Streetlight 2019 Progress Report

Barnesville Ambulance Keeps Up With The Times

By Michael Stein

Not every community the size of Barnesville can boast of its own ambulance service. It's something that can provide a sense of comfort when you're 25 miles from the nearest emergency room.

2019, Barnesville In Ambulance continues to be an efficient, fast and reliable emergency response provider.

After several equipment updates in 2017, the push last year was for staff training and education.

"It was pretty much a status quo year for us," said Ambulance Manager Scott Nelson. "We're doing more CPR training, for instance, as well as outreach with other emergency providers, such as the Sabin Fire Department."

Along with enhancing critical skills for emergency responders, training leads to greater revenue for the ambulance service through fees.

"In 2017 we had four instances where we were able to get pulses back," Nelson said. "That number was down last year, but that can be attributable to good CPR before and after we arrive."

The Barnesville Ambulance's LUCAS 2 automated chest compressor, which was added in 2017, continues to make a vital impact.

"The LUCAS has made a big difference with our cardiac arrest patients," Nelson said.

But until the ambulance--along with LUCAS--arrives, proper CPR can mean the difference between life and death.

"We promote our training as much as possible," Nelson said. "It's part of community education. We post class offerings on social media. But it's often still word of mouth."

Nelson said all licensed daycare providers in the county are required to take CPR training,



Members of the Barnesville Ambulance Service include, front, from left: Lisa Hegewald, Laurie Ernst, Robyn Morey, Mark Pearson, Rebecca Kluck, and Scott Nelson, ambulance manager; back: Ryan Whiteford, Averil Whiteford, Krystal Swenson, Brad Hersch, Susan Yeske, Jon Yeske, Ron Seidschlag, Nikki Froslie, Theresa Renecker and Nathan Swenson.

as well as a refresher course lot of experience out there." every two years.

Recently, Nelson held a CPR training class for a group of Hawley school teachers.

There are 26 people on the Barnesville Ambulance squad. Of those, about 10 to 15 members take calls on a regular basis.

"We're always looking for more volunteers," Nelson said. "Of course, people have to work regular jobs, so weekdays are sometimes tougher for them to be on call. But we also have firefighters who help out as well."

Barnesville Ambulance has added two new paramedics in the past year, both also serve with FM Ambulance.

"They are able to take a significant number of calls," Nelson said. "So we're getting a

This year's harsh winter led to several crashes. But whether those crashes are related to icy conditions or inattention, Nelson said he's noticed the positive effects of seat belt law enforcement.

"We're seeing greater use of seat belts, which means no or less severe injuries. But at the same time, we also see people who have been in an accident refusing to get checked out. Sometimes an injury isn't obvious at first. So it's best to play it safe, get to the hospital and get checked out."

The Barnesville Ambulance also celebrated May's National EMS Week with an open house Wednesday, May 23, from 6:00-9:00 p.m.



StreetLight 2019

Barnesville Record-Review

Barnesville, Minnesota 56514



MARCH

29-30 Suz Dance Studio Spring Recital APRIL

Barnesville Lions Sportsman Stag 4

12 Thursday Nite Lions Ladies Fun Nite

17-19 Spring Clean-up Week

MAY

- Spring Area-Wide Rummage Sales 3-4
- 3-5 Community Ed Spring Play
- 9 Show 'n Shine Car Show
- 16 VFW Auxiliary Syttende Mai Dinner
- **BHS** Graduation 25
- 31 Disney's Aladdin Kids Play
- JUNE
- Disney's Aladdin Kids Play 1
- Clay County Relay for Life 6
- 11 Main Street Annual Golf Tournament
- 13 Show 'n Shine Car Show

JULY

- 11 Show 'n Shine Car Show
- 11-14 Clay County Fair
- **Barnesville Community Picnic** 25
- 80th Miss Barnesville Crowning 25

AUGUST

Show 'n Shine Car Show 8

23-24 Potato Days Festival

SEPTEMBER

- 11 Show 'n Shine Car Show
- 21 Fall Rummage Sales/Farmer's Market
- VFW Annual Membership Supper 25

OCTOBER

- 21 VFW Auxiliary Octoberfest Supper
- Baker/Downer Church Fish Dinner 25
- 27 St. James Soup Dinner

NOVEMBER

- Valley Care & Rehab Veteran's Day 11
- 21 Our Savior's Lutefisk Supper

DECEMBER

- Our Savior's Church Advent Program 4
- City Tree Lighting Ceremony
- Breakfast with Santa



compiled by **Barnesville Main Street Program** 218.354.2479

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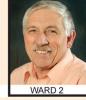






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