



First Response

PROVIDING EMERGENCY CARE TO LAMBERTVILLE, NEW HOPE & THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

LNHARS.ORG • FALL 2017

LAMBERTVILLE-NEW HOPE AMBULANCE AND RESCUE SQUAD



A Message From Our Chief & President

Dear Community Member,

On behalf of the volunteers and staff here at the Lambertville-New Hope Ambulance & Rescue Squad, we want to welcome you to the inaugural issue of First Response, the official newsletter that will keep you up to date on all of the ways we're here to help serve you.

In this first issue, you'll get a chance to learn about the launch of our recruitment campaign and about some of our fantastic young team members who help keep us strong.

In addition, you'll read about some of the great community events we've helped cover and some of the other initiatives our team is working on. Our goal is to continue helping others and keeping our community safe.

We'll have plenty more to share with you over the next few months, but for now let us thank you again for all of your continued support of our team. We simply couldn't do it without you.

Sincerely,

Jason Strauss, Chief

Don Huggins, President

Lambertville-New Hope Ambulance & Rescue Squad launches new recruitment campaign

The Lambertville-New Hope Ambulance & Rescue Squad is excited to announce the launch of its brand new volunteer recruitment and awareness campaign.

The campaign was started as a way to encourage community members to join the ranks and become an Emergency Medical Services, K-9 search and rescue, marine rescue, or youth squad volunteer.

to volunteer recruitment has been totally revamped to help volunteers get a good sense of how they can play a part. The new recruitment campaign will also develop content to post on the rescue squad's official social media accounts in order to develop a loyal following through "likes," comments and shares of specific posts. Additionally, there will be a dedicated effort to raising public awareness of squad activities through press releases and other print and electronic materials.

"We're really excited to see how the community responds to the big changes we've got coming down the pipeline as this new campaign really starts to kick into gear," said Chief Jason Strauss. "Our rescue squad is dedicated to helping save lives and we know there are others out there who want to be a part of that. This new campaign is the perfect way for us to reach out to them and bring them on board."

"There will be lots more to come over the next few months that you won't want to miss," said President Don "Tex" Huggins. "Stay tuned."

The Lambertville - New Hope Ambulance & Rescue Squad is a tight knit family, and we want you to become our newest member! Join us!

Visit LNHARS.org or call (609) 397-0945. ■

Ordinary people doing extraordinary things!

JOIN US.

LNHARS.ORG

The rescue squad's newest slogan - Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things - speaks to the important work that the squad does every day. It also speaks to the idea that anyone can join the team and make a difference, no matter what their background.

This powerful message will be applied to a whole host of materials. The section of the squad's website dedicated

On December 18, 1970 two remarkable organizations merged. The Lambertville Ambulance Association (formed in 1927) and the Lambertville Rescue Squad (formed in 1946) joined to become The Lambertville Ambulance & Rescue Squad, one organization dedicated solely to providing emergency care to the Lambertville-New Hope and surrounding communities.



Fall Safety Tips



The leaves are changing colors, the thermometer is beginning to drop and more and more people are outside enjoying the fall season. But this time of year can also lead to some hazards. Whether it's on the hiking trail, around the neighborhood, or in your home, it's good to be prepared. We've put together a few safety tips to remember, to ensure everyone in our community has a safe and enjoyable fall.

- **Fire Safety:** Make sure your chimney is regularly inspected and cleaned. Also make sure to burn dry, seasoned wood and don't burn trash, which can start a chimney fire.

- **Hiking, Picnics and Camping:** Check the weather forecast before venturing outdoors to avoid hiking in a thunder or snow storm. Carry drinking water with you. Don't get too close to wildlife and stay on the trail, so you don't get lost. Keep children away from grills or any hot surfaces that can burn them.

- **Fall Clean Up:** When lifting heavy bags of mulch, use a wheelbarrow and lift from the legs. Also be careful when pruning, especially when using a ladder. Wear gloves to avoid blisters and use an ergonomic rake when doing a lot of raking, which can be found at most garden centers or hardware stores.

