



**Ryan, Jessica**

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**From:** Lashway, Lisa  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 02, 2010 3:31 PM  
**To:** Sohl, Bill; Ryan, Jessica  
**Subject:** FW: Mt. Olive Twp. Emergency Volunteers

correspondence

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**From:** Madaline Scarfo [mailto:madaline.scarfo@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 02, 2010 3:10 PM  
**To:** Lashway, Lisa  
**Subject:** Mt. Olive Twp. Emergency Volunteers

I live at 509 Drakestown Road in Flanders . For those of you not familiar with this road it is off of River Road , across a bridge. The road then winds, climbs, and continues going up a way before it levels off. Our home is about 7/8<sup>th</sup> of a mile up. This road is very difficult to execute on a busy day and even worse on a day when we have had a blizzard. On March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009 we were hit by a blizzard. The roads were not plowed or sanded at the time of this incident which was understandable and not the issue here.

My husband Steve had just finished plowing our driveway and was getting ready to do some shoveling around our vehicles. However, our driveway became slick after the plowing and as my husband approached his pickup truck he slipped and to avoid landing on his right hand which had already been broken in an accident in October of 2009, he twisted and came down on his right leg and broke it in two places. To give you an idea on how bad the break was that he required 2 surgeries to insert plates, was in the hospital 4 days and was totally disabled in a wheelchair for 4 months and was not allowed to go back to work until the end of July. After realizing that he had not just strained or sprained his ankle or knee my neighbor called 911. By the time she came back to our house from right next door a volunteer was in our driveway. It took less than 5 minutes for him to be there. Within the next 4 minutes came another volunteer and both of them went to work to assess the situation. The second volunteer also advised us that because of the snow accumulation the ambulance would not be able to come up our hill. A police officer arrived right after the second volunteer. The second volunteer explained that the ambulance was having a difficult time trying to get up our hill and was going around the back way which meant it would go either back to 206 South to Four Bridges Road and turn right and come all the way up to Drakestown Road that way. or, Route 206 to Bartley, then to Four Bridges Road and on up to Drakestown Road , turning right and coming down to our house from that way. I need to tell you that within the time it took her and the other volunteer to assess the situation, trying all of the time they were there to make my husband as comfortable as possible and agreed on how they would handle the situation the ambulance was there and they had everything under control! It was only about 5 minutes.

Let me remind you that aside from the blizzard and dangerous road conditions the wind was ferocious and cutting into everybody like a knife. My husband was covered w/blankets to keep him from going into shock as he was totally immobile and still lying on the cold, frozen driveway.

We are asking that the Mayor and the Council Members take a very hard look and put a lot of thought into the changes that they are bent on making. We do not feel that changing the way that our emergencies are met will do any of us any good. Mt. Olive Township fire fighters and emergency response team has been serving our home town for over a hundred years and has been doing an exceptional job. These people are dedicated to All of people in our town, whether residents or business owners. They care for us more than any other fire fighters or emergency workers would because everybody pretty much knows everybody else either personally, socially, from church, school, recreational activities, etc. They care for us more because we are one of their own. I am sure that when an emergency presents itself to them, as they are preparing to attend to someone that needs their services and they see the address that thoughts crossed their minds such as "I know so-and-so lives at that address", or "That family has children that are on my son's basketball team", or "Oh my gosh, I just saw them in church on Sunday". You get my point I am sure.

I am sure that an outside service has very caring people as well or they would not be in that line of work. However, this town is secure in knowing that no matter what, our volunteers have never let us down, and not now nor will they ever. My husband, myself and my family (2 sons who also have their own homes in Mt.Olive) are asking that all of you please reconsider. There is no reason for change. As the old saying goes "If it ain't broke, don't fix it".

God Bless each and every one of our township volunteers.

Sincerely,

Madaline and Steve Scarfo  
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Flanders, NJ

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