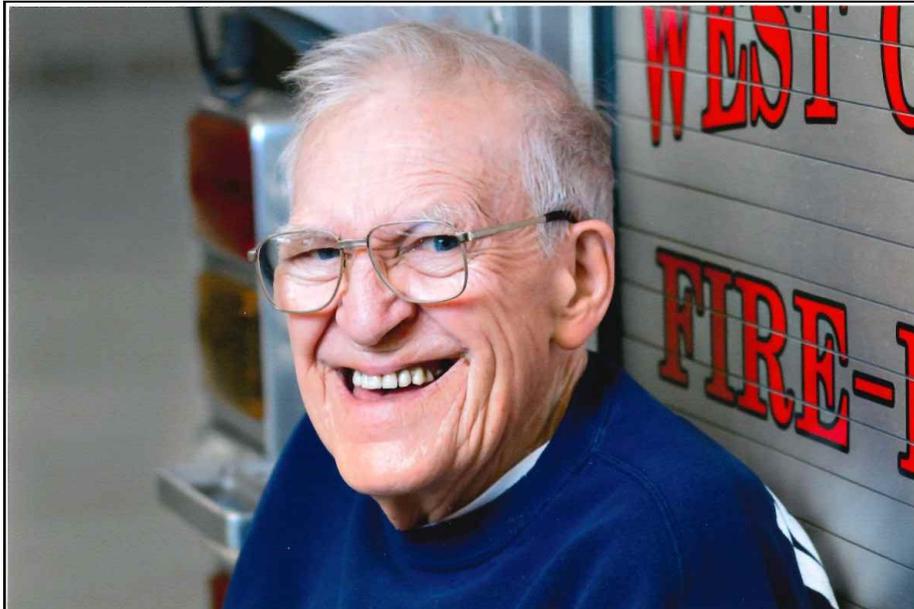
2014

# Annual Report

West Chester  
Fire Department



# Dedication



## **Robert "Bread Man Bob" Ewing**

Bob was a true friend of the fire department. He became associated with us through his involvement with the Police Ambassador program. He started by bringing bread and sweet treats to the crews at the station earning him the name "Bread Man Bob". He enjoyed coming to the station for a cup of coffee, or for breakfast and dinner; and shared many stories and life experiences with the crews. We adopted him, just as much as he adopted us. He became a grandfather figure to many of the younger members of the department, sharing lessons from his years of life experience. He often said when he was with us, he felt younger. Bob was included in crew and department activities such as holiday dinners at the stations, a trip to the USAF Museum and Reds ballgames to mention a few.

Bob, his wife Betty and daughter Merry are residents of West Chester. Lt. Bob Ewing served in the United States Air Force as a pilot, and was a member of Havelock D. Nelson American Legion Post 681, West Chester/Liberty townships. Bob passed away in late December 2014 and is missed by all of us at the West Chester Fire Department.



# 2014 Annual Report

## West Chester Fire Department

### ***West Chester Fire Department Mission Statement***

West Chester Township Fire Department is dedicated to education and the prevention of unnecessary death, disability and destruction within our community.

When incidents occur we strive to provide solutions through effective planning, preparedness, response and risk management.

We will maintain the highest level of public service while remaining fiscally responsible to the citizens of West Chester Township.

West Chester Township Fire Department  
9119 Cincinnati-Dayton Road  
West Chester OH 45069

Anthony Goller, Fire Chief

Office Hours M-F 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

513-777-1133 offices

513-777-1157 fax

[www.westchesteroh.org/fire](http://www.westchesteroh.org/fire)

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# A Message from the Chief



Anthony Goller  
Fire Chief

Presented within are the activities and accomplishments of the men and women who serve the West Chester Community on their fire department. This professional group provides fire, EMS, special operations and public education in a manner that is responsible and fiscally responsible to our taxpayers.

The fire department cannot stand alone. The continued support of the Township Administrator, Township Trustees, township departments, residents, business owners, and the members have made our achievements possible by working together.

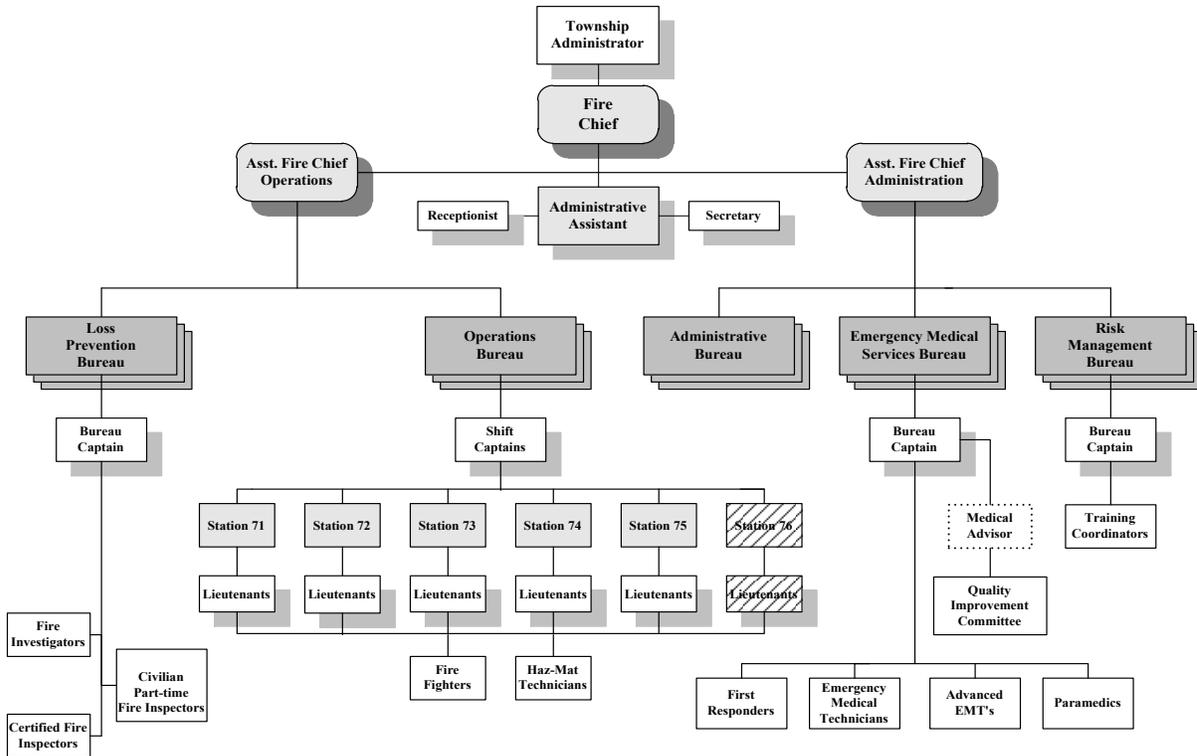
The year 2014 brought about challenges that affected our part-time members such as the affordable health care act and a 15% increase in EMS responses. These challenges were examined and we were able to accomplish the goals of providing service to the community without impacting budget. While part-time firefighter retention remains an issue, we are always actively pursuing the best for the community.

