



Winter 2014
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Talk of the Township

Trustees: **John McGraw** ♦ **Lloyd Acres** ♦ **Matthew Beamer**
Fiscal Officer: **Ron Campbell**

Police Chief Terry Zinser retires

When Union Township Police Chief Terrence D. Zinser clocked out the day before Thanksgiving, he left a 37-year career in law enforcement behind.

“I’ve accomplished everything I set out to do, and it’s time to hand over the reins,” the chief said.

That time was officially Nov. 29, and, until a successor is named, Lieutenant Scott Gaviglia, currently second in command and commander of the Operations Bureau, will act as interim chief.

Zinser said that, even as a kid, he was always on alert when a patrol car would speed past with sirens sounding and lights flashing.

“I always wondered where they were going,” he said.

It was no surprise when, after being awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from Thomas More College, Zinser went straight into the Police Academy. He had already been volunteering in dispatch for the Colerain Police Department for a year.

After being hired on in 1978 as a patrol officer, Colerain promoted him to sergeant in January, 1986, only to be part of a layoff later that spring.

Starting over with the Union Township Police Department in July, 1986, Zinser began on patrol and was quickly moved to undercover work in narcotics, then transferred to the Investigations Unit. He was promoted to sergeant in 1989, and then lieutenant, first as head of the Administration Bureau, and then Operations Bureau in 2001. In January, 2006, he succeeded retiring Police Chief Tom Knox.

Those are the numbers. But to understand the kind of police officer and chief he has been, it’s best to go to the source – the officers he has commanded over the years and the other agencies with whom he has worked.

“Chief Zinser has been instrumental in my development as a police officer, trusting me at every level of my career, from being assigned to investigations to being promoted to the rank of sergeant,” said Sergeant Tony Rees.



From left to right, Fiscal Officer Ron Campbell, Trustees Lloyd Acres and John McGraw, Chief Terry Zinser, and Trustee Matt Beamer.

Zinser himself said that, although he sets high expectations for every member of his agency, he does not micromanage.

“I subscribe to the Henry Ford philosophy of surrounding yourself with people smarter than you,” the chief said. “But I do hold each person accountable and they are all very capable.”

Rees said the trust is definitely there.

“He lets his employees do their job and always has their back as long as they are honest and hardworking,” Rees said.

Gaviglia agrees.

“It is a fortunate experience when a supervisor takes a professional interest in your career development,” Gaviglia said. “Chief Zinser has taken time out of his life to mentor me. The lessons I learned from him over the years have proven invaluable.”

Zinser said it has always been important to him to know the strengths of each member of his department.

“The day I became chief, I started looking for my replacement,” he said.

Township Administrator Ken Geis said Zinser has managed the agency well.

“Chief Zinser has continued the tradition of providing excellent law enforcement leadership to and for the residents of Union Township through steadfast, consistent and topical direction of personnel,” Geis said.

But mentoring is not the whole job. As chief, the objectives Zinser set were instituting internal units that would propel the department into a completely full-service one; always making continuing education and training available, both for his officers and the public; and presenting a dedicated and professional agency to the residents of Union Township and Clermont County.

Under his watch, the Computer Forensic, K-9, Hotel-Motel, and Polygraph units were created, all requiring intense training and collaboration with outside agencies and the public.

Chief Zinser retires*Continued from page 1*

Former Clermont County Prosecutor Don White has worked with Zinser since the 1980s, when Zinser was an undercover narcotics officer.

"In spite of the nature of the job, he handled any and all situations with integrity," White said. "Integrity, professionalism and loyalty have been his themes. In 24 years as the Clermont County prosecutor, my relationship with Terry Zinser was absolutely the best.

"Terry and the UTPD were always there for me, Woody Breyer (my chief) and my staff. All law enforcement and the justice system are better because of Terry Zinser and his leadership," White said.

Geis said Zinser is the first chief to retire from the department originally having been hired as a patrol officer and then being promoted up the line to chief.

"Terry has distinguished himself as one of the best police administrators in the region," Geis said. "The organization has flourished and maintained an exceptional level of service, even through state revenue reductions which created a need to decrease manpower through attrition."

Zinser said the decision to retire was a difficult one.

"I just kept coming back to the fact that I have done what I set out to do, and it's time," he said. "That doesn't make it any easier."

