

# THE PULSE OF JEFFERSON

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## SAVING LIVES AND MONEY

The Jefferson Emergency Rescue District is saving lives and money! Despite these tough economic times the Director, Jim Brueggeman and the Board of Trustees for the district were able to drop a 1 mil levy from this past election's ballot.

In 2000 the new Jefferson Emergency Rescue District station house was built and funded on a 1.5 mil levy. This levy was a three year building levy which was then replaced with a 1.0 mil building levy in order to continue to pay off and maintain the new station.

This past election it was decided by the Director and Board of Trustees that the 1.0 mil levy be

dropped totally from the ballot. The Jefferson Emergency Rescue District station house has been paid for in full and building maintenance and upkeep is being taken care of through the standard operating budget. The Director and Board of Trustees felt that although the 1.0 mil levy would bring in \$90,000.00 to the budget the taxpayers of the district should be saved this money.

The standard operating levy for the Jefferson Emergency Rescue District is a 3.5 mil levy which will be up for renewal in November of 2012. This levy has not been increased since the Jefferson Emergency

Rescue District was formed in the late 1990s. This levy remains to provide this district with the proper funds to maintain its personnel, building, equipment, training and everyday operational expenses.

The Jefferson Emergency Rescue District would like to thank all of the residents for their continued support!



## Our Mission Statement

*The Jefferson Emergency Rescue District strives to provide the residents, businesses, and visitors of the district with courteous, dependable and quality care.*

*The mission of JERD and its employees is to respond in a safe and professional manner to an emergency; upon arrival, to provide emergency medical care to the citizens of the district; and to continue care to the nearest, most appropriate medical facility.*

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## Special points of interest:

*CPR Classes available please call to schedule a class for you and/or your group! Classes are American Heart Association courses which include Adult, Child and Infant CPR and AED. All classes are Free! Contact Matt to schedule!*

*Community Education classes and tours available! Need to host a program on safety and/or health and wellness? Please give Rachel a call to set up a course for your group! All classes are Free! Contact Rachel to schedule a program today!*

Please visit us on our website at :

**[www.jerd.us](http://www.jerd.us)**

Our website is a work in progress so please bear with us! We hope you can gain a lot of information from our site!

## NEW LOOKS AT JEFFERSON RESCUE

A lot of talk is buzzing around Jefferson Village and Township regarding the Jefferson Emergency Rescue District's new looks! Jefferson Rescue is pleased to introduce it's two newest full time EMT-Paramedics: Matt Anderson and Rachel Boehnlein. JERD is also sporting a new look to our ambulances that were repainted this past year!

In hiring these two full time Paramedics, in 2009, JERD became a completely full time department. The department operates on a 24/48 hour shift schedule. Each shift consists of two full time Paramedics. There is always a full time employee on shift regardless of vacations, regularly scheduled time off and/or illness. These shifts are broken down to A, B, and C shifts. The shifts begin at 7:00 am and end at 7:00 am the next day. The shift partners are constant and each have been "assigned" their own ambulance to use and maintain. This allows the equipment to be rotated more frequently and allows increased upkeep which ultimately increases the life of the equipment.

All six of the JERD full time employees are EMT-Paramedics and firefighters who have many years of experience in the EMS and Fire services. Each full time employee has been given roles and responsibilities tailored to their interests and assets to assist in making the department run smoothly and efficiently. All full time employees are required to be leaders in the department and have been charged with continuing the excellent care and service the members of this community deserve.

Part time and auxiliary staff are continuing to be used to fill regularly scheduled days off of the full time staff, provide additional manpower on calls which require additional resources, stand by at the station when first out EMS crews are on an emergency run, assist in covering special details, community education events, trainings and continuing education.

In addition to the new faces you may see regularly around town JERD also has a new look to it's ambulances. Contrary to many beliefs JERD did not purchase new vehicles. All three of the ambulances were in need of maintenance and body work.

Rather than simply restoring the ambulances it was researched and suggested that a new paint scheme be introduced. It was suggested that by repainting and repairing the three ambulances the life of the bodies would increase significantly and increase the life of the ambulances.

Although change is often not well received the three newly painted ambulances have received many compliments. Not only have many members of our community commented positively on the new paint scheme but leaders and members of area departments have complimented on the new look!

It is JERD's hope to continue to grow and change as a department in a positive manner. Our goals are to continue to provide excellent care and service to the members of our community through these positive changes!



