

Ambulance

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from South Wilkes-Barre. "We don't want to be dispatched ahead of local volunteers, but if additional resources are needed in case of a disaster or a problem, we could be called in to assist," said company president Jerry Donahue. "The township supervisors don't have to designate us as an emergency services provider."

He added that Donahue could blend its service very easily with local volunteer ambulance companies, whose members are often unavailable during the day, when most of his employees are on duty.

At night when volunteers are most often available for duty, his people aren't working.

It would be up to Jackson Township to decide whether or not to add Donahue to its mutual aid list, he said.

"Our people are very well-trained. We can provide the level of care that you already get from the hospital paramedics," he said.

Wilkes said all volunteer ambulance personnel must undergo many hours of training to be certified.

"Our primary mutual aid responder is the Lehman Ambu-

"I can't see adding a paid ambulance service out here."

Jay Wilkes
Jackson Twp. ambulance chief

lance," Wilkes said. "We work hand-in-hand with them—we train together and our equipment is compatible. We know each other's roads and residents. We have an excellent relationship, which we also have with all the other Back Mountain ambulances. I can't see adding a paid ambulance service out here."

"We don't solicit memberships out here, so we have to bill people's medical insurance for our services," Donahue said.

Private ambulances charge for all their services. Their rates are higher than those of volunteer ambulances, according to Kingston Township Ambulance treasurer John Ash, who does ambulance billing for a living.

"Private and volunteer ambulances have the same operating costs, but the volunteer ambu-

lance companies don't have a way to make up their money shortfalls," he said. "If someone can't pay, that's it. People who can't pay for private ambulance services get sent to a collection agency. The main difference between volunteer and private ambulances is that volunteers are in business to serve the community, while the private services are in business to make money."

Each volunteer ambulance company sets its fees based on its expenses and the population it serves, Ash said. Some municipalities contribute to their respective ambulance companies, but not all do.

Jackson Township bills for all its calls, according to secretary Sam Wilkes. It accepts members' insurance payments as payment in full and doesn't ask them to make up the deductible, but non-members are responsible for the entire amount.

The Dallas ambulance is the only Back Mountain ambulance company which never bills for its services because it has a very successful membership drive and generous contributions from the municipalities it serves, Ash said.



Donates to Jackson Twp. Ambulance

American Asphalt Paving Co. recently presented Jackson Township Emergency Ambulance Unit with a corporation contribution to assist with its purchase of additional needed equipment. At the check presentation were, standing from left, Frank Shultz (Ambulance Unit); Bernard C. Banks, Jr., Exec. V.P. (American Asphalt); John "Jay" Wilkes, Jr., Chief and Jon Hutchins, Assist. Chief (Ambulance Unit); Seated, from left, American Asphalt representatives, Donald Violini, sales manager; Gloria Ubertaini, executive secretary and John Laney, materials manager.

Mercy Center Auxiliary garage and bake sale June 6-7

The Mercy Center Convent Auxiliary will hold a Garage and Bake Sale for the benefit of the retired Sisters of Mercy Center, June 6-7, in the Mercy Center Garage off Lake Street, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. All contributions for the sale are to be left in the lower lobby of Mercy Center, weekdays only, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. until May 26.

Please mark items for Auxiliary Sale.

Loeffler is employee-of-month

Dallas resident Ron Loeffler has been chosen Employee of the Month for May by his co-workers at Ecumenical Enterprises, Inc. (EEI).

He has been employed at the Meadows Apartments and Trucksville Manor for nine years in the maintenance department.

He received complimentary dinner and theater tickets for two and a paid day off from work.

Loeffler resides in Dallas with his wife Judy and daughter, Laura.

Kingston Township face value tax period ends June 7

Kingston Township tax collector Janice Castellani reminds residents that face value on 1995 County tax bills will end, June 7.

Taxes will be due at penalty value after that date. Office hours at the Township Office, 11 Carverton Road, Trucksville, are Mon., Wed., Fri., 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Flea market vendors sought

The Auxiliary of the Meadows Nursing Center, Dallas, has 10 remaining booths available for their annual "Market on the Pond" flea market scheduled for June 17 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., raindate, June 24.

The 8'x12' spaces are \$15 each and will be available on a first come basis. A total of 75 vendors will be present.

A reservation form is available by calling the volunteer department at 675-8600, ext. 138.

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