Zinser has been advised by a seasoned retiree to find three hobbies. He said he thinks he can come up with one. For nearly 37 years, his dedication has been to the job, and along the way, he has garnered a stellar reputation in law enforcement.

"This organization is the envy of Clermont County and Southwest Ohio law enforcement," Geis said, "and Chief Zinser is a major contributing factor.

"I personally and professionally thank Chief Zinser for his commitment to Union Township."

Of all the deserved praise for Zinser, the fifth Union Township police chief, perhaps one statement means the most to him.

"He is a cop's cop," Rees said.

At their Nov. 13 meeting, the Union Township trustees honored Chief Zinser for his years of dedication and service to the community and proclaimed Nov. 29 "Terry Zinser Day" in Union Township.

Fire Department to offer free CPR classes

Imagine shopping at your favorite store, like you have done so many times in the past. Perhaps you are looking for that perfect gift for a loved one or maybe just looking at the latest shoe styles. While walking through one of your favorite aisles, you hear cries for help from a nearby aisle. Your curiosity guides you in the direction of the screams for help. When you turn the corner, you are shocked to see an elderly man lying on the floor surrounded by his wife and grandchildren. The man looks lifeless and no one seems to know what to do! What about you? Do you know what to do?

Unfortunately, some variation of this scenario happens every day across the country. According to the American Heart Association (AHA), there are about 383,000 out-of-hospital sudden cardiac events each year. The AHA goes on to indicate that 70 percent of Americans have not been trained in CPR or their training took place so long ago, the skills have been lost.

Sadly, only 32 percent of cardiac arrest victims get CPR treatment prior to professional responders arriving. This statistic is alarming, considering that studies conducted by the AHA indicate that bystanders performing CPR can double or triple the survival rates of cardiac arrest victims.

The Union Township Fire Department believes that anyone can learn CPR--and that everyone should. In order to assist residents of Union Township and the Village of Amelia, the Union Township Fire Department will begin a more aggressive campaign to educate the public with CPR knowledge and skills. Beginning in the first quarter of 2015, the Union Township Fire Department will schedule regular CPR classes that will be made available at no cost.

What can I expect if I sign up to take a CPR class?

The class is based on the latest guidelines for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Emergency Cardiovascular Care (ECC). The class includes CPR and AED skills that will provide the confidence needed to respond to a cardiac arrest. The program uses real-life scenario videos and easy to understand content. Completion of the class results in a 2-year certification from the American Safety and Health Institute (ASHI). A typical class can be completed in about three hours

The 2015 CPR training schedule is being finalized at this time. Additional information, class dates, and sign-up information will be posted on the website www.utfire-ems.org in the very near future. For more information, call the department at 528-4446.

**Bulletin Board****Christmas Tree Drop Off**

Residents may drop off their Christmas trees behind the Union Township Service Garage at 4312 Glen Este-Withamsville Road from Thursday, Jan. 1, through Saturday, Jan. 31, 2015. Signs to the designated drop-off area will be posted.

Winter Road Treatment 101



In 2010, the Union Township Service Department began supplementing its winter salt supplies with salt brine.

What is brine?

Salt brine is a mixture of salt and water, a solution that lowers the freezing point of water. The mixture has to be

precisely accurate or the salt will not settle correctly, thus making the mixture ineffective. The correct mixture will have a 23.3 percent salinity rate. This concentration will not freeze until -6 degrees F, which is what makes the solution so effective.

The advantages of using salt brine are both practical and economic.

Brine can be used as an anti-icer (before the storm) and de-icer (during the storm). It can be applied to roadways up to 72 hours in advance of the a storm and still retain its effectiveness. It will begin working as soon as the first snowflake falls and will help delay and minimize the accumulation of snow and ice on the pavement.

Brine is extremely cost effective, in that it costs about 10 cents per gallon. Salt is always more expensive than brine, but the severe winter experienced last year across the country has made the demand rise and the price jump from \$48.19 per ton to \$109.20 per ton this year.

As a comparison, in treating the same mileage of road, salt costs nearly three times as much as brine. However, it is import to note that brine must be used in conjunction with salt. It is the chemical reaction between the brine and the salt that achieves its effectiveness.

