

Dispatch Times

February Flooding in Warren County

The flooding that took place in Warren County last month, though countywide, occurred mainly along the Great and Little Miami Rivers. Franklin, Lebanon, Morrow, Waynesville, Turtlecreek Township, Hamilton Township and Deerfield Township all experienced road closures due to high water and flooding.



On February 25th, the Little Miami River crested at 22.10 ft. which is at Flood Stage. On the same day, the Great Miami River reached "Action Stage" at 14.33 ft. The "Action Stage" is just what it sounds like—where some sort of action is taken possibly due to flooding of secondary roads or a 'heads up' that the river is rising. "Flood Stage" is the stage at which structures become affected.

Damage assessments by local law and fire officials are necessary to help determine the severity and magnitude of an event and whether local resources will be sufficient to respond and recover from an event. They also facilitate effective decision-making and quantifies homes and businesses that have been impacted.



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Mark Your Calendar!



- March 8th**
Int'l Women's Day
- March 11th**
Daylight Saving Time Change
- March 17th**
St. Patrick's Day
- March 24th**
Franklin Egg Hunt
- March 31st**
Deerfield Twp Egg Hunt

Employee Spotlight

Employee of the Month



Tramel Waddell
Employed since 2004

Birthdays

Jonathan Bright
March 20th



Milestones

Amber Applegate—6th
1 year

Andrew Jackson—6th
1 year

Samuel LeMaster – 11th
1 year

Christina Nethers—9th
1 year

Nancy Machulskiy—23rd
26 years

Rob Plummer—29th
10 years

In the Limelight: ECO Jesse Madden

Jesse started his career at the Communications Center in December 2000. During the seventeen years that he has been here, Jesse served as a Supervisor and is also a Certified Training Officer. Even though Jesse graduated from Carlisle High School in 1995, he grew up in Miami Township in Montgomery County.

Jesse's first job, like so many others, was at McDonalds. He has worked at the Joint Emergency Medical Service (JEMS) where he is a Paramedic for 20 years and is now an Assistant Chief. He has also worked at Franklin Township, Carlisle and Germantown Fire Departments.

In his spare time, Jesse enjoys playing volleyball and softball. He also likes going to casinos and playing the odds—after all, you never know! Jesse has a secret desire to one day be a dealer.

Jesse lives in Franklin Township on Martz Paulin with his six-month-old Great Dane named Fiona Grace.



Did You Know?

Ohio Gets About 38 Inches of Rain Annually

by David Griffin

Warren County has started out the year with quite a bit of rain and flooding. We normally expect this type of weather in the spring season, but it can obviously happen at any time. Ohio ranks in at 29th in the USA for average rainfall. The state with the most rainfall annually is Hawaii with an average rate of 110 inches, though Maui recorded almost 705 inches back in 1942. The area with the least rainfall annually in the USA is Death Valley at 2.3 inches. Here are some facts about rainfall—what causes it, how it is measured, and what kinds of negative effects it can have.



How rainfall is measured

Rain is measured by devices called rain gauges. There are several types of gauges with the most commonly used types being the 8 inch rain gauge, the universal weighing rain gauge and the tipping bucket. The 8 inch rain gauge is the most widely used because of a higher margin of error on the other types. There are thousands of rain gauge stations across the globe. Warren County has a weather station on top of the building which measures rainfall totals.

Floods

One of the most obvious detrimental effects of rain would be flooding. Flooding is the most widespread, costly, and deadly natural disaster in the United States. Floods are caused by heavy rain and snow melt. Rain saturates the ground and leeches into rivers and creeks causing the water levels to rise. This doesn't only occur during the actual rain event, it can cause water levels to rise for several days after the rain stops.

Mudslides

Another detrimental effect of rain is mudslides. California has been in the news lately after they suffered a deadly mudslide or "debris flow." Mudslides are caused by large amounts of water eroding hillsides and can happen anywhere. The erosion causes the saturated soil to liquefy and mix with the water, allowing it to run down the hill. Mudslides behave more like a flood than a typical landslide.



Hillsides that aren't covered in vegetation are much more prone to mudslides because the topsoil absorbs most of the water and isn't stuck to the dirt below. When this deadly debris flow occurred in California, it was largely due to the recent wildfires burning the undergrowth from the hillsides. The most effective way to prevent or reduce mudslides is to ensure that they are covered in vegetation. The trees and plants absorb most of the water which prevents it from soaking into the topsoil.

In The Spotlight

Mandatory MARCS School Emergency Button Testing



March 1st thru March 31st there will be mandatory testing of school emergency buttons throughout the county. This offers the schools as well as the dispatch facilities an opportunity to review policies and practice the procedure. Schools are instructed to request clearance from the Communication's Center to make certain we are available to conduct the test before pressing the button.

