

# Real life

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saving lives. It is a team effort." Now the mobile unit is accepted as an ally almost anywhere.

Some training has been provided for volunteers, and it is hoped that more programs will be offered in the future. Griffith said it is not difficult to understand that a volunteer has a full time job and spends just a small amount of time with the ambulance. Therefore it is difficult to be proficient. Most want to do their best and learn more, and Griffith gave high marks to the volunteers for their efforts.

Griffith, speaking from his experiences with the unit, offers some very simple advice to help those needing assistance take the proper steps when confronted with an emergency, or life-threatening situation. First of all, learn the number (393-1119) or get a free sticker with the number and display it prominently. It literally can mean the difference between life and death, since next it is important to use the number immediately. Griffith stressed that many lives are lost because of inaction or inappropriate action on the part of persons involved. Do not call a neighbor or a relative. Even your family physician may be difficult to get in touch with. First call the 393-1119 number. It rings in the Intensive Care Unit at St. Joseph's where someone is on duty 24 hours a day.

When the nurse answers in the ICU, she will get the pertinent data, and if the situation should turn out not to be critical, she will dispatch another ambulance to the scene. If the mobile unit is called for, it will be on the street in 45 seconds, ready to save a life! Griffith emphasized that they would rather have people call and have the situation less serious, than to have a life lost because of inaction.

Another vital thing to remember when calling is to give your complete name and address, and do it immediately. The unit will start at once in the general direction, and specific directions will be relayed via telephone between the unit and the hospital.

Griffith also pointed out that young people who turn road signs as pranks are creating a situation which could cost a life when an ambulance is responding to a call. Another problem for drivers is that house numbers are frequently not visible or are not numbered consecutively, and precious minutes are lost seeking the right dwelling.

When the unit is travelling in the county, he said, "We can generally get most anywhere." But for back-up they carry maps of all county roads, and they can call the county dispatcher who has slides of all roads and can give assistance in getting to the desired location.

The mobile unit was the brainchild of Robert Broom, now clinical supervisor of the special care unit and the mobile life support system. Broom had ridden with the mobile unit at St. Vincent's Hospital in New York City and saw the obvious benefits. But when he first presented the idea to the board of St. Joseph's it was turned down. He was persistent about its value, however, and within a year the mobile unit was accepted and became a reality.

There are times when the unexpected happens. For instance, two calls sometimes come in almost simultaneously or a tire is blown on the way to an accident. These things don't happen often, but when they do, there are emergency plans already worked out which go into effect. Griffith made it plain that long hours have been spent ironing out problems of that kind, and working with police and agencies like the American Red Cross, so that these things are dealt with swiftly.

Obviously, the response is quick; the care and training the best. But in critical situations it is the human factor which can make a difference. Griffith noted that when a heart stops "there are only six minutes to play with." This means, of course, that action must be immediate.

The Farm Women Societies have done their part in contributing generously to help keep the unit on the road and ready to assist. Now each family must do its part - learn the life-saving number, 393-1119, and be prepared to use it in a medical emergency.

## Officers elected

OLNEY, Md. - The Maryland Angus Women's Club met recently at the home of Mrs. Gordon Keys, Olney, Md. for election of officers for the coming year. Elected President was Mrs. John, (Joan) Treadway, Ashton, Md.; Vice-President, Mrs. Gordon (Janice) Keys, Olney, Md.; Secretary, Mrs. Bill (Doris) Holston, Derwood, Md.; and Treasurer, Mrs. William (Nancy) Canby.

Plans were finalized for the Maryland Fall Sale Dinner, and scholarship winners were announced. Kate Hussman, Brinklow, Md., and John Canby, Brookeville, Md., are recipients of the two \$300 scholarships. Miss Hussman is attending Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania and John attends the University of Delaware. John Canby

also placed third in the boy's division of the American Angus Auxiliary Scholarship Contest.

The Maryland Angus Heifer Contest heifer is being donated by Mr. Samuel Riggs, IV, Olney, Md. Mr. Conrad Grove, cattleman from Downingtown, Pa., will judge the entries. The winner will be announced at the 1976 Eastern National Livestock Show in Timonium, Md. at the end of October.

## Chester Co. FFA

The Chester County Association of Future Farmers of America met Wednesday Sept. 29. Most of the time was spent planning for the upcoming leadership conference to be held at Camp Innabah on Oct. 26. Here is the agenda for Camp Innabah:  
1:30 - 2 p.m. Registration  
2:10 p.m. - Opening Ceremonies  
2:20 p.m. Welcome by President Steve Greer  
2:30 p.m. Mr. Henry Givler. Welcome  
2:40 p.m. Remarks by State Officers  
3 p.m. Assignment to Discussion Groups:  
Leadership - President  
Enthusiasm - Vice President  
Contest & Awards - Secretary  
Money Making Ventures - Treasurer

Public Relations Reporter  
Recreation - Sentinel  
Vocational Opportunities - Chaplain  
FFA Banquet Student Advisor, Bonnie McShane  
4 p.m. Summation  
4:30 p.m. Quiz Contest  
5 p.m. Recreation  
6 p.m. Dinner  
6:45 p.m. Closing Comments:  
President Steve Greer  
Mr. Henry Givler  
Mr. V. J. Selvaggio  
7:10 p.m. Closing Ceremonies  
7:15 p.m. Adjourn  
Noble Woodal was elected to the vacant Vice President office. Randy Robinson was elected to the position of Student Advisor. It was voted that the Chester County and Delaware County Association be combined into one area association.


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