Equipment

Union Township has two methods of dispersing brine, said Matt Taylor, Service Department director: 50 to 105-gallon saddle tanks on trucks, and a direct application system (DAS), which is 1,300 gallons.

"We also have two 550-gallon tanks that are put on flatbed trucks" Taylor said. "These are especially effective in pre-treating roads and parking lots."

Anti-icing

Pre-treating is the process of spraying brine on the roadways before spreading the salt.

"Pre-treating gives the maintenance crews a jump start on clearing the road," Taylor said. "Brine helps prevent snow packing on the roads as well as starts the melting process."

De-icing

Brine is also more effective than salt as a de-icing agent for two reasons. First, Taylor said, it clings to the road instead of bouncing off or being swept off by traffic. It is less expensive to use to begin with, and less material is needed. Second, the moisture of the brine solution helps dissolve the salt that is later used, thereby melting the ice and snow and breaking the ice-road bond.

Supply

Because of last year's abnormally cold winter, many agencies throughout the county are experiencing a shortage of salt. Union Township has about 1,000 tons on hand, with 485 more tons on order through a member consortium. As part of a collaborative agreement, the township purchases brine from Miami Township. The Service Department has the capability of storing 13,600 gallons of liquid chemicals.

"The bottom line is that every event is different," Taylor said. "Therefore, your method to combat each event will be different."

But the brine seems to be the ticket, for effectiveness and cost efficiency.



The Holiday Inn & Suites Cincinnati Eastgate was the venue Oct. 29 for the Clermont Chamber's Business Technology Summit 2014.

The business expo the chamber presented for years necessarily morphed into the Technology Summit.

"The five sessions were in direct response to the survey we did early in 2014 about the five subjects of most interest to small businesses," said John Melvin, director of the chamber's Small Business Development Center.

The sessions were Social Media for Business Networking, Attracting/Retaining Customers, Data Security, Business Analytics, and Collecting Useful Customer Data.

Melvin said lessons learned from last year's inaugural event led to fewer speakers as well as exhibitors., with a focus on what survey respondents said they wanted—keeping up with technology trends, especially those that will help small businesses grow.

Toward that end, Melvin said the speakers were strong examples of leveraging technology that can cut across disciplines.

LP Enterprises' Geoff Smith, technical advisor for the Cincinnati Bengals, spoke to a captive audience about using analytics in professional sports, but demonstrated that best practices apply to all kinds and sizes of businesses.

Other keynote speakers included Dave Knox, chief marketing officer for digital agency Rockfish. Knox is a cofounder of The Brandery, one of the top 10 startup accelerators in the U.S.

Christi Cornette is senior vice president of Corporate Marketing for Cincinnati Bell. Melvin said her segment on cyber attacks had more than 100 attendees.

Michelle Beckham-Corbin, president and chief digital marketing strategist of CS: Creating Connections Consulting LLC, and Mark Sund, project director, Sund + Company LLC, were presenters, respectively, for LinkedIn and Google+. Melvin said after-event survey respondents "... lamented having to choose either that session or the content marketing session," and wanted more time with those presenters.

BookKeeping Express, AT&T Solutions, PCMS IT Advisor Group and Plantronics Enterprise Portfolio were among the 20 exhibitors.

Melvin said the Chamber has already started thinking about next year.

"This year, with fewer speakers, we were able to provide better traffic flow for the exhibitors," he said. "We also had no weaknesses in the lineup of speakers."

"Also, we have already set plans for better marketing to Warren County businesses next year so we keep expanding our reach," he said.

Melvin added that the Chamber was delighted with the help it received from their volunteer marketing committee.

Corporate sponsors for Business Technology Summit 2014 were Union Township, Clermont County, PNC, Mt. Carmel Brewing Company, ProSource, AT&T, UC Clermont College, and Grant Career Center.

POWER OUTAGE SAFETY TIPS

Just last month, Cincinnati experienced a day with extremely high, dangerous winds. This kind of weather often leads to a loss of power that can last from several hours to several days. The following are recommendations from the Union Township Fire Department on how to survive a power outage.

How can I survive a power outage?

- ... Never use open combustion units (gas or charcoal barbecues, hibachis) inside the home.
- ... If traffic lights go out, treat all intersections as 4-way stops. It is required by law for safety.
- ... Minimize driving to conserve fuel. You cannot refill the tank during a power outage.
- ... Stay away from downed power lines and sagging trees with broken limbs.
- ... Don't get wet if you have no way to get dry.

