



# April 2011

## CAC of Pike County Newsletter

### **Pike County Dogwood Festival**

This year the Dogwood Festival will be celebrating it's 41st year. The Opening Ceremonies this year will take place on Thursday, April 21st with the announcement of the Dogwood Festival Queen and the introduction of the Grand Marshall. The main entertainment for the festival will be held on Friday evening with the bands Lewis Brothers and Mays Gone performing. And for the first time in Dogwood Festival history, the festival will fall on Easter Weekend. On the Village Green Sunday there will be a Countywide Sunrise Service at 7:00 am and the Dogwood Committee has Easter themed games and an Easter Egg hunt planned for kids on Sunday.

The festival will also include the "traditional" events such as quilt show, antique car show, Bluegrass music, chain saw contest, and fiddle and banjo contest. The streets will be lined with vendors and crafters from Thursday, April 21st thru Sunday, April 24th.

### **History of the Dogwood Tree**

The Dogwood tree has been around for centuries and the wood from the tree has many uses. Early settlers would use the smallest slivers to clean tiny holes and crevices in their watch. Slivers were also used to clean dust from the spaces surrounding optical lenses. The wood was also used to make everyday tools, such as crochet hooks and knitting needles, rulers, pitch forks, and hammers. Native Americans used the spring blooms as a sign that it was time to plant the corn. The Dogwood tree is native to several continents including Europe, Asia, and North America.



### **CAC Events**

April 12th  
Senior Staff

April 21st  
Governing Board

April 26th-29th  
Management Meetings

**The Social Services  
Department is in need of  
grocery bags for the food  
pantry. Bags can be  
dropped off at Social  
Services Department.**



# April Birthdays

Libby Fairchild	April 1st
April Radabaugh	April 2nd
Melody Lucas	April 3rd
Cheryl Tackett	April 4th
Mary Blevins	April 6th
Whitney Williams	April 7th
Toni Graves	April 8th
Kevin Ballein	April 9th
Melissa Menendez	April 10th
Stephanie Brodess	April 13th
Cathy Blakeman	April 14th
Denise Hayden	April 16th
Judy LeBrun	April 22nd
Charles Mullins	April 23rd
Tracy Brewster	April 24th
Peggy Lester	April 25th
Shawney Tackett	April 25th
April McDonald	April 25th
Alice Martin	April 26th
Nettie Berry	April 29th

## Bottled water scarce as tap water declared unsafe for infants

What would you do if you had an infant that needed to be fed and there was no running/clean water, no electricity, no formula, no open stores and no way of transportation to get to these things? A couple of days in this situation would be scary, let alone weeks or months. People tend to believe that a scenario like this is just a thought but now we see tragedies like this getting closer and closer to home. For example, during Hurricane Katrina there were many stories of hardship including those about mothers who were unsure as to how they would find formula for their babies.

Do you have a friend or a relative that is pregnant? Are you pregnant? In the wake of Japan's disaster and this month beginning our tornado season, I encourage anyone who is expecting a baby, or even thinking about having a family to arm yourself with the knowledge of breastfeeding. Did you know breast milk is always the right temperature? No mixing needed! Friends and family should learn too, because the better support a woman has the greater her chances at success. How sad it would be if your baby had to go hungry when you had the milk all along. All expecting mothers should learn to breastfeed and all family should learn how to support them.

Ginny Dickerson, WIC Breastfeeding Peer Helper



## Business Development Program

*A division of the Community Action Committee of Pike County*



### Upcoming Training Workshops

#### April 20th

Microsoft Office Excel 2007 Level 1  
\$75 - 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

#### May 4th

Microsoft Excel 2007 Level 2  
\$75 - 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

#### May 10th

Small Business Class begins  
(Every Tuesday and Thursday)

\$90 - 5 week course; Tuition Assistance is available.

Classes are held at:  
OSU Endeavor Center  
1864 Shyville Rd  
Pike-ton, Ohio 45661  
\*Prices subject to change



### Small Business Marketing Solutions

The Small Business Marketing Solutions Service enables business owners to receive affordable assistance in professionally marketing their business through printed media and the world wide web. This service can provide each client with a personalized website, brochures, business cards and other marketing material needed for promotion and maximum success in advertising and networking.