We have continued to seek ways to extend the levy funding approved by the voters in 2006. We were able to collaborate with area fire departments and save money through group purchasing items such as cleaning supplies and firefighting foam. This year we also extended the life of a paramedic unit by utilizing the existing patient care compartment and only replacing the vehicle chassis. This venture was tried back in the late 1980s and by reinstating the practice today the department realized a savings of approximately \$40,000 over purchasing a new paramedic unit.

With the continued support of the community, we will continue to provide the excellent, fiscally responsible service the community deserves. The department is only as good as its members and support system.

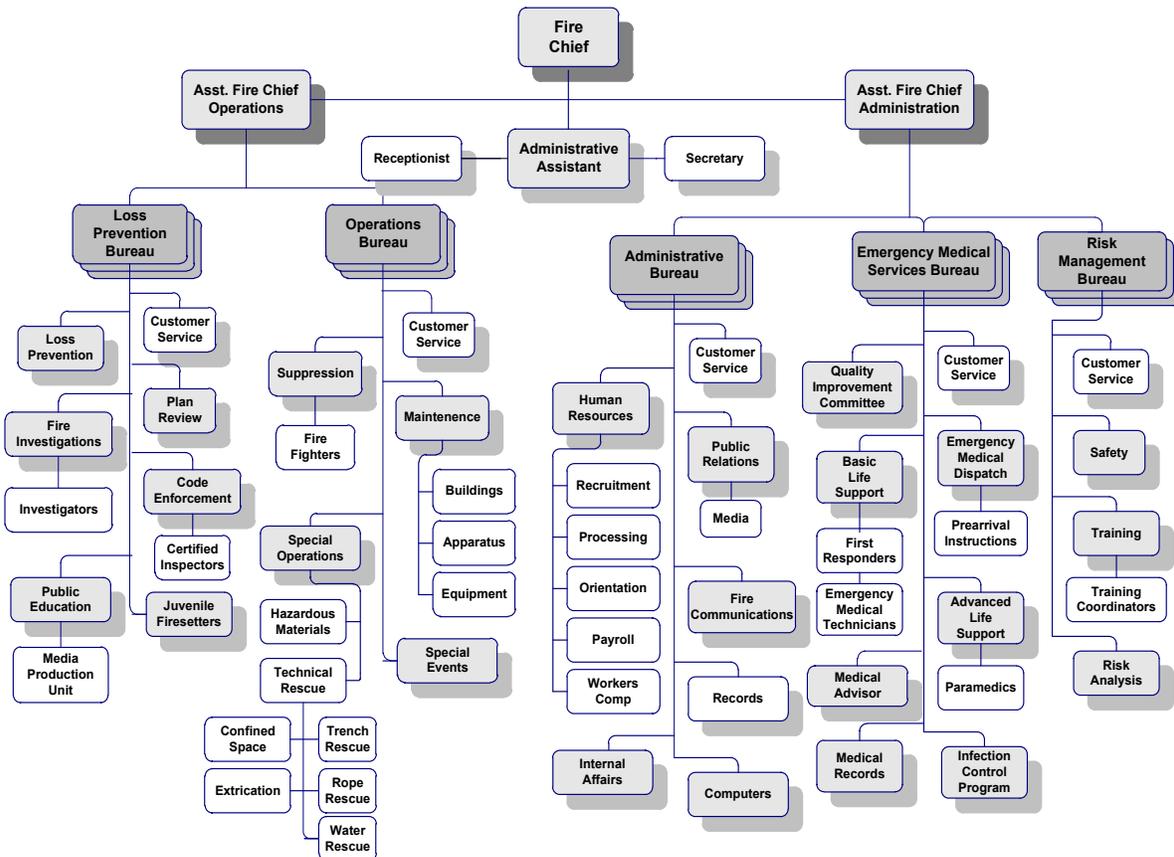
# West Chester Township Fire Department

## Current Organization



# West Chester Township Fire Department

## Current Bureau





# Administration

**S**ome 2014 highlights.

- Twenty-five (25) part-time members left the department for a variety of reasons over the course of the year. Many found career positions with other fire departments, others changed their career path, retired, etc. We hired twenty-one (21) part-time Firefighters and one part-time Fire Inspector. We strive to reach our allotted complement of seventy-three (73) part-time personnel.
- Two career Firefighter/Paramedics were hired to fill two career Firefighter positions left vacant in 2013.
- In March, Troy Bonfield was hired as career EMS Captain. Troy filled a post vacated in fall of 2013. He oversees our Emergency Medical Services (EMS). Captain Bonfield has provided the vision and leadership necessary to continue our pursuit of providing the best possible service.
- The Fire Department is represented on the Township's Risk Management Committee to promote and implement healthier and safer conditions for all Township employees, which improves service to our residents, businesses and visitors.

