



POST PHOTO/GRACE R. DOVE

KEEPING EVERYTHING READY - Dallas fire captains Harry Vivian, left, and Martin Barry, right, pack a 100-foot hose into a compartment in the front bumper of one of the fire engines.

Volunteers

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lose one person, often we can't replace them."

The state requires a minimum of a driver and one emergency medical technician (EMT) for an ambulance crew, Zeglin said.

Through the Back Mountain's mutual aid agreement, neighboring ambulance companies are able to help out covering calls, Wilkes said.

Classes last many hours

The minimum requirement for an ambulance crew member is a CPR card; within a year the volunteer must also have completed advanced first aid, said Bargar Zeglin, assistant chief of the Dallas ambulance.

Individual ambulance companies may add other basic requirements, such as hazardous materials recognition.

Crew members with basic certification can take the First Responder course, which provides more in-depth knowledge of dealing with emergency situations, said Zeglin, who is a First Responder teacher.

The highest level of volunteer ambulance training is EMT, which involves completion of a 110-hour course.

More state-mandated training requirements are in the works, according to Franklin-Northmoreland Ambulance EMT Dick Bartholomew.

Soon drivers of all emergency vehicles will be required to complete a special course on driving regulations.

"For example, you can't run through a stop sign or a red light. You must stop, determine that it's safe to proceed, then go on," Bartholomew said.

"I am a firm believer in training - we're dealing with people's lives", Zeglin said. "Emergency medicine is changing drastically and we must continue to recertify and update our skills."

Funding comes through community support

The volunteer fire and ambulance companies are totally self-supporting, through membership

or fund drives and other activities.

Trucksville Fire Company makes up its estimated \$25,000 yearly basic budget through the fund drive, which nets a 65 percent response, weekly bingo games and calendar sales, Johnson said.

"A 65 percent response means that 33 percent of the residents haven't contributed," Johnson said. "Whether or not a family has contributed to the fire company, we'll be there if they need us."

Dallas Fire and Ambulance is totally funded by donations from the residents of Dallas Borough and Dallas Township, Besecker said.

Franklin-Northmoreland Ambulance, which answers between 100 and 125 calls in two townships in two different counties (Luzerne and Wyoming) functions completely from yearly memberships solicited by mail from families in both townships.

"This has been a great year," said EMT Dick Bartholomew. "We got back about 700 of the 1,300 memberships that we sent out."

Ambulance memberships, ranging from \$10 for an individual to \$30 for an entire family and any visitors, provide ambulance service free of charge for a full year, Bartholomew said.

Treasurer Betty Weidner said that families without ambulance memberships are charged \$175 per call, which can be paid for by medical insurance in many cases.

Fire and ambulance volunteers receive no pay and work under often hazardous working conditions. What makes them continue to go out in all kinds of weather, at all hours?

Besecker and Zeglin agree that it's the knowledge that they're doing something to help their community.

"You go to pay a volunteer and he won't do it any more," said Bartholomew, who is also a Franklin Township firefighter. "Although our list of active members has gone down, we enjoy helping people. You're gratified in your own heart that you're helping someone."

Pot field

(continued from page 1) crop harvested by his men was close to that stage of growth.

Although Miers would not identify the property owner, he said that he is certain that the owner had nothing to do with the plants.

"He didn't even know that they were there," Miers said.

Patrolmen Elliot Ide and Brian Feeney assisted Miers in seizing the plants, which were burned Thursday afternoon, September 2, at the township garage by township roadmaster Frank Wagner.

Anyone having information on who planted the illegal garden is asked to call the Dallas Township police at 675-5251.

Route 309

(continued from page 1) drainage work, traffic flow may be temporarily cut down to two lanes.

After widening, installing new curbing and upgrading the drainage pipes along the southbound side, workers will do the same work on the highway's northbound side, Keisling said.

He expects the southbound side to be near completion by the onset

of the cold weather, with the rest of the work being completed by mid-1994 - weather permitting.

"I don't see any major traffic problems or problems with emergency vehicles with the project," he said. "It's very similar to one which we just completed on Route 6."

In the highway improvement

project's second and third phases, new traffic lights will be added at major intersections between Hillside Road and Upper Demunds Road on Route 309 and between Dallas Corners and Route 118 on Route 415. Existing traffic lights will be upgraded, with all traffic signals synchronized to help keep traffic moving.

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POST PHOTO/GRACE R. DOVE

SSSH! - The Tijuana Bar at Harveys Lake has been sent a notice of violation of state noise regulations by the Pennsylvania State Police Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement.

Tijuana

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the establishment are tied together and therefore subject to state regulations, Douglas said.

The Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement will continue to monitor volume levels at the Tijuana Bar and cite Greco if necessary, Douglas said.

"Basically, the louder it is, the more it could hurt him if the judge finds him guilty," he said.

When contacted by a reporter, Greco said that he was not aware that a notice of violation had been

sent to him.

"This is only an alleged violation," he stormed. "This borders on harrasment. Where did you get your information?"

Residents have attempted to get help from the borough council in resolving the situation since November, 1992, when Sandra Serhan Perez gave council a petition with 128 signatures, requesting that the borough's noise ordinance be enforced at the Tijuana Bar.