

# Pike Township

FALL 2010 • ISSUE 2

## New Medic



On October 28 Pike Township put a new medic truck into service, a 2010 Ford E450. Some of you may have noticed or got to ride in the "Purple Plum" loaner medic

truck we had for two months while our new unit was being configured. Your Pike Township medical staff was happy to see the new unit arrive.

You may question why we chose to replace a medic truck that was only 6 years old? The reason is reliability. We view this vehicle to be the single most important vehicle in the township. The previous unit had engine related problems on multiple occasions. The extended warranty was to expire at the end of the 2010 calendar year. Our confidence in that unit was low.

Because the medic "box" was only six years old we decided to re-mount the old box on a new chassis in order to save some money. The re-mount as opposed to a new box saved about \$70,000.

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## Wide Area Rapid Notification (WARN)

The Clark County Homeland Security Committee has purchased the Wide Area Rapid Notification system know as WARN. WARN is used by public safety officials in the event of an emergency to notify you quickly of important information such as boil alerts, chemical spills, evacuation instructions, missing persons or tornado warnings.

Currently, a reverse 911-type system is in place to call every county residence and business



that has land lines. We can even target calls intended just for your neighborhood. However, we recognize that not every household has a traditional land line, and that several homes now have cellular service as their primary means of communication.

According to some recent research, 25% of American homes do not have a land line phone. Therefore we encourage you to register your cell phone using the Citizen Sign-Up service. By registering your cell phone you can be informed of

critical information immediately, even while you are away.

The only information you need to provide is an address and any phone numbers associated with that address. You can remain anonymous if you choose.

Call the Citizen Sign-Up hotline at 937-521-2179. Leave your complete address and all the phone numbers you would like to receive this information on.

Or go to the Emergency Management Agency website [www.clarkcountyohio.gov/ema](http://www.clarkcountyohio.gov/ema) and click on the WARN logo. ■

## New Medic cont'd



Your next question could be why did they purchase another Ford when they had problems with the last one? Because we wanted to use the existing box and because that box was designed to sit on a Ford chassis, it was going to cost in excess of \$10,000 to modify the box to mount onto a chassis of another brand.

The old unit was driven to the Lifeline factory in Iowa where the box was removed and placed on the new chassis. The box was

refurbished with new exterior LED brake lights, turn signal lights and working lights. All the exterior aluminum diamond plate was replaced. The inside of the box was upgraded with new hardware for the storage cabinets and additional electrical outlets. The soon to be required chevron pattern reflective decal was added to the back. Other new safety features include built in GPS mapping and a back-up camera. The purchase price for the new chassis and re-mount of the medic box was \$91,000. ■

The Pike Township Road department saved \$19,000 over quoted contractor pricing this past summer by renting a crack sealing applicator and sealing cracks in the township roads ourselves.

## Pike Township Website

We are starting to put together a web site for Pike Township and North Hampton. Roger Manemann has agreed to construct and maintain the web site. Roger has a vision on how the web site should look and we are working through the details. Under the current plan the web site would include: A calendar or similar tool to show upcoming meetings and events, minutes from the monthly trustee meetings, the township zoning regulations, links to the county government offices web sites, a listing of cemeteries in the township, a list of township roads and more. If you have input for something you think needs to be included please let one of the trustees know or call the township office at 964-8186 and leave a message. Hopefully we can get the site up and running this winter for some testing and then tell you the web address in the spring newsletter. ■

## New Bridges

Two new bridges have been constructed on township roads in the last 18 months and a third one is nearing completion. In the summer of 2009 the bridge on Fields road was replaced. In the spring of 2010 the bridge at the east end of Stott road was replaced. And currently the bridge at the south end of School road is being replaced.

The township maintains and replaces culverts up to 24 inches in diameter, but the township does not

have the capability to replace large bridges. All culverts over 24" and bridges are under the jurisdiction of the Clark County Engineers Department. They inspect, repair and replace when necessary all the bridges in the county that are on county roads or township roads. These improvements are your tax dollars at work and there is no money sent from your township to the county for these improvements. ■

## History of Ohio Townships

The Pilgrim Fathers brought the township form of government to America in 1620. This unit of local government spread as far west as the Rocky Mountains. Today it is found in 22 states.

In Ohio, the township predates our state government. The townships' size and shape were determined by the Congressional Acts, which established the various land grants.

As the Ohio territory became populated, it was only natural that the surveyed townships should become the basic unit of local government. In 1804, the elected officials of a township consisted of three trustees, a clerk, two overseers of the poor, and a sufficient number of supervisors of highway, in addition to justices of the peace and constables. A township treasurer and assessor were added later. In the early years of statehood, Ohio township government cared for the poor, maintained the roads and preserved the peace.

Today, as in 1804, the township

is a political subdivision of the state. To keep pace with the demands of changing times, the functions, duties and obligations have changed over the years. Demands for increased or different services have prompted the state legislature to grant Ohio's 1308 townships the authority to fulfill these changing needs.

Three trustees and a fiscal officer, each elected for a four year term, administer our townships today. In addition, some townships now appoint a township administrator, whose duties are defined by the individual township. Elected officials fill their roles on a part time basis, however, their intimate knowledge of their community, its needs and its citizens enables them to offer more personal service than any other unit of government. Townships today can be responsible for fire and police protection, parks and recreation, zoning, cemeteries, waste disposal, maintaining roads and more. ■

Reprinted from the Ohio Township News, July / August 2010

## Zoning

In the spring newsletter we informed you of some updates to the Zoning regulations in Pike Township. We have made one more change. The square footage of a utility shed placed in your back yard, that does not require a zoning certificate, has increased from 120 square feet to 200 square feet. We observed that many of the custom built sheds available today are 10 foot by 20 foot in size. Our intention was to decrease the "hassle" of putting a shed in your back yard. Any shed, garage or structure larger than 200 square feet will require a call to the zoning inspector, Alex Turner, at 964-8186, to see if it will be permitted and what the process for permission is. Please call before you make your purchase. ■

## Spring Newsletter Follow Up

**Black Cemetery:** A settlement has been reached with our insurance company. Dodds Monuments will be doing the repair work to the damaged markers.

**SCBA's:** The 10 new Self Contained Breathing Apparatus for the fire department, for which we received a FEMA grant of \$52,375 have been purchased and are in service.

**Crime:** The local Neighborhood Watch group is still meeting once a month. You are invited to attend. The meeting is held the second Monday of each month at 6:30 PM in the township building (83 Church street in North Hampton). Call Gayla at 964-8981 for more information. ■

# Pike Township Newsletter

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## Trustees

Greg Kaffenbarger ..... 964-1414  
James Davidson..... 845-8976  
Adam Steele ..... 964-8129

## Fiscal Officer

Cheryl Sigler ..... 845-1600

## Fire Chief

Jerry Donnelly ..... 964-8958

## EMS Chief

Cliff Christy ..... 964-8958

## Road Superintendent

Alex Turner..... 964-8186

## Zoning Inspector

Alex Turner..... 964-8186

## Fire / EMS Emergency

911 or 964-1344

## Non-Emergency Fire House

964-8958

## Fire House Fax

964-3103

## Pike Township Office

964-8186

## Pike Township Fax

964-8328

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## Meeting Information

For the Pike Township Trustee's

Date: First Tuesday of each month

Time: 7:30 pm

Location: 83 Church Street, North Hampton  
(Cement block building next to the water tower)

\*\*\*\*\*EGRWSH\*\*R-002  
RESIDENT  
4641 N DAYTON LAKEVIEW RD  
NEW CARLISLE, OH 45344-9539



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US POSTAGE  
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