- **Pet Safety:** Keep toxic antifreeze in a safe container. Avoid giving holiday meal scraps from the table to pets, as bones can get stuck and pierce the digestive tract. Make sure indoor pets aren't left outside for too long as the weather gets colder. Make sure outdoor pets have proper shelter from the rain and wind.

- **Driving at Night:** Fall means setting the clocks forward an hour, so night time arrives earlier. Make sure to always drive the speed limit and keep your headlights on when driving from dusk until dawn. ■



Join Us and Make a Difference:

We need YOU to volunteer! Opportunities exist in all the following area:

Emergency Medical Services Squad

Join our ambulance squad and help save the lives of the residents of New Hope Borough, Lambertville City, and Stockton Borough – in addition to portions of West Amwell, Delaware and Solebury townships. Our squad is trained to provide life-saving support to the sick and injured. We'll teach you the skills needed to save lives!

K-9 Search and Rescue Squad

Become part of our K-9 unit! Our handlers and dogs are certified in all aspects of K-9 search and rescue including, wilderness search, water recovery,

human remains (cadaver) search, and collapsed structure search. You and man's best friend will do extraordinary things together!

Marine Rescue Services

Save lives during dangerous floods or during a river rescue as a marine rescue services member. Our team places emphasis on training and equipment in order to handle any emergency on the water.

Youth Squad

Learn CPR and other first aid skills to assist the first responders on our ambulance crew. Youth squad members range in age from 12-18 years old.

Check out www.lnhars.org today and learn more about volunteer opportunities. ■

Lambertville-New Hope Ambulance & Rescue Squad on Hand for Dawn commercial

When the City of Lambertville came together to see if it could wash over 5,000 dirty dishes with a single bottle of dish detergent, the members of the Lambertville-New Hope Ambulance & Rescue Squad were on hand to make sure it was all done safely.

Nearly 2,000 people were treated to a three-hour free dinner hosted by consumer products company Procter & Gamble. In a promotional effort filmed for an upcoming commercial, the company wanted to see if thousands of dishes could be cleaned using one bottle of its signature dish detergent, Dawn.

Doug Gimson, daytime operations supervisor for the rescue squad, said the event was a lot of work to pull off for the members of the rescue squad, who ended up working a combined total of 26 hours. They had to be there when the streets were initially shut down and until they were eventually reopened. In the end though the crew was happy to help.



Photo by Charles Sykes/Invision for Dawn/AP Images

“To see a table with 1,500 dishes or whatever it was, it was an interesting sight to see,” said Gimson. “And a full production crew comes in and you see them do a commercial or documentary from start to finish. Between the film crews, the staff for the event, the people in attendance, it completely filled the city.” ■



JUNIOR LIFE-SAVERS

Young Lambertville-New Hope Ambulance & Rescue Squad members protect their community

Ask Jack Tocci, Katelyn Moran or Jack Herman what's their favorite radio station and they'll probably tell you it's the 911 emergency scanner.

That's because the three teens are among the youngest volunteers at the Lambertville-New Hope Ambulance & Rescue Squad. All three joined the organization with little to no experience, but now they're saving lives and learning new skills to help their community.

The youth squad accepts members as young as 12 through 18 years old. Members can then stay on to join the senior membership. (In fact, the Lambertville-New Hope Ambulance & Rescue Squad has launched a new membership campaign. For more details see page 1.) New recruits are taught basic first aid and once they turn 16, and receive basic CPR training, can help respond to emergency calls.

A senior at New Hope-Solebury High School, Tocci, 17, said he first caught the first responding bug while shadowing Matthew Taylor, chief of department for fire and rescue services for the Borough of New Hope and Solebury Township, who also happened to be his best friend's dad.

"I always thought it was something I would be passionate about," he said. "Part of it is the action and part of it is being able to help people. That's the outlet with which we do it."

Moran, 18, a senior at Hunterdon Central Regional High School, from Delaware Township, said she's always respected EMS workers after they helped save her mother's life during a seizure episode when she was in third grade. But she never considered joining a rescue squad herself. Instead, she thought she wanted to be a fashion designer.

