

# PIQUA Spirit

WINTER 2010

## PIQUA CITY COMMISSION UPDATE FOR 2010

On January 4, 2010, Commissioner/Mayor Thomas D. Hudson handed over his gavel to newly elected Mayor Lucinda (Lucy) Fess, Commissioner of the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward. Commissioner Fess will serve a 2-year term as Mayor for the City of Piqua.

Tom Hudson was first elected Commissioner to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward on January 1, 2006 as well as being elected Mayor for the City at that time. Mr. Hudson was re-elected and served a second two-year term as Mayor from January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2009. In addition to serving as Commissioner/Mayor for the City of Piqua, he served on various Boards and Committees, performed many weddings and attended countless meetings during his four years as Commissioner/Mayor. Mayor Hudson was also a member of the Piqua Improvement Corporation Board of Directors and the "Grow Piqua Now" Board of Directors.

The City would like to thank Thomas D. Hudson for his dedication to the City of Piqua and wish him much happiness and best wishes for the future, as well as congratulate Mayor Fess on her election.

Also, Commissioner William Vogt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward Commissioner was elected Vice Mayor (by virtue of finishing in the November Mayoral election) and was sworn in at the January 4, 2010 Commission Meeting. Commissioner Vogt has served on Piqua City Commission since January 1, 2004.

Newly elected Joseph Wilson began his four-year term as 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward Commissioner on January 4, 2010. Commissioner Wilson previously held the Commission seat in the 4<sup>th</sup> Ward of Piqua from 1990-1993.

Commissioner Julia (Judy) Terry was re-elected to serve a second four year term as Commissioner of the 4<sup>th</sup> Ward for the City. Commissioner Terry was first elected as 4<sup>th</sup> Ward Commissioner on January 1, 2006.



*2010 Piqua City Commissioners*

*Left to Right: Commissioner Terry, Commissioner Wilson, Mayor Fess, Commissioner Vogt and Commissioner Martin.*

Commissioner John Martin completes our five member Commission, serving as 1<sup>st</sup> Ward Commissioner.

### **Commissioner Contact Information:**

Commissioner John Martin,  
1<sup>st</sup> Ward Commissioner:  
ward1comm@piquaoh.org

Commissioner Bill Vogt,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Ward Commissioner:  
ward2comm@piquaoh.org

Commissioner Joe Wilson,  
3<sup>rd</sup> Ward Commissioner:  
ward3comm@piquaoh.org

Commissioner Judy Terry,  
4<sup>th</sup> Ward Commissioner:  
ward4comm@piquaoh.org

Mayor Lucy Fess,  
5<sup>th</sup> Ward Commissioner & Mayor:  
ward5comm@piquaoh.org

Meet.....

## Don Freisthler - Water System Superintendent

Don began his career in the Water and Wastewater field for the Village of Anna as a Village Service Officer in 1976. After completing basic wastewater school and passing the Wastewater I exam in 1977, the opportunity to be a Water Plant Operator for the City of Sidney, Ohio came in 1978. For the next fifteen years Don worked the midnight to noon shift. Completing basic and advanced water schools and attaining a Class III license by 1980, Don also became certified in both Chemical and Bacteria Laboratories during that time.



Don became Superintendent of Sidney's Water Plant in 1994. After applying and being accepted as a candidate for a Class IV license, he completed all testing and was certified by the State Advisory Board. As an active member of the AWWA he served at both district and state officers position and finished as Ohio State Section Chair at the Cleveland Conference this past September.

Don stated that the one thing he has enjoyed the most during his career thus far has been being an instructor of the Basic Water Course for six years. Having had over a hundred students and teaching several study sessions for AWWA and ORWA, Don feels that he has been able to give back some of what the field has given him.

Don has been married to Carolyn for over thirty-seven years. They have two married children, Stephanie (Ralph) and Nicholas (Erin), as well as four granddaughters.

In Don's spare time he and Carolyn love to camp, attend Dayton Dragon games as well as spending time with their grandchildren and extended family.

