2015 Safety Day to showcase local, national public safety services

Public safety forces from fire and emergency medical services to law enforcement and military are uniting in celebration of Jackson Township’s Bicentennial to present 2015 Safety Day from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 3, 2015 at Grove City High School.

The public safety education day will include car extrication demonstrations, up-armored Humvee display, arson dog meet-and-greet, distracted driving simulator, and an expected visit by Air Evac and MedFlight helicopters.

Participating agencies in addition to the Jackson Township Division of Fire include the American Red Cross Disaster Services, Box 15 Fire Rehab Services, Franklin County Sheriff’s Office, Grove City Division of Police, Air Evac, MedFlight, Ohio Air National Guard, Ohio Army National Guard and Ohio Fire Marshal.

“Safety Day 2015 is going to be a one-of-a-kind event for the residents of Grove City, Jackson Township and Urbancrest,” said Fire Chief Rick Dawson, Jackson Township Division of Fire. “There will be educational activities, and fun for little ones and adults alike.”

Scheduled demonstrations include the following:
- Homeland Response Force Search and Extrication
- Bomb, drug and arson dogs identifying targets
- Rescue crew rappelling demonstration
- SWAT exploration: equipment and training
- Hazardous materials unit in operation
- Chemical scrub down by emergency personnel
- Safety forces practicing reaction to a natural disaster or terrorist attack
- Police and military mobile emergency command posts
- Franklin County Sheriff’s Office Mounted Unit, Bomb Squad and Dive Team
- Fire department ladder operations and auto extrication
- Touch-a-truck including Jackson Township and City of Grove City service department vehicles
- Central Ohio Strike Team trailer
- Federal Emergency Management Agency’s Mobile Emergency Operations Center

The Ohio Army National Guard will also have a climbing wall that visitors can experience.

Township fire personnel, thanks to a generous donation from Home Depot in Grove City, constructed a small house on a 10-foot trailer to simulate a house on fire. Spectators will be able to spray hoses at the house to extinguish simulated flames.

“I think children will especially enjoy our kids fire house exhibit that allows them to experience firsthand what it is like to use a real firefighter hose to put out a house ‘fire’ at Safety Day,” Dawson said.

The always-popular Jackson Township Division of Fire’s smoke trailer that simulates a smoking house and teaches children how to escape a fire by crawling across its floor to safety will be at the event. Several area food truck vendors will be at Safety Day including Blu Olive, Bubba’s Shaved Ice, Short North Bagel Deli and Paddy Wagon BBQ.
Borror Road resurfacing complete

Repaving of two miles of Borror Road from State Route 665 to Hiner Road at the Franklin County line was completed July 31, 2015. Kokosing Construction crews performed the work that cost $360,000. A traffic study is under way to determine if a lower speed limit is warranted.

In memory

Jackson Township elected officials and staff extend their deepest sympathy to the family of Richard Paddock, 67, who passed away Aug. 3, 2015. Paddock served as chairman of the Jackson Township Board of Zoning Appeals since 1997.

Report polluters with new county mobile app

Call your local police non-emergency number or respective number listed if you see someone putting anything illegal in a storm drain or into a ditch, stream or river.

- Chemical or petroleum pollution: call the Ohio EPA 24-hour hotline at (800) 282-9378.
- Sewage-related pollution: call the Franklin County Public Health 24-hour hotline at (614) 525-3965, or report a problem online at www.fcbhforms.org/view.php?id=31.
- Agriculture or manure-related pollution: call Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District at (614) 486-9613 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

You can also contact FSWCD about any non-emergency water pollution to have an appropriate agency notified. The Franklin County Board of Commissioners has made a free Franklin County mobile app available that allows users to geolocate pollution sites, and send a photograph to report water pollution.

Mount Carmel donates life-saving CPR devices

Mount Carmel Health System brought a new resource to Jackson Township firefighter/paramedics thanks to generous funding provided by the Mount Carmel Foundation.

Jackson Township received four Zoll AutoPulse Non-Invasive Cardiac Support Pumps that provide automatic CPR chest compressions. The device is applied during cardiac arrest and provides a consistent rate of chest compressions giving patients high-quality compressions that improve blood flow.

“Every minute counts when you’re handling a medical emergency,” said Rick Dawson, chief of the Jackson Township Division of Fire. “Having these machines allows us to provide compressions while performing additional lifesaving activities.”

Notably, Zoll AutoPulse CPR devices help alleviate rescuer fatigue and increase patient survival rates. A Zoll AutoPulse automated CPR device rides on each fire engine.

