



Duanesburg Ambulance Newsletter

The Backbone of Emergency Response: Volunteering at Duanesburg Ambulance Beyond Medical Duties

When we think of **Duanesburg Ambulance**, our minds often immediately think of EMT's, and paramedics rushing to scenes of suffering, and administering lifesaving care. However, behind the frontline heroes stand a team of dedicated volunteers who contribute to the seamless functioning of Duanesburg Ambulance in roles that extend beyond direct medical requirements.

Volunteering with Duanesburg Ambulance as a non-medical provider is an example of the spirit of community service. While these volunteers may not administer medical care, their roles are equally vital in ensuring that Duanesburg Ambulance operates effectively and efficiently. From administrative tasks to logistical support

and community outreach, their contributions form the backbone of emergency response efforts to the residents of Duanesburg and beyond.

One of the key roles of non-medical volunteers within Duanesburg Ambulance is administrative support. Our team handles a multitude of tasks including record-keeping, onboarding of staff, managing paperwork, and keeping the building up to date. Our team's attention to detail and organizational skills are paramount in maintaining the smooth operation of the ambulance corps, allowing medical personnel to focus on delivering critical care to those in need.

Beyond the confines of administrative and logistical duties, non-medical volunteers play a crucial role in community engagement and outreach efforts.

As we celebrate the invaluable contributions of Duanesburg Ambulance volunteers, let us not overlook the vital role played by non-medical providers. Their dedica-

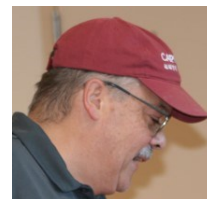
tion, professionalism, and unwavering support are essential components of the emergency response system. Whether through administrative excellence, or community engagement, non-medical volunteers stand as pillars of strength, ensuring that Duanesburg Ambulance can fulfill their mission of saving lives and serving our community with compassion and resilience.

Please reach out to Duanesburg Ambulance and become a volunteer and help in this vital role. Contact Bob Cuttita Chair@duanesburgambulance.org or Janice Vunk at Treasurer@duanesburgambulance.org to help support our medical team.

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Beyond the confines of administrative and logistical duties, non-medical volunteers play a crucial role in community engagement and outreach efforts. These individuals serve as representatives for Duanesburg Ambulance, raising awareness about emergency preparedness, promoting safety initiatives, and fostering strong relationships within the community. Their presence at public events, educational workshops, and outreach programs strengthens the bonds between Duanesburg Ambulance and the communities we serve.



Robert Cuttita
Chairman
Duanesburg
Ambulance

Transforming Generosity into Community Wellness: Duanesburg Ambulance Rehabilitates County Donated Building into a future Drop-in Center for Duanesburg area Residents

In a remarkable display of community spirit and collaboration, Duanesburg Ambulance is embarking on a transformative journey to repurpose a county donated building into a future business office and a much-needed drop-in center for our community. This ambitious project not only underscores the organization's commitment to enhancing public health and well-being but also symbolizes the power of collective action in addressing the needs of our neighborhoods.

The genesis of this endeavor lies in the generosity of the county's

commitment to Duanesburg who, recognizing the pressing need for accessible community resources, donated the property and building



next to our current location on Cole Road. This act of generosity laid the foundation for a vision that transcends bricks and mortar—a vision of creating a welcoming space where community members can find support, solace, and connection while maintaining their health by checking their blood pressures and provide diabetic support and other medical needs.

With the donated building as a canvas, Duanesburg Ambulance has embarked on a journey of rehabilitation and renewal. Through careful planning, collaboration with local stakeholders, and the dedication of Duanesburg Ambulance volunteers, the once-vacant structure will be transformed into a vibrant hub of community activity. From structural renovations, interior design, and property regeneration, every aspect of the project is guided by a shared commitment to creating a space that fosters wellness and belonging.

The drop-in center promises to be more than just a physical space—it's envisioned as a beacon of support for individuals and families



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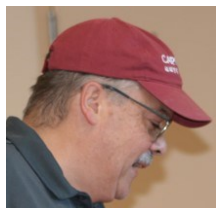
(cont'd from page 2)
facing a myriad of challenges. From providing access to essential resources such as food assistance to offering recreational activities and educational workshops, the center aims to address the holistic needs of the community.



Central to the principles of the drop-in center is community engagement. Recognizing that meaningful change begins with grassroots involvement, Duanesburg Ambulance is actively soliciting input from community members to shape the programming and services offered at the center. By empowering residents to take ownership of their shared space, the center seeks to foster a sense of pride, ownership, and investment in community well-being.

Beyond its immediate impact, the drop-in center represents a catalyst for broader social transformation. It will serve as a testament to the power of collaboration, resilience, and collective action in addressing the complex challenges facing our community. By nurturing a culture of caring and mutual benefit, the center not only meets immediate needs but also lays the groundwork for a more compassionate and resilient community.

As the ambulance corps breathes new life into a donated building, it also breathes new hope into the hearts of community members. The transformation of this space from a mere structure to a vibrant drop-in center represents the spirit of generosity, innovation, and compassion that defines our community at its best. As we look to the future, let us celebrate this remarkable initiative as a testament to the transformative power of coming together to build a brighter, and healthier, tomorrow.