- Another intersection in our community was equipped with hardware for emergency pre-emption. This hardware assists traffic flow at congested intersections to reduce the hazards for both the public and our personnel when having to travel through them during an emergency. West Chester now has 20-plus intersections with this service, and more will be added as part of future road projects.
- In 2014 negotiations began with the Firefighter's Union for a new collective bargaining agreement. We anticipate reaching an agreement in early 2015.



Michael Mays  
Assistant Fire Chief  
Administration

In 2014 the Township's Finance & IT Department supported enhancements to the efficiency and operation of our department by accomplishing the following:

- Replacement of desktop computers that had reached maturity and were causing performance issues. Computers and EMS laptops were upgraded from XP to Windows 7.

*Continued*

# Administration

- Updated TeleStaff, the scheduling and payroll system used by the department.
- Installed a new fax server to streamline our provision of Patient Care Reports to area hospitals. This has reduced the unavailability time of our EMS units when at a hospital.
- Began implementation process of electronic truck checks for improved tracking of maintenance and equipment. We expect this process to be fully operational in 2015.
- Purchased and installed two (2) Aqua/ProQA (Quality Assurance Software for medical emergencies in our 911 Center). This purchase enables management in our 911 facility to review medical 911 calls enhancing our delivery of pre-arrival instructions during emergency responses of our EMS personnel.
- Upgraded ePCR (electronic Patient Care Reporting) to meet State and National reporting requirements.

These are just a few highlights from the Administration Bureau for 2014. In the next few years, the department will see new leadership as longtime members retire and others pick up the reins of the department. In early 2015, Fire Chief Anthony Goller will retire after a very distinguished career. This will be my last time preparing this report, as I will also be retiring in 2015

It has been an honor and pleasure to serve this community over the past 28 years. I have experienced and had the opportunity to get to know many great people who have committed themselves to providing the best service possible while remaining fiscally responsible. Over the years, I feel the department has been truly blessed to have the support of our Trustees, Township Administrators, and most of all the community as this department worked to meet the needs we faced as a growing community. I wish this Department the very best and know the members within the organization will continue to meet any challenges they face with the sole purpose of keeping this community safe.





**T**he West Chester Fire Department continued to improve the delivery of emergency medical services in 2014 through the implementation of leading edge equipment and procedures. The input of the Quality Improvement Committee and our internal EMS Committee allow us to continually re-evaluate and analyze our services in order to find ways of improving the delivery of EMS through new equipment, procedures and training.

Of the 4,128 calls we received in 2014, we transported a person 84.4% (3,486) of the time to a more definitive care facility for treatment of their illness or injury. Overall run volume increased by more than 15% from 2013 to 2014.

Our overall average travel time by EMS units increased slightly from the previous year. This is mainly due to the increase in run volume. Increased run volume often results in EMS units responding to districts outside their own because the other units are already on an EMS call. This can cause an in-

crease in overall travel time.

We continue to work closely with West Chester’s emergency dispatchers to improve communication, resulting in more effective pre-arrival instructions for the caller and the responding crews.



Capt. Troy Bonfield

The following enhancements were made by our department in 2014:

- Approved the re-chassis of an EMS unit. Realizing an approximate \$40,000 savings this year alone by remounting a new chassis on an existing patient compartment.
- Upgraded EMS reporting software and operating hardware to current standards
- Installed new fax server for RescueNet EMS reporting software. This resulted in a 30-minute decrease in “out of service” time for our EMS units, allowing us to return our EMS “in service” status more quickly after an EMS incident.

| Previous Year Comparisons        |         |                 |
|----------------------------------|---------|-----------------|
| Overall Travel Time by EMS Units |         |                 |
| Year                             | Minutes | Number of Calls |
| 2010                             | 5:36    | 3,815           |
| 2011                             | 5:03    | 3,810           |
| 2012                             | 5:13    | 3,925           |
| 2013                             | 4:58    | 3,606           |
| 2014                             | 5:13    | 4,128           |

# Administration

## Emergency Medical Services

- Added and upgraded ProQA AQUA quality assurance software for the communications center.
- Purchased communications capabilities for cardiac monitors to transfer EKG data to the RescueNet EMS reporting software

We look forward to further advancements in 2015 and are excited to provide the community with the highest quality EMS service possible.



| EMS Calls Compared to Actual Transports of Patients |       |            |                                |       |  |
|---|-------|------------|--------------------------------|-------|--|
| Year  | Calls | Transports | Percentage of PT's Transported |       |  |
| 2010  | 3815  | 3250       |                                | 85.2% |  |
| 2011  | 3810  | 3273       |                                | 85.9% |  |
| 2012  | 3925  | 3342       |                                | 85.1% |  |
| 2013  | 3606  | 3277       |                                | 90.8% |  |
| 2014  | 4128  | 3486       |                                | 84.4% |  |

| Procedures Performed In 2014 |      |
|------------------------------|------|
| IV's Started                 | 1325 |
| Intraosseous Insertions      | 35   |
| Advanced Airways Placed      | 60   |
| Defibrillations              | 35   |
| Medication Administrations   | 1183 |
| 3 Lead EKG's Obtained        | 1542 |
| 12 Lead EKG's Obtained       | 776  |
| Glucose Checks               | 1230 |



The Risk Management Bureau is tasked with investigating accidents and injuries involving West Chester Fire Department equipment and employees, and seeking improvements in operations to avoid future accidents and injuries.

In 2014, the bureau completed 13 incident investigations involving department vehicles, equipment or facilities. The bureau also completed 20 employee injury investigation reports. These investigations are conducted in order to better understand the root cause of the incident and to prevent future occurrences of the same injury. We continuously work to improve through training, written guidelines, and discipline.

### Training 2014

The video conferencing system installed in 2012 remains a workhorse for the Training Division. In 2014 the system was used for meetings and training a total of 493 times. The system has demonstrated its value in saved fuel and maintenance costs and decrease response times by keeping our units in their district.

The Fire Department spent more than 12,000 man-hours in training in 2014. A total of 1,513 classes were attended by WCFD personnel with 1,394 of these classes offered in-house and 119 outside the

Department.