Yet after she first joined the rescue squad as part of a health science class, she started to realize the difference she could make in people's lives. While the calls she responded to were scary at

times, seeing how grateful patients were made her want to do more.

"I feel like that's the thing that makes it worth it, is seeing how much, just so little you being there can help someone," she said. "Even if you're holding someone's hand in the back of the ambulance."

For Herman, 14, a freshman at Hunterdon Central, and also from Delaware Township, he always wanted to be a firefighter growing up. Yet it was Moran who convinced him to think about joining her EMS crew and he hasn't looked back.

"When I first came I was really nervous. I didn't really know people and I'm not really good with public speaking," he said. "They gave me a tour and they introduced themselves and I started to feel more confident. They would teach me how to do different skills. The first time I was here I learned how to take blood pressure."

Today the three teens come in first place at EMS competitions and practice their skills on a regular basis including bandaging bleeding dummies, lifting patients onto stretchers and providing oxygen to those in need – life saving skills they didn't know before.

Tocci said he thinks his time with the rescue squad has helped make a difference in his community. He's found that it makes him feel good when his former patients or their family members will stop him and thank him for his help.

"People will walk past and say thank you for being here," he said. "Thank you for what you do."

More youth squad members are needed. If you are between the ages of 12 and 18, there is an opportunity for you with the squad! Visit LNHARS.org today and fill out an information form. ■

Lambertville-New Hope Ambulance & Rescue Squad needs your support!



Why should you give?

Our mission statement is clear: we provide emergency medical and rescue services to anyone in need within our service area, and when called upon, assist organizations who do the same work elsewhere.

Our community relies on us to be there during times of crisis. We rely on community support in order to do our job.

The Lambertville-New Hope Ambulance & Rescue Squad is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. To do our job in the best way we know how costs time and money, and we need your support.

The numbers don't lie. During the 2016 calendar year, the squad answered a total of 1,943 emergency alerts for services, primarily in Lambertville, New Hope, West Amwell, Solebury and Delaware townships. This was the largest number of calls ever received for emergency services, according to our annual report.

And 2017 is shaping up to continue that trend, with over 1,000 calls reported by July alone.

We have a staff of 46 active members, most of whom are volunteers. Three are full-time students attending college and one is serving in the U.S. Army. Our career staff consists of four full-time and eight part-time (per diem) employees. We also employ a business administrator to handle the budget, schedule and finances.

Donations we receive from community members like you go toward paying for our career staff, emergency operation expenses, building utilities and maintenance, administrative costs and capital expenses, which include our vehicles and our building.

Donations help cover the more than \$860,000 in expenditures we record each year. Please consider making a donation to help keep your community safe!

All donations are appreciated and tax deductible. To make a difference by donating to the Lambertville-New Hope Ambulance & Rescue Squad, please use the envelope enclosed in this newsletter, call 609-397-0945 or visit LNHARS.org. ■



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Ambulance & Rescue Squad**
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**Join us to save lives:
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STAY UP ON NEWS & EVENTS!



Florida Rescuers Put Their Best Paw Forward



In the aftermath of Hurricane Irma, three Lambertville-New Hope Ambulance & Rescue Squad K-9 Unit members answered the call to help. Pat and Spring Pittore and Alice Holmes, along with their dogs Copper, Thunder and Merlin, were deployed to the Eglin Air Force Base and sent by the Federal Emergency Management Agency to an undisclosed location in the western panhandle of Florida to help with search and rescue. While FEMA eventually sent the team members home saying their services were no longer needed, Pat said it was still a worthwhile experience and they were glad they had the opportunity to help save lives. ■

Out & About

(Right) Future youth squad recruits got an up close and personal look at one of our ambulances during a standby at a New-Hope Solebury football game recently. During a standby event, an ambulance crew is on hand in case of an emergency



Members of the Lambertville-New Hope Ambulance & Rescue Squad were out in full force to show our support for Fire Prevention Week recently at Sergeantsville Fire and New Hope Fire companies. (Above) Check out our new booth!