

Firefighters

Airport
 Amberley Village
 Anderson Township
 Boone County
 Campbell County
 Cheviot
 Cincinnati
 Colerain Township
 Covington
 Deer Park-Silverton
 Delhi Township
 Dillsboro
 Erlanger
 Forest Park
 Greendale
 Hebron
 Madeira-Indian Hill
 Mason
 Miami Township
 Middletown
 Newport
 Norwood
 Reading
 Springfield Township
 Union Township
 West Chester Township
 Whitewater Township
 One Day
 One Year

Boone County

Few happy endings for water rescuers

As veteran members of Boone County Water Rescue, Tony Wilson and Dave Flick have towed stranded boats from rivers. They have suited up in diving gear and searched lakes for criminal suspects' weapons. They have pulled drowning victims from murky ponds and from the clear blue water of swimming pools.

The team, which has 39 members, is composed of volunteers who, as a unit, devote more than 12,000 hours a year to training. They are not firefighters. Mr. Wilson is an auto body technician. Mr. Flick works for his family-owned business, Flick's Foods. They put those duties aside when duty calls.



[zoom]

"Most of the time when we go in the water, there is a victim in there," Mr. Wilson, 43, says. "Very seldom do we get the happy-ending calls."

Both men have experienced the unpleasant task of retrieving a drowned child.

"The toughest thing I've ever had to do on the team," Mr. Wilson says.

Often, the team works under the watchful and somber eyes of a victim's family and friends.

"When we get to the scene, they're looking for a miracle that's not going to happen," Mr. Wilson says.

It falls to team members to do their job as professionally and as safely as possible, says Mr. Flick, 46.

The reward, he says, is "knowing you're part of a team that's one of the best."

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