### CITY COMMISSION

#### John Martin

Commissioner, 1st Ward  
Home: 773-2778  
[Ward1comm@piquaoh.org](mailto:Ward1comm@piquaoh.org)

#### William Vogt

Commissioner, 2nd Ward  
Home: 773-8217  
[Ward2comm@piquaoh.org](mailto:Ward2comm@piquaoh.org)

#### Joseph Wilson

Commissioner, 3rd Ward  
Home: 778-0390  
[Ward3comm@piquaoh.org](mailto:Ward3comm@piquaoh.org)

#### Julia (Judy) Terry

Commissioner, 4th Ward  
Home: 773-3189  
[Ward4comm@piquaoh.org](mailto:Ward4comm@piquaoh.org)

#### Lucinda L. (Lucy) Fess

Mayor & Commissioner,  
5th Ward  
Home: 773-7929  
[Ward5comm@piquaoh.org](mailto:Ward5comm@piquaoh.org)

## Be Prepared for Winter Snow

January always brings snow and with winter weather comes snow removal from city streets. The City of Piqua Street Department is geared up for snow and ice removal should it hit. Standard procedures are to salt all bridges and hills first, then U.S. Routes, State Routes and main thoroughfares. The minor arterials and residential feeder streets are addressed next, and last are the residential streets.

- ✓ When snow accumulation reaches two inches, snowplows are mounted on all trucks. Plowing routes are prioritized the same as salting route.
- ✓ Motorists are urged to use caution when driving on snow covered streets. Specific hints include:
- ✓ Allow plenty of extra time for trips – even short journeys. Travel time is considerably longer in snowy weather.
- ✓ Drive slowly and maintain a longer safe stopping distance between your vehicle and the vehicle in front of you, especially on down-grade hills.
- ✓ Motorists are asked to refrain from parking on the street when possible. Parking on side streets rather than main streets is also desirable to accommodate efficient snow removal.

The Street Department is assigned the task of keeping roadways open. Please remember when shoveling driveway approaches to push the snow to left side of the driveway so that the snowplow will not push the snow back into the drive, to be shoveled again.

It is the legal duty of the owner, or the occupant (renter) of the property, residence or business, to keep the sidewalk abutting the premises free and clear of snow and ice. Snow and ice must be removed within a reasonable time, which will ordinarily not exceed 12 hours, after the storm during which snow and ice may have accumulated stops.

And last, but not least, those who are out shoveling and have a neighbor who is unable to clear their property, please help them out if you can. Such acts of kindness are a positive way to build a stronger neighborhood.

Questions regarding snow removal may be directed to the Street Department at 778-2095.

### *Calendar of Events January – February 2009*

January 19 – Cheer America: Start of new session 6:00 PM at Mote Park Community Center

January 20 – Youth Self Defense: Start of new session 6:00 PM at Mote Park Community Center

February 5 – Father/Daughter Dance 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM at Fort Piqua Plaza (registration deadline January 30)

For more information contact:

Rob Stanford  
Piqua Parks and Recreation  
778-2085

## The City of Piqua's New Utilities Department

This year the City of Piqua made some organizational structure groupings that made it easier to transition into the changes required by the Ohio EPA. The City of Piqua, like most other cities around the state, was charged to start a new storm water program. After investigating the actions of other cities, it was decided to establish a new utilities department for the City of Piqua. In 2007 the City began taking steps to implement the activities to comply with the un-funded federal and state mandates required by the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MSS) Phase II permit program.

In order to establish the new department it was necessary to realign the organizational structure of the Public Works Department. Amy Havenar, the City Engineer, has taken the responsibility for the Engineering, Streets, and Parks Departments, and also has been helping with the stormwater NPDES permit process.

The new Utility Department includes four separate divisions: water, wastewater, underground and the storm water utility. These four divisions will be under the management of Dave Burtner as the Director of Utilities. Mr. Burtner's office is located in the Municipal Government Complex at 201 West Water and he can be reached at 778-2054.

### Fast facts about the New Utilities Department:

#### Water Department

Contact: Donald Freisthler, Water System Superintendent  
Address: 9300 N. State Route 66, Piqua Ohio 45356  
Phone: 937-778-2090

Mr. Freisthler and the Water Department employees are responsible for the Municipal Water Treatment Plant, the pumping stations, and the elevated water towers.

#### Wastewater Department

Contact: David Davis, Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent  
Address: 121 Bridge Street, Piqua Ohio 45356  
Phone: 937-778-2088

Mr. Davis and the Wastewater employees oversee the day-to-day operations of the Wastewater Treatment Plant, lift stations, and the operations of the new equalization basin.

#### Underground Utilities Department

Contact: Todd Brandenburg, Utility Superintendent  
Address: 121 Bridge Street, Piqua Ohio 45356  
Phone: 937-778-208

The Underground Utilities Department is a new division. Mr. Brandenburg and Underground Supervisor, Shane Johnson will work with their staff on the new storm water collection system and the maintenance and repair for the water distribution, and wastewater collection system.