## MEET OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Jefferson Emergency Rescue District is governed by a Board of Trustees and Director. The Board of Trustees consist of a representative from the Village of Jefferson, Jefferson Township and an employee representative. The Director is appointed by the Board of Trustees to serve as the head of the department.

The Board is designed to represent the citizens and employees of the district. The Board handles the hiring and firing of personnel, smooth business operations, creating a budget, maintaining financial obligations,

appropriating funds and assuring continuing growth and development of JERD.

The members of our current Board of Trustees are Judy Maloney, John Boczar and Darcie Wehrung. Judy Maloney is the Village of Jefferson's representative and has served on JERD Board for seven years. Darcie Wehrung is the employee representative and has served in this position for over 14 years. John Boczar is the newest member representing Jefferson Township since January of this year.

Prior to Mr. Boczar's service to the JERD

Board Charlene Kusar served as the Jefferson Township representative for 4 years. Charlene was needed to serve on another committee in the township and was unable to serve on this Board as well. Charlene's service to JERD and to the Jefferson Township residents has been very much appreciated!

Board meetings are open to the public and are held at JERD the second Wednesday of each month at 11:00 am. The dates and times of the JERD Board meetings are posted in the Gazette.



Judy Maloney



Darcie Wehrung



John Boczar



Charlene Kusar

## SAFETY FORCES DAY 2010

Please join us for a day of free family fun by visiting us on Safety Forces Day! In July 2008 the Jefferson Emergency Rescue District, Police Department and Fire Department joined to host the first Safety Forces Day. Our goal was to welcome the public into our stations, meet our crews, tour our equipment and have the opportunity to ask questions about our services under non-emergent circumstances. Due to the overwhelming success we felt it necessary to continue hosting the event every two years!

This year our Safety Forces Day will be held Saturday, July 17th from 1:00 pm until 4:00 pm. The event will be held rain or shine and will be located at the safety complex at the corners of East Jefferson Street and South Market Street. All three safety forces will have displays of various educational pieces, tours of the equipment, and will be available to answer any questions you may have about our services.

We work closely with various agencies and have asked them to participate in our event by bringing display tables and equipment as well. Several air medical helicopters will be landing and will be available for tours, weather permitting. The Jefferson Police Department will be demonstrating the uses of their K9 units at several times throughout the afternoon. Refreshments will be offered, activities for children will be available and door prizes will be awarded.

**Saturday, July 17th 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm.**

**Located at the corner of East Jefferson Street and South Market Street!**

## HAITI RELIEF DONATION

In partnership with MetroHealth Medical Center Jefferson Emergency Rescue District was able to donate medical supplies to the relief efforts in Haiti. The average population in Haiti of pediatric patients is 40%. This is an extremely large number of children that were affected by this disaster. JERD was able to donate many lifesaving pediatric supplies to their relief.

JERD stocks three ambulances with complete pediatric equipment for children from birth to teenage years. When a child is in critical condition and life saving measures are being performed on these patients the most critical condition and life saving measures are breathing and circulation.

The kits JERD supplies are used to assure that each piece of equipment is readily accessible and functional at the time of such a crisis. The EMS crews can simply measure the child's height, calculate a weight according to a simple formula and can access the appropriate sized equipment needed for that child.

The kits include advanced life saving equipment that allows EMS providers the ability to assure a pediatric patient has a secure airway, is breathing, being delivered Oxygen and has good circulation/blood flow throughout the body. Due to the regulations of the FDA some of the supplies in the kits expire after several years, while other supplies in the kits do not expire at all. Although some of the supplies are not expired it is a requirement that we discard these kits upon their expiration. JERD was able to use several of these

expired kits as training aids but were in possession of a large quantity of these items that were unable to be used here in the USA.

The opportunity arose after the earthquake in Haiti to allow our life saving pediatric kits to be sent to aid their children. JERD donated all of our expired pediatric kits to MetroHealth Medical Center which had set up a large collection site for medical supplies. Due to the nature of the disaster and the difference in regulations in Haiti the expired materials were not an issue.

It is our hope that these much needed supplies were able to save the lives of many children in Haiti. Our thanks go out to MetroHealth Medical Center for organizing these efforts!

## SUPPORTING THE GROWTH OF OUR YOUTH



*Elizabeth Tisdale*

JERD is proud to be the sponsor of a Senior High School Student in the Ashtabula County Joint Vocational School's EMT-Basic Program.

Elizabeth Tisdale of Jefferson is an 18 year old Senior at Jefferson High School. She first became interested in becoming an EMT when she did a mentorship with our department her Junior year in high school.