CPR training was very successful due to the hard work of our instructors and coordinator. There were 341 total hours of instruction during 163 instructional sessions. The CPR program trained 668 students in 2014.



Capt. Mike Douglas  
Risk Management  
Bureau

In 2014 the Training Division led 22 new employees in orientation.

Thirteen successfully completed the program by the end of the year and nine are still in the process.



The Risk Management Bureau would like to thank all of the support staff and instructors for their time and efforts. Without their dedication and professionalism we would not be able to successfully complete our mission.

| Outside Training          |             |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Classes Applied for       | 150         |
| Classes Approved/Attended | 119         |
| Tuition spent             | \$42,059.44 |

| CPR Training           |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| Instructional Sessions | 163 |
| Hours of Instruction   | 341 |
| # of Students          | 668 |

# Administration

## Risk Management Bureau

### 2014 Training

| CATEGORY   | NO. OF CLASSES | NO. OF ATTENDEES | TRAINING HOURS   |
|--|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>GRAND TOTALS</b><br>(Station Drills/Department Training/<br>Outside Training) | <b>1,513</b>   | <b>10,689</b>    | <b>12,451.20</b> |
| DISASTER TRAINING  | 14             | 180              | 234.50           |
| DRIVER TRAINING  | 20             | 242              | 181.50           |
| EMS  | 405            | 3,165            | 3,905.20         |
| FIRE   | 173            | 1,536            | 2,010.00         |
| HAZMAT   | 131            | 1,119            | 1,506.00         |
| ICS  | 55             | 264              | 369.00           |
| INSTRUCTOR   | 18             | 58               | 61.50            |
| MISCELLANEOUS  | 86             | 444              | 298.00           |
| NIMS   | 15             | 31               | 55.00            |
| OFFICER DEVELOPMENT  | 63             | 393              | 518.50           |
| PREVENTION /INVESTIGATE  | 335            | 1,782            | 1,242.50         |
| RESCUE   | 107            | 873              | 1,555.50         |
| SAFETY   | 69             | 520              | 465.00           |
| TERRORISM / WMD  | 25             | 102              | 64.00            |



**T**he operations bureau consistently strives to deliver a superb all-hazards emergency response to our residents and corporate citizens. We accomplish this by continuously evaluating our service delivery and comparing our service with industry best practices. The West Chester Fire Department labors intensively to remain competitive, marketable and sustainable in the emergency service field.

In the fire service we measure success by how quickly we can respond, the number of lives saved and the value of residential and commercial buildings saved. These numbers have a direct impact on the property values in our community, insurance premiums for residents and corporate citizens, and our department's reputation. A professional well-trained firefighting force coupled with an active fire prevention bureau helps to prevent and protect the Township's property values and sustain a thriving residential and business community. The total value of property impacted by fire in 2014 and saved through the professional interventions of the West Chester Fire Department was \$148,850,318. Of that total value, \$1,660,357 was lost.



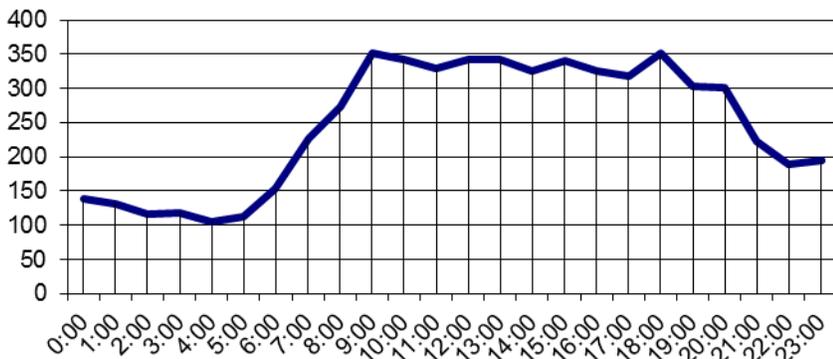
Rick Prinz  
Assistant Chief

In 2014, the West Chester Fire Department responded 5,958 times to provide exceptional Fire and EMS Services to our customers, with an average response time of 6:24. Of the nearly 6,000 calls, 4,128 were emergency medical calls for service and 1,830 fire service-related calls.

During 2014, the operations bureau worked to prepare specifications for a new pumper truck from E-One. This new truck will replace an existing 1989 engine with expected delivery in June 2015.

The operations bureau also formed an internal de-

**INCIDENTS BY TIME OF DAY**



# Operations

partment committee to study and evaluate Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) from several manufacturers. The new SCBA, scheduled for purchase in 2015, will replace our existing SCBA which was purchased in 2004 & 2005.

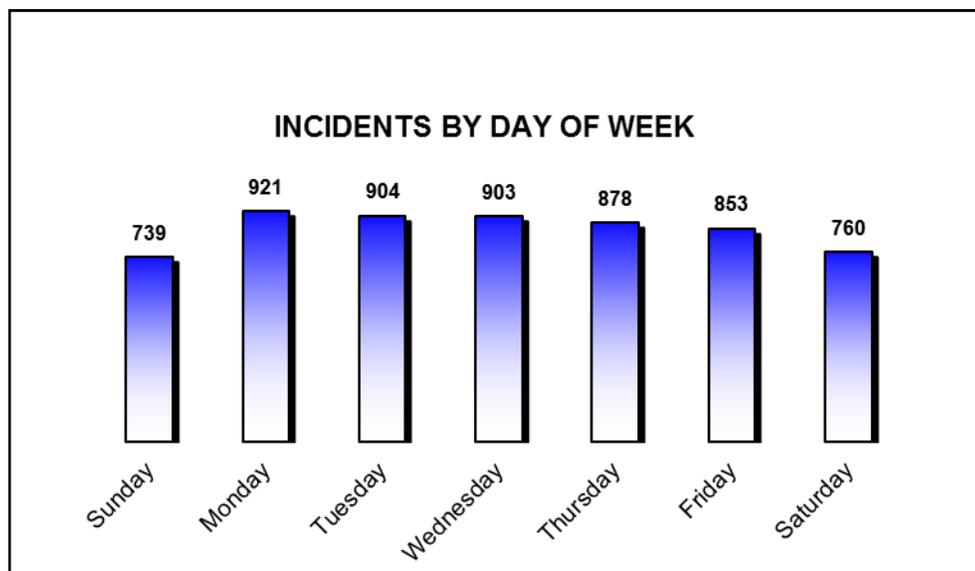
The department's collaboration with several neighboring fire departments on group purchasing of disposable station supplies continued to demonstrate substantial savings for all involved.