#### Storm Water Utility Department

Contact: Devon Alexander, Stormwater Program Coordinator  
Address: 201 W. Water Street, Piqua Ohio 45356  
Phone: 937-778-2059

The Storm Water Utility completes the City of Piqua Utilities Program which includes stormwater monitoring, maintenance on the drainage system, and will assist in the capital improvements needed for the infrastructure and management of the utility.

While implementation of the new Storm Water Utility fee is on hold pending further City Commission review of alternatives. Public education, monitoring, maintenance and enforcement activities required by EPA mandates will continue to be supported by other utility, streets and general funds.

## Meet... Piqua Fire Chief, Michael G. Rindler

The City of Piqua is pleased to announce that Michael G. Rindler was promoted to the rank of Fire Chief on October 26, 2009.

Chief Rindler graduated from Miami East High School in 1983. From there he joined the Army and served from 1983-1986 as a Military Police/Paratrooper and was stationed at Fort Bragg. Following his honorable discharge in 1986 he attended Edison State College and graduated with an Associates Degree in Criminal Justice.



Mike began his career on June 27, 1989 when he was hired as a Fire Fighter/Paramedic for the Piqua Fire Department. On June 27, 1998 he was promoted to the rank of Captain and again promoted as Assistant Chief of Fire Prevention on October 17, 2000. On September 10, 2008 Chief Rindler made a lateral transfer to Shift One as Assistant Chief.

Mike is the son of Jack and Beth Rindler. He has been married to his wife Natalie for nineteen years. Mike and Natalie are proud parents of son Cory and daughter Kelly who are both high school students.

Chief Rindler stated his goals are to provide well-trained firefighters and paramedics and to continue to respond to the needs of our citizens in a professional timely manner.

## 2010 Census

In 2010, the United State Census Bureau will undertake the task of tabulating exactly how many people live within the United States. The Census is required to take place and is mandated by the Constitution of the United States; 2010 will be the 23<sup>rd</sup> Census of the country.

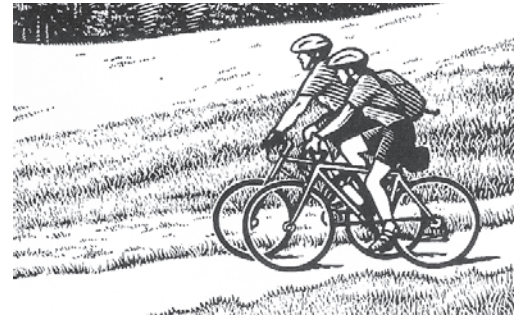
The 2010 Census will be different from the last census in one major respect. For this Census, every residence will receive a short 10-question survey. Previously, randomly selected households received much longer surveys, which asked respondents about housing, social, economic and educational data. This data is still collected by the U. S. Census Bureau; however, this data will be collected through the American Community Survey, a survey that is periodically mailed to random households. The data from the American Community Survey is tabulated over a three-year period and reports are provided every fall. The data collected from the 2010 Census will be used to allocate seats in the United States House of Representatives and also be used to allocate funds for community services, such as school lunch programs and road construction programs.

From February to March, residents should expect the small survey to arrive at their homes and residents are encouraged to mail the surveys by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Census workers will also make visits to households that did not return a survey between May and July. Census workers will also place surveys at select public locations through the spring to ensure that those people that may not live in a residence are counted through the process.

For more information on the 2010 Census, please visit the website [2010.census.gov](http://2010.census.gov).

# Cleaning Up the Bike Path

The City has experienced several incidents of graffiti and vandalism on its bike path and the surrounding areas. However, those responsible have been prosecuted and held accountable for their actions. Most recently, a local individual was arrested and prosecuted for spray-painting buildings near the bike path. Judge Elizabeth Gutmann issued a sentence that not only demonstrated how the actions of the defendant harmed society and held him accountable by ordering community service. The individual served thirty days in jail and is on probation for two years in order to perform 100 hours of community service specifically related to cleaning up the bike path. The City of Piqua takes great pride in its bike path as it is a valuable asset. However, the criminal acts are costly and affect the entire community. Every person needs to share in their responsibility of being an upstanding citizen by being responsible for their conduct or reporting illegal conduct. This act of citizenship was demonstrated earlier in the year where users of the bike path observed illegal conduct, called the police and waited for the police to arrive, keeping the offender in site. It takes everyone's efforts to protect the City's assets.



*Piqua Spirit* is a quarterly newsletter from the City of Piqua. The purpose is to keep you informed about what is happening in your City.

## CITY MANAGER

Fred Enderle

Articles and photos by  
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Your comments and questions  
are welcomed.

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