Elizabeth showed exemplary performance during her mentorship and

has maintained excellent grades in her academic courses. She became eligible to take the Adult Education Course in the evenings at the ACJVS and attends EMT-Basic class in addition to her daily high school courses.

She requested that JERD sponsor her in this course. This request was submitted to the Board of Trustees and was approved by them.

Miss Tisdale attends JERD trainings on a regular basis in addition to her courses. She shows excellent knowledge and a genuine interest in becoming an EMT. She intends on applying to join JERD as an Auxiliary member upon completing her course and passing her National Registry Exam.

Good Luck to Elizabeth as she continues on her journey!

## JEFFERSON FIRE DEPARTMENT CALLS ON JERD FOR ASSISTANCE



*All of us going  
home  
at the end of our  
shift  
is a priority!*

*Safety is key  
and  
teamwork the  
answer!*

A new and welcome working relationship has been established between the Jefferson Fire Department and JERD! We are excited to have been asked by the Jefferson Fire Department to work more closely with them in their daily operations.

As separate agencies it was not routine for JERD to be dispatched with the fire department for emergency calls. It is now routine for the dispatch center to page out JERD with the fire department on each call. This assures that when the fire department responds to an emergency they have EMS at each scene to provide initial assistance with fire department operations, any life saving or life safety measures, and for firefighter safety.

All six of JERD's full

time EMT-Paramedics are also firefighters. This allows a much better understanding of emergency operations at fire department calls. JERD and the Jefferson FD have begun to train together and become much more familiar with one another's equipment. This has been an excellent learning experience for all members and allows much safer operations for the firefighters, EMS and the public.

JERD has provided it's full time employees with turn out gear, helmets and gloves in order to keep EMS crews safe. Turn out gear was always available for EMS to wear in the event of a fire, motor vehicle accident, water rescue, hazardous materials incidents and other types

of emergencies where protective equipment is required for rescue workers, but the gear was used by all employees and was not guaranteed to fit properly and therefore may have caused injuries due to an improper fit. At this time all full time personnel have their own fitted gear and the Jefferson FD has supplied part time employees with sets of gear that were extra or older sets they had on hand.

Both departments are excited to have this new working relationship. Both JERD and Jefferson FD view this as a significant benefit for the community and the safety of all the firefighters and EMS personnel.

## JERD AUXILIARY—GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

JERD employees formed an auxiliary several years ago. The purpose of the auxiliary is to give back to the community by assisting those in need.

As an organization JERD is unable to use tax dollars to host certain functions and/or provide services to the community. The auxiliary is able to raise money, accept donations and use those

funds to benefit others.

The past two years JERD auxiliary has adopted families in need at Christmas to provide them with presents for their children, clothing, food and other essential items they may not be able to afford. These families are from our district and these funds are directly used to assist those in true need.

The JERD Auxiliary hopes to

continue to raise money and continue to give back. It is our hope to develop a scholarship fund for high school students interested in attending EMT school after graduation, along with, a bike safety program and several other community based programs.

We truly appreciate all who have assisted us with these projects!

Jefferson Emergency Rescue  
District  
11 South Market Street  
P.O. Box 294  
Jefferson, Ohio 44047

Phone: 440-576-4367  
Emergencies Dial: 9-1-1

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WE ARE ON THE WEB

VISIT US AT

WWW.JERD.US

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EXTRAORDINARY PEOPLE,  
EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE

JEFFERSON EMERGENCY RESCUE  
DISTRICT

STANDARD RATE  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
JEFFERSON, OH  
PERMIT 5

## A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

Good day all! I am Jim Brueggeman, Director and EMT-Paramedic with the Jefferson Emergency Rescue District, serving Jefferson Village and Township since 2001.

I would like to give thanks and show my appreciation to our outstanding community. Your continued support of Jefferson Emergency Rescue District has been genuine and unvarying.

I would also like to

recognize the unrelenting hard work and dedication of the employees at Jefferson Emergency Rescue District. The teamwork at our District is like no other I have experienced.

As you will see in our mission statement, Jefferson Emergency Rescue District will continue to strive to provide the residents, businesses and visitors of the district with courteous, dependable and quality care!

Please take the time to read through this newsletter as to what is offered at Jefferson Emergency Rescue District. I hope to see everyone on July 17th from 1:00pm to 4:00pm during Safety Forces Day 2010. Be sure to mark your calendars!



Jim Brueggeman  
Director  
EMT-Paramedic  
Serving Jefferson Since  
2001