Maintaining our fleet and equipment in a constant state of readiness is priority one. Our members and the Township mechanics spend many hours maintaining apparatus and equipment to ensure that we are ready to serve at a moment's notice.

Our five fire stations operate on a 24/7 basis and are staffed by the men and women of the West Chester Fire Department. Maintenance of these facilities and grounds are performed on a daily basis by the duty crews. Ensuring the stations are safe, clean, and operating efficiently for the members who live there on a 24-hour basis; and that they reflect the high standards of our com-

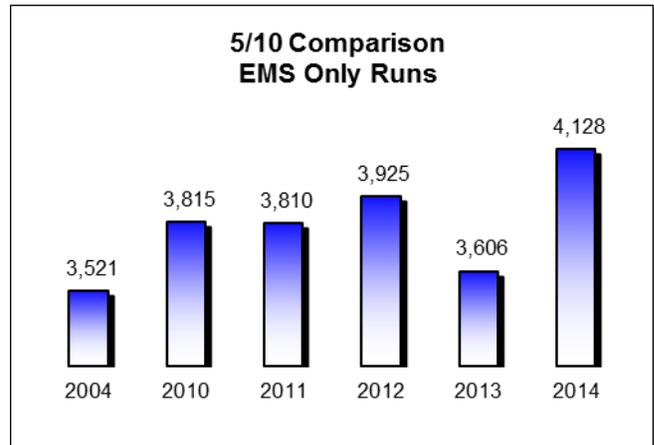
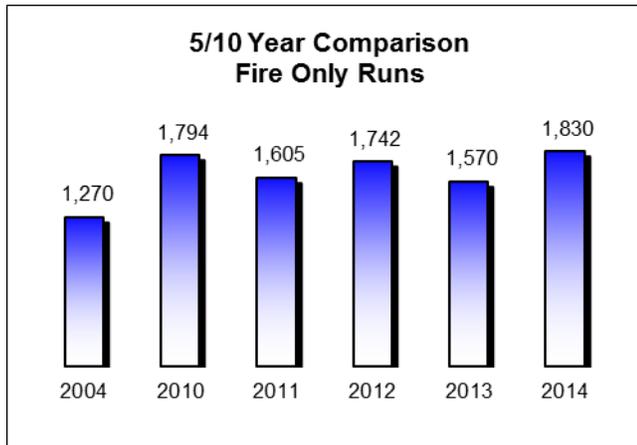
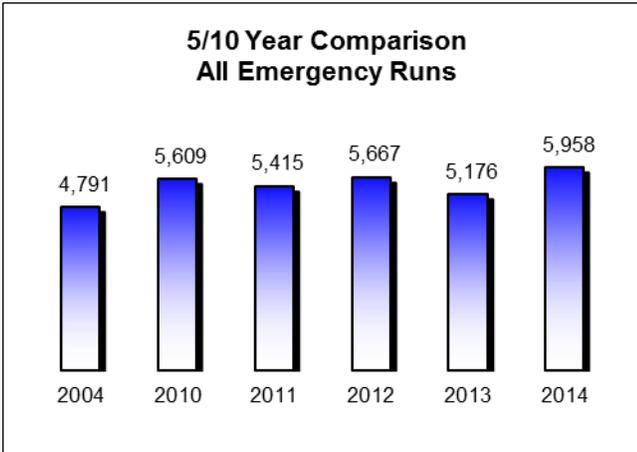
munity are important.

It is an honor and a privilege to serve our customers. I look forward to many more years of serving with honor, integrity and fiscal responsibility.



