



## **Fireworks and Heroes** **By Leigh Bales**

What was all the excitement about on July 5th? People were asking what had happened at Newton Lake on the night of July 5th, 2008. Well, a number of different things happened. The evening started off with the Greenfield Township Volunteer Fire Company, assisted by Clifford Fire Company, providing a stand-by for fire and medical coverage for the annual Newton Lake Association fireworks display.

To ensure the safety of the guests and residents of Newton Lake, the Fire Company strategically placed apparatus and members around the lake.

Why? A stand-by is performed as a safety measure during the fireworks display in case of fires, injuries and for the safety of the fireworks crew.

After the fireworks, the Fire Company headed back to the fire station, looking forward to an evening with their families. However, while heading back to the station, members were re-routed to a motor vehicle crash at the intersection of Franklin and Ruthland. On arrival, the Fire Company found two vehicles entangled at the base of a utility pole and up against a rock. Firefighters found one patient still inside a car, in a great deal of pain. A rapid assessment of the scene and patient was taken that revealed a need to remove the vehicle's' roof. This was done to speed removal of the patient and avoid further injury. The patient was then packaged and transported to a local hospital.



Once the 'work' was complete and the patient on the way to the hospital in the ambulance, members could be seen starting to cool down and clean up. One woman pulled me aside and told me that she was impressed at how efficient and organized "her" fire department was, and that she was proud of us. As I went to say "Thank you," she touched the words on the back of the shirt of another firefighter and said, "You really are ....a hero."

**BE A HERO, GREENFIELD NEEDS YOU!**