

# Common Vision

Newsletter for the Emergency Management Agency of Summit County

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Spring 2005

James B. McCarthy, County Executive



## *A Message from James B. McCarthy, County Executive*

Summit County will soon be able to know the location of wireless 9-1-1 calls. New legislation passed by the State of Ohio will allow a percentage of the service charges added to wireless subscribers to be used to aid the local public safety communications centers. This money will be specifically earmarked for communications centers to update equipment needed to translate

locations of wireless 9-1-1 calls. In the future, when a wireless 9-1-1 call is placed in Summit County, the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) will be able to translate latitude and longitude coordinates within 125 meters of the caller's location. They will also receive the wireless telephone number and cell tower that transmitted the call. My staff in Emergency Management is currently working with the State of Ohio, phone companies and the Public Safety Answering Points to coordinate this effort.

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "James B. McCarthy".

## Training

### National Incident Management System Training

#### *IS700 NIMS: An Introduction*

This is a Web-based awareness level course designed to explain NIMS components, concepts and principles.

The online link for NIMS is

[http://168.143.180.84/FEMA/NC/is700\\_NIMS](http://168.143.180.84/FEMA/NC/is700_NIMS)

### Come Play at Blossom

The Summit County Emergency Management Agency and Blossom Music Center will be conducting a full-scale disaster exercise on **Thursday, June 2, 2005**.

We are looking for 100 people who would like to participate in this exercise. Individuals interested must be at least 16 years of age and available to participate from 5:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m.

Participants can obtain a participation form from the Summit County Emergency Management Agency website at <http://www.co.summit.oh.us/executive/ema.htm>.

## Summit County Special Operations Response Team Training

On Saturday, February 19, 2005, the Summit County Special Operations Response Team (SORT) hosted team training at the University of Akron's Schrank Hall Auditorium. During this team training, SORT goals and objectives, including procedures to ensure safe and effective team operations, team funding, and membership, were reviewed for the coming year. The



From left to right: Dr. Mary Jo McMullen, Asst. Chief Paul Moledor, Mr. Bill Snow and Capt. Steve Groves

Summit County Local Emergency Planning Committee provided the keynote speaker, District Chief Danny Snell, a 30-year veteran of the Houston Fire Department and Hazardous Materials Response Team. Chief Snell addressed fire related issues past and present and presented an informative outlook for the future of the fire service industry. Two annual awards were presented. Dr. Mary Jo McMullen received the Ron S. Floyd, Sr. award for her outstanding dedication and service to the Summit County Hazardous Materials Response Team and Assistant Chief Tim Gemind received the Summit County High Point Award for his 20 years of service to the Summit County Hazardous Materials Response Team.

## Know how to protect yourself when a tornado strikes

Remember to **DUCK**:

**D**-Go **DOWN** to the lowest level

**U**-Get **UNDER** something

**C**-**COVER** your head

**K**-**KEEP** in shelter until the storm has passed.

Tornadoes and severe storms can occur any place in the county at anytime of the year. However, they are most likely to occur in spring or early summer. The State of Ohio ranks 16<sup>th</sup> in the nation in tornado occurrences, experiencing an average of 15 tornados a



year. Damage and loss of life could be severe and overwhelm the ability of local responders to address the emergency. The impact can be unpredictable, sudden, and severe. Some storms are not officially classified as tornadoes, but can be severe with damaging consequences. Storms that involve lightning and hail add a greater degree of potential damage. Take some time to make a safety plan for your family.

## Copley Dispatch



The Copley Dispatch

Copley Township was founded in 1819 and has grown from a small farming community into one of the fastest growing developments in the State of Ohio. Copley Communications Department was started with the Copley Fire Department in 1938. At that time, the Communications Department was located at

several private homes as well as inside Bailey's Drug store. In 1969, the Township started the Copley Police Department with 2 full-time and 1 part-time officers. The Communications Department then moved into Jack and Barb Weltons home on Copley Road. At that time, the Communications Department had one full-time employee paid \$100 a month. The Township rented a room in the home for \$1.00 a year. In 1974, the Copley Fire Department was remodeled and the Communications Department was moved into that building on Cleveland-Massillon Road. In 1992, it was remodeled and the Copley Police Department and Communications Division moved into the building located at 1280 Sunset Drive.

The Copley Communications Division dispatches for the Copley Township Police, Fire, EMS, Service, and Parks Departments. They also dispatch for the Summit County Special Operations Response Teams, as well as Summit County Inter County M.A.B.A.S. The Copley Communications Division serves its 15,000 residents 24-hours a day, 365-days a year. They also conduct mutual-aid and monitor Fairlawn, Norton, Bath, Richfield, Valley and Sharon Center departments. Communication Specialists monitor nine non-emergency lines as well as two 9-1-1 emergency lines. Copley Communication Specialists are all certified National Emergency Medical Dispatchers as well as CPR trained. They are able to give valuable pre-arrival medical instructions to all of our residents assisting them until the fire department arrives. The Copley Communication Specialists are also Deputy Clerks of Court for both Barberton and the Summit County Juvenile Courts. Copley's Communications Division currently has 7 full-time and 1 part-time employees.

## Trains, Planes and Automobiles

Transportation incidents include commercial and private aviation incidents, roadway incidents, and rail traffic incidents that may or may not involve hazardous materials. The use of transportation in daily commerce has with it some inherent risks that can effect every community in Summit County. Transportation incidents are of a serious nature and could result in long-range effects, especially when hazardous materials are involved. Fatality and injury have a potential to be high, particularly in urban areas. In Summit County we regularly exercise response plans for transportation incidents and continually search for way to lessen or prevent their devastating effects.

On a federal level, a vital mission of the Department of Transportation is to ensure safety and security in the nation's transportation system through instruction to both those entrusted with enforcement and those obligated to compliance to safety standards. For more information go to at [www.dot.gov](http://www.dot.gov).



### Summit County Emergency Management Agency

191 South Main Street  
Akron, Ohio 44308  
330.643.2558

James B. McCarthy, Executive  
Annette Petranic, Coordinator

Visit us on the web at:

[www.co.summit.oh.us/executive/ema.htm](http://www.co.summit.oh.us/executive/ema.htm)