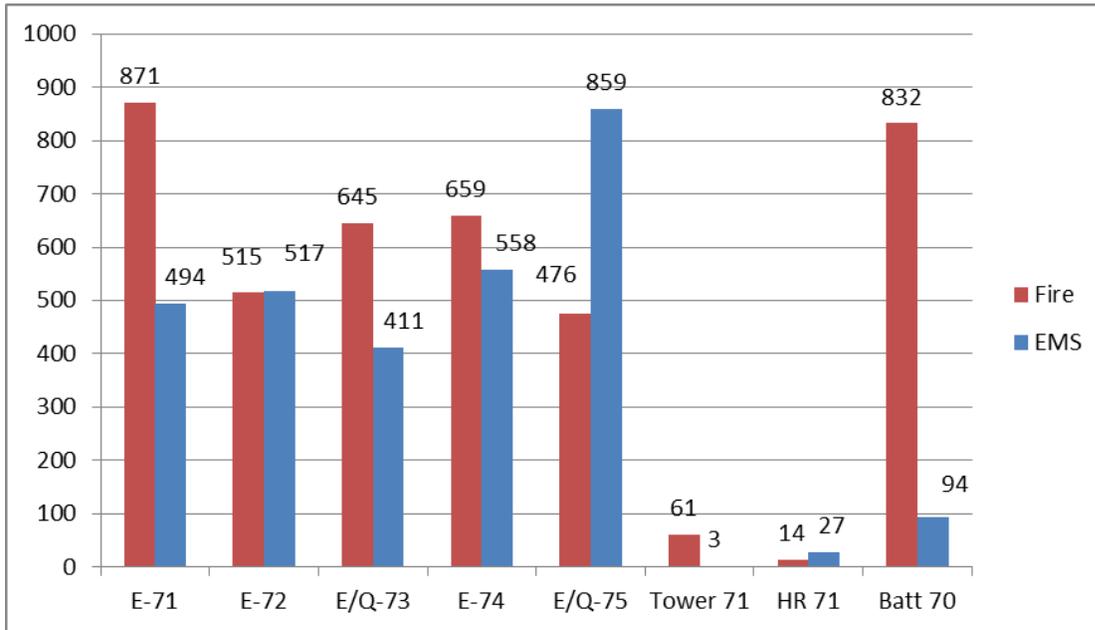
# Operations

## Emergency Call Trends

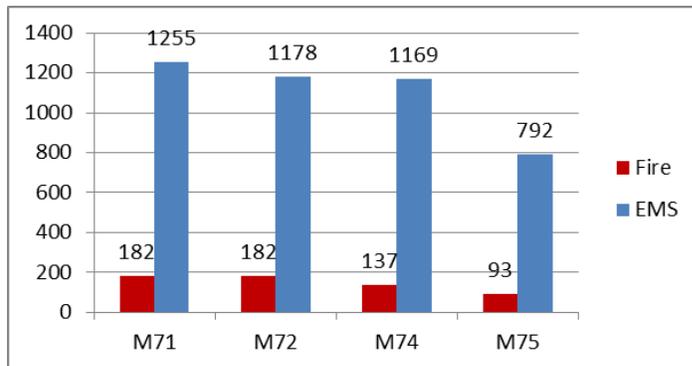


# Operations

## Responses Per Fire Unit



## Responses Per EMS Unit



| Action Taken Per Incident               | Percent of Total |
|---|------------------|
| EMS Actions Provided                    | 73.40%           |
| Investigate/Enforcement                 | 13.36%           |
| Fill-in/Standby                         | 7.19%            |
| Provide Assistance                      | 2.74%            |
| Extinguish and Control                  | 1.64%            |
| Identify & Confine Hazardous Conditions | 0.63%            |
| Restore Systems/Services                | 0.34%            |
| Rescue                                  | 0.38%            |
| Search & Rescue                         | 0.32%            |
| <b>Totals</b>                           | <b>100.0%</b>    |

# Operations

## Equipment Testing

### Hose Testing Results 2014

| Hose Diameter         | Number of Sections Tested | Total Feet Tested | Number of Sections Passed | Number of Sections Failed |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 3/4"                | 106                       | 5,300             | 104                       | 2                         |
| 2 1/2"                | 177                       | 8,850             | 173                       | 4                         |
| 5"<br>(50' sections)  | 14                        | 700               | 14                        | 0                         |
| 5"<br>(100' sections) | 70                        | 7,000             | 65                        | 5                         |
| <b>Overall Totals</b> | <b>367</b>                | <b>21,850</b>     | <b>356</b>                | <b>11</b>                 |

| Pump Testing |        |
|--------------|--------|
| Apparatus    | Status |
| Engine 71    | Passed |
| Engine 72    | Passed |
| Quint 73     | Passed |
| Engine 74    | Passed |
| Engine 78    | Passed |
| Quint 75     | Passed |
| Engine 79    | Passed |



# Operations

## Top 10 Fire Runs by Type



| Occupancy Type Total                          | Building Fires | Other Fires | Overpressure / Rupture | Medical Rescue | Hazard Cond. | Service Calls | Good Intent | False Calls | Sub Total |
|---|----------------|-------------|------------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| Business Office                               | 1              | 1           | 0                      | 83             | 3            | 3             | 10          | 26          | 127       |
| Restaurant or cafeteria                       | 1              | 5           | 0                      | 68             | 6            | 3             | 11          | 37          | 131       |
| Residential street, road, driveway            | 0              | 6           | 0                      | 73             | 23           | 12            | 18          | 1           | 133       |
| Manufacturing, processing                     | 7              | 1           | 0                      | 79             | 3            | 2             | 8           | 35          | 135       |
| Highway or divided highway                    | 0              | 6           | 0                      | 113            | 3            | 5             | 41          |             | 168       |
| Street or road commercial area                | 0              | 5           | 0                      | 112            | 24           | 12            | 18          |             | 171       |
| Warehouse                                     | 0              | 5           | 0                      | 89             | 2            | 6             | 18          | 121         | 241       |
| 24-hour care Nursing homes, 4 or more persons | 0              | 2           | 0                      | 427            | 0            | 12            | 21          | 9           | 471       |
| Multifamily dwellings                         | 15             | 20          | 2                      | 474            | 13           | 58            | 43          | 58          | 683       |
| 1 or 2 family dwelling                        | 26             | 22          | 4                      | 1,640          | 54           | 210           | 140         | 113         | 2,209     |
|   |                |             |                        |                |              |               |             |             |           |

### SCBA Maintenance & Respiratory FIT Testing

In 2014 there were 61 Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) and 109 masks maintained by our trained in-house SCBA repair team. The SCBA shop logged over 245 labor hours maintaining this equipment. In June we completed annual Bench Testing of all SCBA's. Any deficiencies were identified and repaired by a third party vendor.

There were a total of 120 members Respiratory Fit Test performed and only two members required a change in mask size.



**T**he West Chester Fire Department presented a multitude of programs to businesses and residents of the community supporting efforts to prevent fires and reduce the impact of fire in our community.

The Loss Prevention Bureau is responsible for ensuring that all commercial buildings are constructed or renovated in compliance with the Ohio Fire Code, as well as various standards such as the National Fire Protection Association. The Loss Prevention Bureau is dedicated to the fair and accurate administration of the Ohio Fire Code.

The Loss Prevention Bureau manages the administration of the public education programs geared towards the safety of our community with all ages in mind. Our programs can be customized to enhance the learning goals of the audience.

The goal of the Loss Prevention Bureau is the prevention of fires and injuries. When fires do occur, the Loss Prevention Bureau is responsible for finding the cause and origin of these fires, and implementing educational programs to prevent them from occurring in the future.

## **PUBLIC EDUCATION**

Public Education programs are designed with the

purpose of preventing future fires, injuries and even deaths resulting from fires. We are dedicated to continuously improving programs based on current trends and technology available to our department.