Will my gas heater work?

No. Thermostats, furnace fans and blowers all run on electricity.

What is the first thing I should do when the lights go out?

Turn off lights and electrical appliances except for the refrigerator and freezer. Even if it is dark, turn light switches, buttons on lamps or appliances to the "off" position. After you turn the lights off, turn one lamp on so you will know when power is restored. Wait at least 15 minutes after power is restored before turning on other appliances.

What should I do if a power line falls down?

Don't touch or get near any fallen lines. Stay away from objects or puddles in contact with downed power lines. Notify the fire department or the utility company.

How can I stay warm?

Wear extra layers of clothes and use several layers of blankets. Do not get wet if there is no way to get dry. Drink and eat enough to preserve health. Close off all rooms that are not in use and do not need to be heated. To keep rooms warm, close curtains, shades or drapes. Cover doors and windows.

How can I safely use alternate heat sources?

Do not burn anything inside your home without adequate ventilation to the outdoors. Have enough fuel available for alternate heat sources, such as wood for a wood stove. Never use gas ovens, gas ranges, barbecues, and most portable or propane heaters for indoor heating. These units use oxygen and create carbon monoxide that can cause suffocation. Before using an alternate heat source, read the manufacturer's instructions. Have fire-fighting materials available: dry powder, fire extinguisher, heavy tarp or blanket, water.

How should a portable generator be used?

Use generators only as independent power sources. Keep them outside and run a cord inside. Don't connect generators to main service panels. This could injure or kill utility workers trying to restore power.

How do I operate my electric garage door opener?

Operate the door by hand. Read the owner's manual or call the manufacturer.

How do I keep food safe?

Use foods that spoil rapidly first. Keep cold food cold. Use dry ice or an ice chest. In winter, store food outside. Keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed to conserve cold air. If food is cold to touch, it is probably safe to keep, use or refreeze. Discard meat, seafood, dairy products and cooked food that are not cold to touch. Fruits, vegetables and food in undamaged cans are safe. Food that needs no refrigeration include jelly, butter, margarine, ketchup, mustard, pickles, relish. If in doubt, throw it out. For information on food safety, call your health department or cooperative extension service.

How do you treat contaminated water?

If the water from your tap is clear: Boil it for 3 minutes. This kills disease-causing bacteria and parasites, OR add 1/8 teaspoon household bleach per gallon of water. Let it sit for 1/2 hour.

If water is cloudy: Pour it through a coffee filter and boil it for 3 minutes. If you can't boil it, filter it and add 1/4 teaspoon of bleach per gallon. Let it sit for one hour.

Are there special considerations for people with chronic health problems?

Yes. Talk to your doctor about an emergency supply of prescription medicine. Keep a 30-day supply in your emergency kit. Be aware of the expiration date on the medication and rotate a fresh supply into the kit on a regular basis. If you are on life support, register with your utility company, and have a backup power supply on hand.

What do I need to prepare for the next power outage?

- ... The Union Township Fire Department encourages you to be cautious when using any secondary source.
- ... Remember to have working smoke detectors in your home.
- ... Also, if combustion-type heating devices are used, have a carbon monoxide detector available.
- ... Candles should only be used as a temporary lighting source—never for secondary heating—and should not be left unattended.

Remember, for an emergency, call 9-1-1. The non-emergency number for the Union Township Fire Department is 528-4446.

Spotlight on business



The Otterbein Small House Neighborhood broke ground Sept. 26 on the senior community that should be open for residency in late 2015.

Located at 4150 Bach-Buxton Road in Union Township, the Small House Neighborhood is a concept developed by Otterbein Senior Lifestyle Choices, a faith-based non-profit organization associated with the United Methodist Church.

Designed to offer long-term skilled nursing and short-term rehabilitation in an environment that is like a warm and comfortable home, the neighborhood will consist of five houses, each with 10 private suites surrounding a kitchen and dining area, office, open spaced living room and study, screened-in porch and patio.

But it is not just community space that makes the concept unique.

Jill Hreben, president and CEO of Otterbein, explains the mission of the small house neighborhood as being grounded in the passion to find new and better ways to serve our elders, and understanding that every individual has the right to a lifestyle of his own choosing.

