

# Career Tech Matters

by Dennis Franks • Oct. 23, 2015

**Y**ou might say that Amy Raike has followed in the family business.

A native of Franklin Furnace, a village of less than 2,000 residents in Scioto County, Amy's parents were the county's first emergency medical technicians.

"I grew up around it and always loved being in the fire department," she said.

Years later, while in college, Amy took a basic EMT class and, she said, "I was hooked."

She spent 21 years as an EMT, paramedic and respiratory therapist and three years as a paramedic instructor at Mountwest Community & Technical College before joining Pickaway-Ross Adult Education's Public Safety this year.

Moving from teaching classes to overseeing a program is a big challenge, Amy said.

"As a paramedic, you fix a patient quickly, take him to the hospital and you're done," she said.

But her new job requires a different level of responsibility.

"If the program doesn't make it, it's my fault."

A goal she has is to have 100 percent certification



pass rate in every class.

"It will take a while but in two or three years we could very well achieve that."

Despite the challenges, Amy said she loves the job and the environment at Pickaway-Ross.

She said she enjoys the autonomy that she has as the program coordinator but has the support of the whole department when needed.

Julie Bolen, Adult Education Program Manager, said Amy's years of experience in the field and at a community college made her a natural for the coordinator position.



Amy Raike joined Adult Education's Public Safety department in January.

"Plus, she has been through the COAEMPS accreditation process with her previous school," Julie said.

"Her experience will be extremely helpful as we go through that accreditation process here."

Amy was able to get her feet wet by working part time from January until June while

she completed her contract at Mountwest and learning a lot this year from Debbie Schiff, Public Safety coordinator/evening supervisor.

"The opportunity for Amy to work alongside Debbie for her first year is providing a great transition in Public Safety," Julie said.

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