Capt. Scott Brooks  
Loss Prevention Bureau

### **Our programs consist of:**

- Touch-A-Truck
- Fire Extinguisher Training
- Sparky's Hazard House
- On-Site property evaluations for severe weather and emergency evacuations
- Fire Safety House
- Fire Station tours and safety presentations
- Home Fire Safety Inspections for Adoption and Foster Care homes
- Boy Scout and Girl Scout badge requirements
- Boy Scouts of America chartered Fire Explorer Post.



# Operations

## Loss Prevention

| <b>2014 PUBLIC EDUCATION DETAILS</b> |            |              |              |               |
|--------------------------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Activity                             | Pre-School | School Age   | Adult        | Total Hours   |
| Fire Extinguisher Training           | 0          | 0            | 800          | 26.50         |
| Fire Safety Talk                     | 438        | 704          | 90           | 31.50         |
| Fire Safety House                    | 150        | 920          | 667          | 35.50         |
| Show Fire Trucks                     | 75         | 1,856        | 578          | 66.50         |
| Sparky's Hazard House                | 100        | 100          | 208          | 8.00          |
| Spray Down Kids                      | 150        | 390          | 0            | 6.50          |
| Station Tours                        | 27         | 156          | 113          | 18.50         |
| Business Fire Drills                 | 0          | 0            | 800          | 6.00          |
| Other events                         | 0          | 112          | 160          | 27.25         |
| <b>Totals</b>                        | <b>940</b> | <b>4,238</b> | <b>3,416</b> | <b>245.75</b> |



**8,594 people  
reached**

through Public Education programs

### FIRE HYDRANTS

The West Chester Fire Department conducts an annual Fire Hydrant Servicing Program to ensure all 3,697 hydrants are in good working order.

Butler County Environmental Services and Cincinnati Water Works performed repairs and routine services on 133 hydrants in 2014, including: cleaning & greasing internal components, resetting hydrants struck by vehicles, raising below grade hydrants up to a workable height, routine painting, replacing bad valve seats and stems.

# Operations

## Loss Prevention

### Code Enforcement

The West Chester Fire Department is responsible for the enforcement of the Ohio Fire Code as well as other standards as set forth in the codes. These efforts are delivered through each of our firefighters being certified through the Ohio State Fire Marshal's Office as Certified Fire Safety Inspectors. Our inspectors annually inspect the businesses within the borders of West Chester Township for compliance with the Ohio Fire Code. Our goal within the process of inspecting a business is to educate that business on the fire code and how these codes will make them safer by preventing fires before they occur. Outside of annual inspections, our inspectors collaborate with both the Butler County Building and the West Chester Community Development Departments with inspections related to various permits a business may incur. The various inspection activities are listed below that our inspectors perform throughout the year.

| <b>2014 CODE ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS</b> |                    |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Activity</b>                      | <b>Occurrences</b> |
| Annual Inspections                   | 3,235              |
| Re-Inspections                       | 1,159              |
| Annual Sprinkler Test                | 49                 |
| Automatic Fire Suppression Computer  | 16                 |
| Automatic Fire Suppression Hood      | 40                 |
| Complaint Investigation              | 7                  |
| Conditional Use                      | 1                  |
| Fire Alarm Test                      | 52                 |
| Fire Pump Test                       | 1                  |
| Flow Test                            | 2                  |
| Hydrostatic Test Above Ground        | 23                 |
| Hydrostatic Test Underground         | 12                 |
| Knox Box                             | 15                 |
| New Occupancy Inspection             | 57                 |
| Plan Review                          | 475                |
| Smoke Detection Test                 | 7                  |
| Special Inspection                   | 60                 |
| State Mandated Inspections           | 46                 |
| Underground Flush                    | 10                 |
| Zoning Review                        | 47                 |

Buildings **NOT** subject to fire safety inspections are involved in **75% to 90%** of structure fires, more than **95%** of fire deaths, more than **90%** of fire-related injuries, and **70% to 80%** of property damage.

- U.S. Fire Administration

# Operations

## Loss Prevention

### Fire & Explosion Investigations

The State of Ohio requires all fire be investigated to determine cause and origin. It is also the fire department's responsibility to determine whether the fire was intentionally set. Intentionally set or Arson fires are investigated by the West Chester Fire Department, with the professional assistance of the West Chester Police Department, holding those who commit this crime accountable.

By determining the cause of a fire, the Fire Department can develop programs to educate the community reducing future incidents. In 2014, the department focused on programs aimed at reducing the number of cooking-related fires.

If it is determined that the curiosity of a child is the cause of a fire, the child is referred to our Juvenile Fire Setters program.

| Fires Investigated                     |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Type of Fire                           | Number of Fires |
| Cause, other                           | 2               |
| Intentional                            | 8               |
| Unintentional                          | 42              |
| Failure of equipment or heat source    | 18              |
| Act of nature                          | 4               |
| Cause under investigation              | 3               |
| Cause undetermined after investigation | 13              |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                           | <b>90</b>       |

| Month        | Count of Fires with Loss | Total Loss         | Value of Property Affected by Fire |
|--------------|--------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| January      | 6                        | \$20,750           | \$11,009,382                       |
| February     | 3                        | \$3,151            | \$5,935,386                        |
| March        | 8                        | \$74,700           | \$2,893,850                        |
| April        | 9                        | \$191,790          | \$45,310,448                       |
| May          | 8                        | \$391,200          | \$11,947,832                       |
| June         | 8                        | \$22,700           | \$344,030                          |
| July         | 4                        | \$100,950          | \$1,922,081                        |
| August       | 6                        | \$129,151          | \$2,447,186                        |
| September    | 8                        | \$77,177           | \$15,516,252                       |
| October      | 3                        | \$29,103           | \$19,775,600                       |
| November     | 6                        | \$153,120          | \$16,870,210                       |
| December     | 8                        | \$466,555          | \$14,978,061                       |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>77</b>                | <b>\$1,660,347</b> | <b>\$148,950,318</b>               |





# Operations

## Buildings & Maintenance

In 2014 The West Chester Fire Department spent \$111,188 for the maintenance of the fleet and associated equipment. Fuel expenditures for the department were \$108,866. Though greater in part due to the higher fuel prices and increase in runs, the department still sees savings from the use of video conferencing for trainings and meetings. All vehicles passed required pump tests and ladder testing.