For more information about the classes, CAC employee discount, and the Small Business Marketing Solutions contact the Business Development Program at the Main Agency at 740-289-2371 or visit [www.pikecac.org/BD](http://www.pikecac.org/BD)



## DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO...

For more information about the Ohio Benefit Bank or to make an appointment to apply for benefits, contact Community Action Committee of Pike County at 740-289-2371, (TDD 740-289-2608) Monday thru Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Senior Citizens may contact the Pike County Senior Center at 740-947-5555 Monday thru Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

### Has lost their job? . . .

The Benefit Bank can help individuals check eligibility for more than 20 work supports and public benefits.

### Needs help with medical care? . . .

Programs such as Health Start and Healthy Families can often provide free medical assistance.

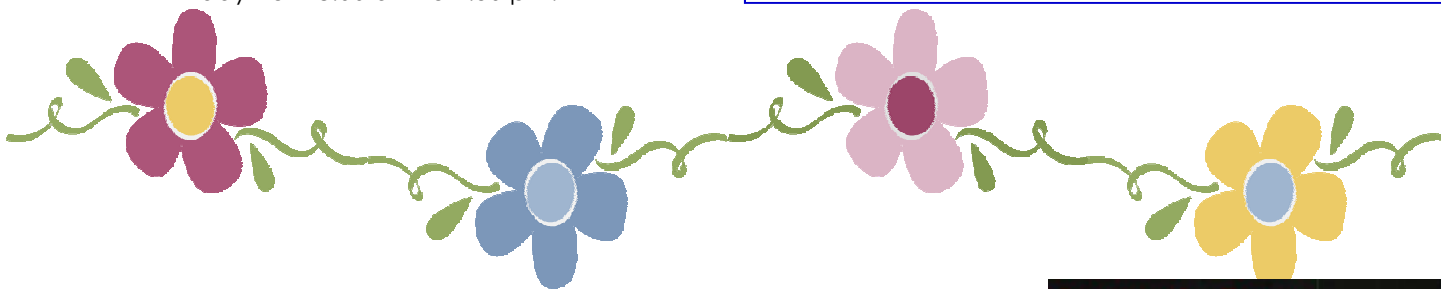
### Needs help with groceries? . . .

Ohio's network of food banks is ready to help



## The Ohio Benefit Bank Can Help

The Ohio Benefit Bank (OBB), a Web-based, counselor assisted program, is a free service that can help you or your friends and family apply for public benefits and work supports, such as health care coverage, home energy assistance and food assistance.



You may qualify for SafeLink Service in your area if you . . .

- Participate in one of the following programs:
  - Section 8/Federal Public Housing Assistance
  - Medicaid
  - Food Stamps
  - SSI
  - Free National School Lunch Program
  - General Assistance/Disability Assistance
  - Home Energy Assistance HEAP
  - SSDI
  - TANF or OWF
- Your total household income is at or below 150% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines
- No one in your household currently receives Lifeline Assistance through another phone carrier. If someone in your household is receiving Lifeline Assistance you must cancel the service before applying for SafeLink.
- You have a valid US Postal Address. In order to receive your Free cell phone you must live at a residence that can receive mail from the US Post Office.  
**SORRY NO P O BOXES.**

For more information or to make an appointment for a **FREE SafeLink Wireless phone**, contact the Social Services department of Community Action Committee of Pike County at 740-289-2371 (TDD 740-289-2608). Senior citizens may contact the Pike County Senior Center at 740-947-5555.

**Emergencies Happen**

**"My Mom is My Everything... and it's Important She Can Reach Me."**

**EMERGENCIES HAPPEN**

Be safe and stay connected with a free government-supported cell phone and up to 250 free monthly minutes.