“Mount Carmel Grove City and Jackson Township have created a strong partnership that is improving patient care,” said Dr. Jarrod Williams, medical director of Mount Carmel Grove City. “We’re extremely grateful that the Mount Carmel Foundation is able to provide the community with this resource.”

Pictured with one of the new Zoll AutoPulse Non-Invasive Cardiac Support Pumps (from left) are firefighter/paramedic Matt Headlee, Mount Carmel Grove City Director Chellee Hamilton, Mount Carmel Manager of Emergency Medical Services Jamie Wilson and Lt. Luke Smith.
Fire Chief's corner

On Nov. 29, 2015, I will retire from the Jackson Township Fire Department after more than three decades of service. Looking back, I am amazed at how quickly my time here has come and gone. Since I started, the mission of the department has changed as much as our community has. I am proud to say that the fire department has embraced and met these changing needs.

The department is an “all-hazards” response agency. Our personnel are trained, equipped and dedicated to providing outstanding medical, fire, hazardous material, community education and emergency management services along with numerous other services our community needs.

Thanks to the support of the Jackson Township Trustees, the department is well-equipped and prepared to respond to all emergencies.

The Jackson Township Fire Department has an exceptional tradition of delivering outstanding customer service. We are proud to have some of the most talented individuals in the fire service working for you. Our first priority is to respond to the needs of our citizens in a professional and expeditious manner. Our firefighter/paramedics are community-oriented and through their efforts thousands of children have graduated from Safety Town, and every year hundreds of children have a merrier Christmas because of the gifts donated to the Firefighters for Kids toy drive. This is a vibrant department that values our past, sees possibilities in our present, and embraces the challenges of the future.

On Nov. 29, 2015, I will leave 36 years of service to this community and the department. Words cannot express my gratitude and thanks to everyone for the opportunity to have worked and live in Jackson Township.

Station 204 receives award from mayor

Jackson Township along with the Mid-Ohio Foodbank and South-Western City Schools received a 2015 EcoFest Green Award from Grove City Mayor Ike Stage for achieving and maintaining Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certifications on their buildings in Grove City.

Jackson Township Station 204 at 4900 Buckeye Parkway achieved LEED Gold Certification by the U.S. Green Building Council.

Mark Flowers: 2015 Firefighter of the Year

Firefighter of the Year Mark Flowers is pictured with Deputy Fire Chief Randy Little (left) and Fire Chief Rick Dawson at the May 29, 2015 Jackson Township Division of Fire Awards Banquet. Flowers has worked for Jackson Township since 1997. The award is sponsored by the Grove City Kiwanis Club.

Pictured with the EcoFest Green Award (from left) are firefighter/paramedics John Blankenship, Matt Groezinger, Trustee Stephen Bowshier, Erik Hipple, Capt. Jim Parmenter, Morgan Gierman, Joshua Hammond and Paul Elifritz.
Jackson Township Fall Cleanup: Oct. 3, 2015

Bring documents for free shredding, electronics for recycling and up to four tires to the Jackson Township Fall Cleanup set for 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 3, 2015 at the Jackson Township Administration Building — 3756 Hoover Road in Grove City, Ohio.

Habitat for Humanity workers will be onsite accepting household items and building materials to be reused. SWACO’s free hazardous household waste collection for all Franklin County residents will run concurrently at the Grove City Service Garage — 3262 Ventura Blvd. Acceptable items include oil-based paint and motor oil. For a complete listing, go to www.swaco.org/Residents/HouseholdHazardousWaste.aspx.

Short North Bagel Deli will have a food truck available for lunch and refreshments.

House, Senate recognize bicentennial

Rep. Cheryl Grossman (Ohio House District 23) and Sen. Jim Hughes (Ohio Senate District 16) presented floor resolutions to Jackson Township elected officials in celebration of the township’s bicentennial in 2015.

Service workers ready for fall leaf collection

Jackson Township Service Department crews will provide fall leaf pickup for residents in the following subdivisions: Anglebrook, Briarwood Hills, Casa Farms, Deer Trail Estates, Emersonia, Geyerwood, Grubb Farms, Lynnbrook, Mayfair Park, Robin Estates, Rocky Creek and Southern Grove.

Leaves should be raked to the edge of the roadway, preferably on the berm, and not block drainage pipes and catch basins. Branches will not be accepted.

Pickup schedules may change depending on when leaves fall and weather-permitting. Call the Jackson Township service superintendent with questions at (614) 871-1119.