The fire department spent \$28,538 on the maintenance and upkeep of the fire stations and \$170,478 was spent on utilities – gas, electric, water, telephones – for the five stations including fire headquarters.

### Physical Fitness Program

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) reports that 1 in 5 firefighters will suffer an injury requiring more than 30 days off at some point in their career. The majority of these injuries (60%) involve strains, sprains and muscular compromise. Cerebrovascular incidents account for another 18% and remain the leading cause for firefighter fatalities. These statistics drive our efforts to have an effective fitness program in the West Chester Fire Department.

The department's fitness trainers evaluate each members' fitness level and create individual pro-

grams for each. We also stay informed of new commercial fitness programs, equipment and fads so we can offer informed opinions and advice to firefighters and/or integrate them into an overall fitness regime.

Other duties include the maintenance and repair of fitness equipment at each station, and assuring each career member receives an annual medical physical.

During 2014 we replaced an older model treadmill, with a new state of the art incline trainer. This was not a small purchase and points to the continuing support from our administration. One fitness trainer attended a course designed to integrate the popular P90X program into our fitness regime. The members of the department spent more than 3,800 hours engaged in fitness activity the greatest total since the inception of the program.

Looking forward, quarterly training will be offered on relevant fitness topics in an attempt to improve all members' fitness levels.

Our goal is the improvement of our members' physical fitness in order to make them a more efficient, effective and safe firefighting force. This can be achieved by improving strength, flexibility, balance and cardiovascular fitness.



**T**he Special Operations Division of the West Chester Fire Department focused on continued efforts to maintain response capabilities with continued training of personnel. We also trained and prepared administrative and logistical support to continue to grow Butler County Technical Rescue as a county asset, based in West Chester.

We continue to monitor our local response capabilities to ensure a smooth transition to the county rescue team. Secondly, we continued to support WCFD personnel with participation in FEMA's OHTF-1, in order to build experience in large-scale disaster response. Training and collaboration efforts with Butler County Technical Rescue Team (BCTR) continue and provide a 60-person technical rescue team to West Chester if ever needed. Enhancing the Butler County Technical Rescue Team, is a venture with the Butler County Sheriff's Office to provide water rescue services.

### **Hazardous Materials Team**

The West Chester Fire Department Hazardous Materials Team takes pride in more than 30 years of service to the community and Butler County. Created in response to the potential for a major hazardous materials incident, our team takes a proactive stance in prevention and preparedness for catastrophic events. The West Chester Hazardous Ma-

terials Team consists of 57 highly trained Hazardous Material Technicians and Specialists capable of responding to a chemical spill or release, WMD (Weapons of Mass Destruction) or a CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological or Nuclear) incident.

In 2014 there were 12 hazardous materials calls for service, one was for mutual aid in Hamilton, Ohio. The team added MultiRae Lite, replacing an aging and unserviceable piece of equipment. MultiRAE



The West Chester Hazardous Materials Team in conjunction with the Butler County Regional Hazardous Materials Team continues to maintain a Type 1 Hazmat Team status with the State of Ohio, making us one of only eight in the entire state.

It is impossible to look ahead and determine what the hazardous materials problems of tomorrow will be. Our response area is divided by a major Interstate and several railways, which carry dangerous goods on a daily basis. The Hazardous Materials Team continues to stand ready and willing to effectively, safely and efficiently respond to all incidents.

# Five Fire Stations—24/7



## **Fire Headquarters & Station # 71**

**9119 Cincinnati Dayton Road**

Built in 2009, replaced original station built in 1965  
35,533 square feet (Fire Headquarters, Station 71  
& EOA Training Room) Central Supply  
Battalion 71, Engine 71, Medic 71, Tower 71  
Heavy Rescue 71, Reserve Engine. Reserve  
Medic Unit, Boat 71, Grass Truck 71



## **Station #72**

**7715 John Road**

Originally built in 1969, complete new station built in  
2002, 11,188 square feet

Engine 72, Medic 72, Reserve Engine, Fire Safety House



## **Station #73**

**4850 Duff Drive**

Originally built in 1970, remodeled in 1992  
4,803 square feet.  
Quint 73, Haz-Mat 73



## **Station #74**

**8551 Beckett Road**

Built in 1998/99  
7,480 square feet



## **Station #75**

**7588 Tylers Place Blvd.**

Built in 1998/99  
5,190 square feet  
Quint 75, Medic 75



**T**he “Smokin’ Open” golf outing had another successful year with this year’s proceeds benefitting the 3 Little Halos Organization.

The 2014 Fish Fry was successful yet again, as we had continued to receive support from The Knights of Columbus and the membership at St. John’s, as well as many WCFD personnel including a great show of participation from our Explorers.

The Fire Department Organization would like to personally thank all who have worked hard and dedicated their valuable time to keep the traditions of our department intact. Hopefully, 2015 will be even more successful.

### **Explorer Group Post 897**

The West Chester Fire Department is proud to host Explorer Post 897. Under the guidance of Program Director, Firefighter/Paramedic Trevor Frodge, the fire explorers represent youths age 14-20 who are interested in the fire service or emergency medical field. Explorers meet two to three times a month and perform hands on skills taught under the direct

supervision of West Chester Firefighters. Yearly, the Explorers have the privilege of exercising their learned skills at the Annual Fire Explorer Competition, where they compete against other local Explorer posts for trophies.

This year, Post 897 took first place in Search and Rescue, EMS Backboard Station, Radio Communication, and the Trivia Station. Additionally, Post 897 was named Explorer Post of the Year by the Dan Beard Council, Learning for Life Program. The West Chester Fire Explorers also participated in many community events including the annual Touch-A-Truck and the Fire Department Fish Fry at St. John’s Catholic Parish.

Post 897 is always interested in recruiting new Explorers. Applicants must be 14 and in the 9th grade, be able to make a majority of meetings, maintain good grades, and participate in community events.