**FREE Minutes every month for:**

- Local & Long Distance Calling
- Text Messaging

**Plus:**

- FREE 411 Directory Assistance
- FREE 911 Emergency Tracking
- NO Contracts
- NO Credit Checks
- NO Fees

**250 FREE MONTHLY MINUTES**

**SafeLink**

**Community Action Partnership**

**Superior Coverage**

36044

Get your phone faster, use Promo Code: COH0011000

**SafeLink.com 1-800-SafeLink (722-3348)**

## Tax Deadline for this year is April 18th.

Due to Emancipation Day falling on April 15th this year in the Nation's Capital, the tax deadline has been moved to April 18th.

So what is Emancipation Day? On April 16th, 1862 President Abraham Lincoln signed the Compensated Emancipation Act. This Act released certain persons held to service or labor in the District of Columbia. It freed about 3,100 enslaved persons in the District of Columbia nine months before the Emancipation Proclamation.

On January 4, 2005, Mayor Anthony Williams signed legislation making Emancipation Day an official public holiday for the District of Columbia. This day had been celebrated from 1866 to 1901 and then was resumed as a tradition and historic celebration in 2002.



## Arbor Day

Arbor Day is a day in which individuals and groups are encouraged to plant and care for trees. The first Arbor Day was held April 10, 1872 and an estimated 1 million trees were planted that day and was founded by J. Sterling Morton in Nebraska City, NE. By the 1920's each state in the United States had passed public laws that Arbor Day will be observed.

One way to observe Arbor Day is to plant trees to reduce your global footprint. As trees grow they help stop the global warming by removing carbon dioxide from the air.

Ohio celebrated Arbor Day on April 29th this year. Every year Ohio's Arbor Day is on the last Friday of the month.



**Ohio's State Tree**  
Buckeye Tree

**National Tree**  
Oak Tree



## April Events and Holidays

April 1st  
April Fool's Day

April 7th  
World Health Day

April 18  
Tax Deadline

April 22  
Earth Day

April 24th  
Easter



## This Month in History

\*Pony Express began April 3, 1860 but it only lasted 18 months till October 1861.

\*April 6, 1896 the first Olympic Games opened in Athens, Greece.

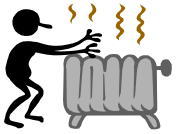
\*April 8, 1974 Hank Aaron broke Babe Ruth's career major league home run record.

\*April 14, 1865, John Wilkes Booth shot President Abraham Lincoln.

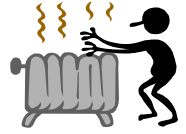
\*The Revolutionary War began April 19, 1775 when British soldiers and American Revolutionaries clashed in Massachusetts.

\*April 24, 1800 the Library of Congress was established.

\*April 30, 1939 television was first publicly broadcasted from the Empire State Building.



## 2010-2011 Winter Crisis Program Ends March 31, 2011



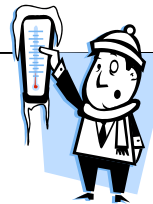
The 2010-2011 Winter Crisis Program, which began November 1, 2010, is coming to a close. The last day for new customers to apply for the 2010-2011 Winter Crisis Program is Thursday, March 31, 2011.

Customers with *Ineligible, Incomplete* or *Pending* applications for the 2010-2011 Winter Crisis Program, must return by April 30, 2011 to complete their applications. The Community Action Committee of Pike County, which operates the program locally, has completed over 2,300 Winter Crisis Program applications for Pike County residents since the program began in November, 2010.

The Winter Crisis program provides assistance once per heating season to eligible households that have been disconnected, are being threatened with disconnection, or have less than a 10 day supply or 25% or less of bulk fuel.

To be eligible for the 2010-2011 Winter Crisis Program the total gross household income must be at or below 200 percent of the 2009-2010 Federal Poverty Guidelines.