In putting that mission into practice, residents live their lives as they always did. Although there are often group activities, seniors who make Otterbein their home keep their own schedules. They come and go as they please, use the kitchen as they do at home, watch the same TV shows as they have in the past. But they are with extended family now, and the arrangement in other Otterbein neighborhoods has been proven to encourage companionship as well as continued independence.

Each house has specially trained nursing assistants who partner with guides, dieticians,

From left to right, Jill Hreben, Otterbein president/CEO; John McGraw, Union Township Board of Trustees; Sue McConn, Otterbein VP Operations; Susan Wallace, Otterbein board member; Ashlee Bromaghim and Issak Claudio, Otterbein elder assistants; Otterbein Chaplain John Dick; and Matt Van Sant, president, Clermont Chamber of Commerce.



chaplains, quality of life coordinators and housing coordinators to provide all the care residents need. For short term rehab, physical, speech and vocational therapists are part of the team.

Otterbein looks at seniors as elders, much in the same way as any church community does. They have chosen to make a ministry of caring for their elders, and they have expanded into new horizons since the idea of caring for the aged and orphaned was first conceived by Dr. J.M. Phillippi of the United Brethren Church in Lebanon, Ohio in 1912. In 1968, the United Brethren Church merged with the Methodists.

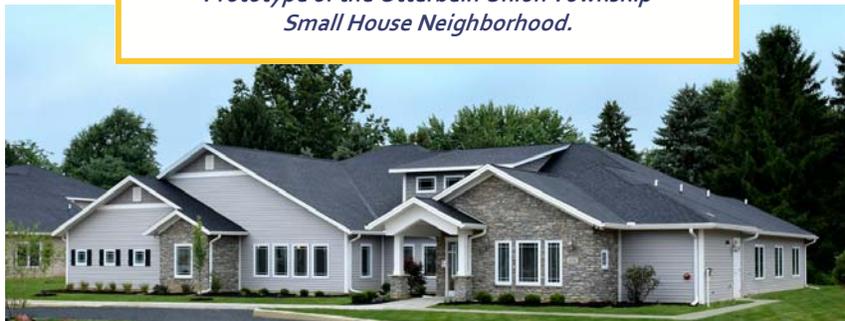
At the groundbreaking, Otterbein Chaplain John Dick said that “... at heart, it has to do with loving seniors.

“Our houses are beautiful places of safety, they are places of nurturing,” Dick said.

John McGraw, chairman of the Union Township Board of Trustees, spoke at the groundbreaking about the kind of appeal Clermont County, and Union Township, in particular, have, and what a fit the Small House Neighborhood is.

“We couldn’t be more pleased to have them here,” McGraw said.

Prototype of the Otterbein Union Township Small House Neighborhood.



To tour the Otterbein Small House Neighborhood at Monclova or Perrysburg, call 419-308-0585. If you want to see the Middletown, Maineville or Springboro communities, call 513-260-7690. For more information or to get on a waiting list, call 866-322-6012.

Union Township Board of Trustees
 John McGraw
 Lloyd Acres
 Matthew Beamer
 4350 Aicholtz Road.
 Union Township, Ohio 45245

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Monthly Meetings

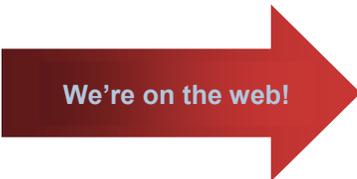
Trustees	2nd & 4th Thursday	7 p.m.
Zoning Commission	2nd Wednesday	7 p.m.
Board of Zoning Appeals	1st Thursday	7 p.m.

Contacts

<u>EMERGENCY NUMBER</u>	<u>911</u>
Trustees & Administration http://www.union-township.oh.us	752-1741
Fiscal Officer	753-2216
Planning & Zoning Department	753-2300
Fire Department http://www.utfire-ems.org	528-4446
Police Department http://www.utpd.org	752-1230
Service Department	753-2221
Post Office	947-7330
UTTV	947-7336

Don't forget to make the Union Township U.S. Postal Service Contract Unit your one-stop shop for all your postal needs. Stamps, envelopes, packages, priority mail, express mail. Conveniently located on the lower level of the Civic Center.

Stop in and see us today!!



We're on the web!

www.union-township.oh.us