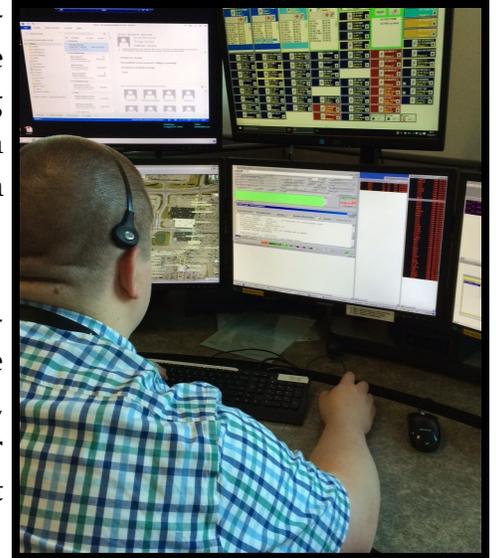
Testing takes place in the Spring as well as in the Fall. Schools are encouraged to involve teachers and other staff members in addition to administration since there is no way to know who will press the button during an actual emergency.

This month's Continuing Education will also include a review of the Communications School Emergency Button Policy.

Call of the Month

On February 28th, at around 18:14, Communications received multiple calls about a two-vehicle crash in the 1700-block of State Route 123. The initial reports involved an ejection and entrapment. Additionally, one of the vehicles was said to be on fire. Rob Plummer took the initial call with additional calls being handled by Tramel Waddel and Supervisor Ron Kronenberger. When the Deputy arrived on the scene he advised that one subject had been ejected and that one of the vehicles was fully involved.

Probationary ECO Samuel LeMaster was on Fire Primary and probationary ECO Christina Nethers was on Police Primary 1. Both of these new employees dispatched units quickly and gave constant updates, handling the stressful situation in a calm, professional manner. Other crew members were making calls to notify outside agencies and contact Careflight.



The first unit on the scene, Deputy Reil Becker, advised Communications that one vehicle was fully involved with flames spreading to nearby trees. Moments later, Deputy Becker was performing CPR on one of the victims. Sadly, that patient did not survive. Careflight was unable to fly due to weather so M41 (Lebanon Medic) transported the other patient.

Great teamwork by everyone getting resources to the scene as quickly and safely as possible!



Outdoor Warning Siren Reprogramming

Beginning **January 1, 2019**, the Warren County Department of Emergency Services will have the ability to activate outdoor warning sirens by zone, rather than one simultaneous county activation. The purpose of zoning the sirens is to notify those areas that need to take shelter immediately while eliminating the notification to jurisdictions that are not under the specific threat (which has caused confusion in the past).

In order to activate the county outdoor warning sirens by zone, **every siren** needs to have a specific zone code programmed into it. **Each jurisdiction with outdoor warning sirens will need to have the siren vendor reprogram their sirens during the regularly scheduled annual maintenance visit, or will need to schedule a separate appointment to reprogram each siren.** You can obtain a copy of the specific codes for your sirens from the EMA or Telecom departments.

Sirens that have not received this programming by December 31st will not be activated with their zone during severe weather or other threatening events which could put our citizens at risk. Once your sirens have been reprogrammed, please alert EMA as to the siren location and the date of reprogramming so we can ensure each area will be on-line before the January 1, 2019 go-live date.



Damage Assessment Reporting for the 2/25/2018 Heavy Rain Event

In the early morning hours of Sunday, February 25th, Warren County EMA sent a request for information related to damages incurred from the heavy rains that occurred overnight. The purpose of this request was to capture the total amount of physical structures that was affected in the county. Additionally, we needed to get a preliminary snapshot of where flooded areas were in case more formal assessments had to be completed. The request was sent via email to elected officials, Law Enforcement and Fire Chiefs for each jurisdiction requesting detailed information. Approximately 50% of the jurisdictions responded to this request; 90% of those were received within the specified timeframe. Below is a recap of the information that was sent back to EMA:

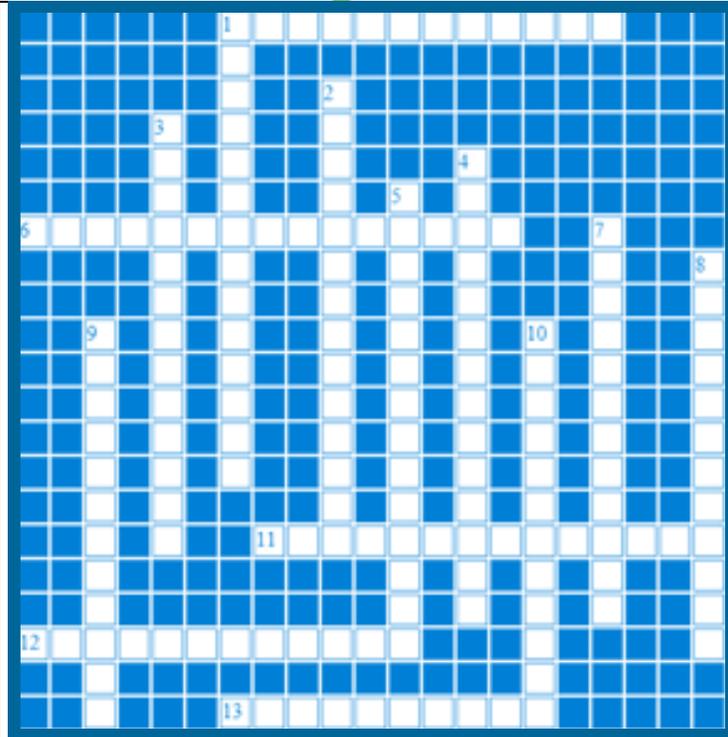
	<u>Destroyed</u>	<u>Major</u>	<u>Minor</u>	<u>Affected</u>
Single Family Homes	0	1	10	11
Apartments	0	0	2	0
Businesses	0	1	1	0