### 2009 Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPL) Effective January 23, 2009 200% of FPL



Persons in Household	50% of FPL	100% of FPL	150% of FPL	175% of FPL	200% of FPL
1	\$5,415	\$10,830	\$16,245	\$18,952.50	\$21,660
2	\$7,285	\$14,570	\$21,855	\$25,497.50	\$29,140
3	\$9,155	\$18,130	\$27,465	\$32,042.50	\$36,620
4	\$11,025	\$22,050	\$33,075	\$38,587.50	\$44,100
5	\$12,895	\$25,790	\$38,685	\$45,132.50	\$51,580
6	\$14,765	\$29,530	\$44,295	\$51,677.50	\$59,060
7	\$16,635	\$33,270	\$49,905	\$58,222.50	\$66,540
8	\$18,505	\$37,010	\$55,515	\$64,767.50	\$74,020

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact the Community Action Committee of Pike County at 740-289-2371 or TDD 740-289-2608. Senior Citizens may contact the Senior Center at 740-947-5555.

## COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE OF PIKE COUNTY

This newsletter is published once per month. If you have any items you would like included in the May newsletter, please submit them in writing with all information by April 25th to Pam Lawhorn, Front Office Coordinator or Lori Watson, Front Office Specialist. If you have any questions, please call the front office at 289-2371.

### CAC of Pike County Softball Schedule

March 20 - 3:00 pm Field 2  
March 27 - 2:00 pm Field 1  
April 3 - 5:00 pm Field 2  
April 10 - 2:00pm Field 1  
April 17 - 3:00 pm Field 2  
May 1 - 4:00 pm Field 1  
May 8 - 2:00 pm Field 1

League Tournament  
May 15 & May 22

All games are played at Bristol Park  
in Waverly.



An old man once said, . . . There comes a time in life, when you walk away from all the drama and the people who create it. You surround yourself with people who make you laugh, forget the bad, and focus on the good. So love the people who treat you right, pray for the ones who don't. Life is too short to be anything but happy. Falling down is part of life, getting back up is living.

### Clothing Center Donations!

The clothing center is in need of clothing items of all types and sizes. Please take this opportunity to do some spring cleaning and get rid of any unworn or unwanted clothing items. You may drop them off at the clothing center at 462 S.

West Street in Piketon on Tuesdays or Fridays from 10:00 to 1:00, or anytime by depositing in the drop box in front of the clothing center building.

Donations are tax deductible.



Looking for a couch and a chair, reasonably priced or for free. Not worried about color. Please call Angie Boggess at 649-9555.



Congratulations to Gail Stevens on the birth of her new granddaughter. Tylah Amburgey was born March 21, 2011, weighing 5 lbs and 12 ounces and was 18 inches long.

Congratulations Gail!



"The first of April is the day we remember what we are the other 364 days of the year."

--Mark Twain

# FREE TAX Preparation

As soon as you receive your W-2 Forms, call the Community Action Committee of Pike County at 740-289-2371 to get information on **FREE Tax Preparation** and to schedule your appointment in Waverly or Piketon!!

The Free Tax Preparation Program will help prepare basic 2010 tax returns for low to moderate income families and individuals **FREE of charge**.

## You may qualify for Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)

If you earned less than **\$40,363** and you have two or more qualifying children, **EITC** could be as much as **\$5,036**.

If you earned less than **\$35,535** and you have one qualifying child, **EITC** could be as much as **\$3,050**.

If you earned less than **\$13,460** and you have no qualifying child, **EITC** could be as much as **\$457**.

Helping families put hard earned dollars back into their pocket!



**FREE Tax Preparation**, call the Community Action Committee of Pike County at 740-289-2371



Community Action Committee  
of Pike County

THE *Ohio*  
**BENEFIT BANK**  
*neighbors helping neighbors*

## Are you thinking about going to college?



\*\*Are you having your taxes completed by the Community Action Committee of Pike County's Free Tax Preparation Program?

\*\*Let us help you complete your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Application free of charge!

## You may be eligible for financial aid to attend college!

- ✓ Federal student aid can cover tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies, transportation, and dependent childcare expenses. Types of aid include grants, loans, and work-study programs.
- ✓ Eligibility depends on: Expected Family Contribution (EFC), year in school, enrollment status, and cost of attendance.
- ✓ This application must be re-submitted each school year by all enrolled students.

For more information on assistance with the FAFSA application or the Free Tax Preparation Program, please call the Community Action Committee of Pike County at 740-289-2371.