It is up to each individual jurisdiction to determine who will report these damages or how they will gather the information. The important part is not who reports or how the requested information is reported, it is the timeframe that is specified by EMA that the info needs to be turned in.

The County needs to have an accurate count of affected structures after a disaster in order to determine whether jurisdictions are eligible for disaster-related funds, good, or services. We appreciate each jurisdiction who takes the time to help the EMA gather complete situational awareness so we can assess how best to assist our citizens.

Warren County Early History Crossword

by Nancy Machulskiy



Warren County officially became an Ohio county on March 24, 1803, named in honor of General Joseph Warren, hero of the American Revolution. Solve the puzzle with the names associated with Warren County's early history.

Across

- 1 He was the founder of Mason which was originally named Palmyra, he fell into a well and drowned in 1830.
- 6 He opened the first tavern in Lebanon where court was held between 1803-1804.
- 11 One of Warren County's first County Commissioners, he was the father of Thomas Corwin.
- 12 He was hired by Warren County's first Commissioners to build the first courthouse in 1805 for the sum of \$1450.00.
- 13 One of the 4 men who laid out the town of Lebanon with 100 lots—he was Warren County's first treasurer.

Down

- 1 The founder of the City of Franklin, he was a surveyor by trade.
- 2 He purchased the land that makes up the historic downtown area of Springboro in 1815.
- 3 Lebanon's very first settler and the uncle to the future governor of Ohio.
- 4 Recognized as the first teacher in the Miami Valley he was one of the principal writers of Ohio's first constitution.
- 5 He founded Waynesville after purchasing 30,000 acres of land for \$1.25 an acre.
- 7 Physician and Major General during the American Revolutionary War who sent Paul Revere on his famous ride.
- 8 His military service made him so well known but he is also said to have built the first hewed log-house in Cincinnati before moving to Warren County.
- 9 One of the first Warren County Commissioners and a Representative in Ohio's First General Assembly.
- 10 Ohio's 15th Governor, he also served 5 terms in Congress.



The History Behind Mason's McClung House

by Nancy Machulskiy

Last month's "Where Am I?" was the old McClung House located on the corner of Main Street and Mason Montgomery Road in Mason. Built in 1887, the building was the home of John and Rebecca (Dawson) McClung. Rebecca was 31 years old in 1871 when she married 40-year-old retired farmer John McClung. Considered to be one of the wealthiest men in town, John had a net worth of \$100,000.00



Early in the morning on April 25, 1901, horrifying screams were heard coming from the house. Rebecca was found on her bed, viciously beaten to death. When John McClung was questioned, he had blood on his jacket, vest and trousers which he claimed came from a cut that he had incurred a couple of days ago.

John was arrested and charged with his wife's murder. He made bail and pled not guilty. "If I killed her," he testified, "I must have done it in my sleep." All of the evidence against John was found to be 'circumstantial' and he was acquitted. The murder went unsolved and Rebecca was buried at Rose Hill Cemetery.

Where Was I?

If you know the location where this picture was taken, email us at melissa.bour@wcoh.net no later than April 22nd. Everyone that has the correct answer will be entered into a drawing for a prize. Include your name, phone number, department you work for and your guess of the location and any other details. Don't forget to check back next month to see if you are the one that won!

Congrats to Jenny Embleton with Springboro Police Department for guessing that last month's picture was taken at 101 E Main St in Mason at the corner of Main St. and Mason Montgomery Rd . Stop by dispatch before the end of the month to pick up your prize!



January Monthly Dispatch Stats

	Total	First Shift	Second Shift	Third Shift
Created the Most Incidents	8,449	Carmen Carson 252 Calls	Tonya Shutts 531 Calls	Hannah Banks 771 Calls
Most Status Changes	34,856	Kelly Fiebig 1,139	Bob Anson 2,396	Doug Short 2,636
Total 911 Calls Received	6,904 Calls	1,303 Calls	2,836 Calls	2,765 Calls
Total 7-Digit Calls Received	11,018	1,783 Calls	5,241 Calls	3,994 Calls
Busiest Day (Based on 911 & Admin Calls)	Monday 1/15 495 Calls			
Busiest Time of Day (Based on 911 & Admin Calls)	17:00-18:00 1,200 Calls			



Warren County Emergency Services

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