Robert Cuttita
Chairman



before



after

If you are interested in becoming a participant in either donations or on a committee to see this project through, please contact Bob Cuttita at Chair@duanesburgambulance.org in the subject line type Drop In Center

Q&A from our Finance Chairman

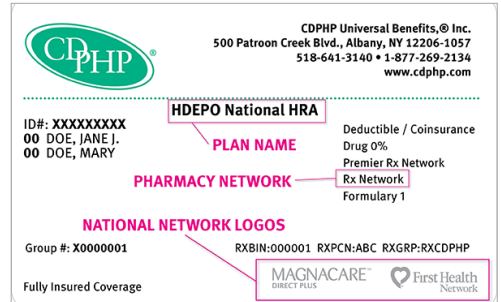
Duanesburg Ambulance is required to bill patient's health insurance for all professional services provided. In some instances, understanding your insurance policy and the benefit(s) associated with your plan can be confusing. As the Duanesburg Ambulance Finance Chairman, I am available to assist you with any questions or concerns you have with a bill / invoice you may have received.

I am available to provide any assistance in processing your claim and answering your questions.

on behalf of Duanesburg Ambulance located in New Cumberland PA 17070. We thought this a scam and threw it away.

Answer: I can see why one would think it was a scam receiving a bill from a company out of Pennsylvania while it was Duanesburg Ambulance that provided the care. This is **not a scam**. Cornerstone is our ambulance billing company.

CDPHP, MVP, United Health Care, Empire (State Employees), No Fault, Worker's Compensation, etc.



Shown below are common questions or concerns that patients have that I would like to share with you.

I. We received a bill from a company by the name of Cornerstone

II. What is meant by Private Insurance?

Answer: They are those insurances except for Medicare and Medicaid. Examples would be

III. Does Medicare or a Medicare Product, (example CDPHP Advantage) cover ambulance services?

The answer is yes: Medicare Part B: Medicare pays 80% of defined charges and the re-

Superior Storage Units

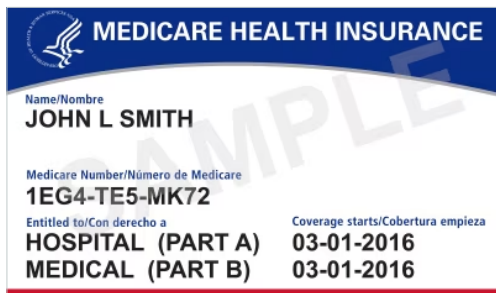
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superiorstorage.rental@gmail.com
Po Box 130 Howes Cave, NY, 12092

<p>5 x 15 \$45</p> <p>10 x 10 \$55</p> <p>10 x 10 \$55</p>	<p>10 x 25 \$100</p> <p>10 x 20 \$80</p>
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Exterior Storage Upon Request

Cobleskill-Richmondville-Duanesburg



maining 20% balance is the patient's (cont'd from page 4) responsibility. If you have a secondary insurance, (i.e. AARP), the remaining balance will be sent to that insurance carrier for payment.

Medicare Advantage (also known as Part C). Example of one would be the CDPHP Medicare Advantage: These type plans are Medicare-approved plans from a private



insurance company that offers an alternative to "Original Medicare" for your health and drug coverage.

IV. What do I do if my insurance company sends me a check directly for the ambulance services provided?

Answer: When receiving check and / or payments directly from your insurance company, arrangements need to be made with the Finance Chair financechair@duanesburgambulance.org for the next steps. Arrangements need to be made so those funds are applied to your outstanding balance to ensure you no longer receive a bill.

V. Are there copayments for ambulance service?

Answer: Yes, depending on your insurance. Many insurances have

co-payments associated with their plans and need to be paid as part of the plan purchased.

VI. I loaned my car to my neighbor so she and her two friends could go the lunch. On the way, a car fails to stop at the stop sign and stuck my car. All three were transported to the hospital for treatments. My question is, would each passenger submit a claim to their own auto insurance company or to the auto insurance of my neighbor who was driving?

Answer: Neither. The responsible person is whomever the car is registered to. It is the car that is insured. When you registered a vehicle, you had to provide an insurance card that displays the vehicle identification number. All three claims would be billed to the registered owner's no-fault insurance carrier.

VII. In the event Duanesburg Ambulance responds to our/my home and the patient declines being transported to the hospital, will there be a bill?

Answer: Yes, there will be bill associated with that incident, which will

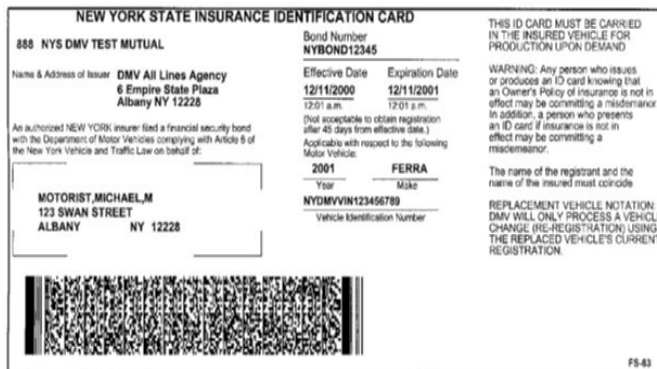
Please feel free to suggest a payment plan that would fit your financial needs

be a minimal charge. Our staff responding to that call will request to gather all the patient's insurance information to expedite the billing process.

I fully understand that having an outstanding balance can be stressful. I would like to offer a couple of options to you.

- If you would like to pay by debit or credit, I can process that for you at the Duanesburg Ambulance building right into your account as I have access to the Cornerstone System.

- A payment plan can be established for you, whereby you select the amount of a monthly payment and what time of the month is best for you.



In closing, I want to reassure you that I am available to provide any assistance in processing your claim and answering your questions. I will meet with you in person either at the Duanesburg Ambulance building or your home, whichever is the most convenient for you. Please feel free to suggest a payment plan that would fit your financial needs. To schedule an appointment, please contact our Office Manager, Janice Vunk at (518) 631-5584 or email: Treasurer@duanesburgambulance.org.



Finance Chair
Eric Unser



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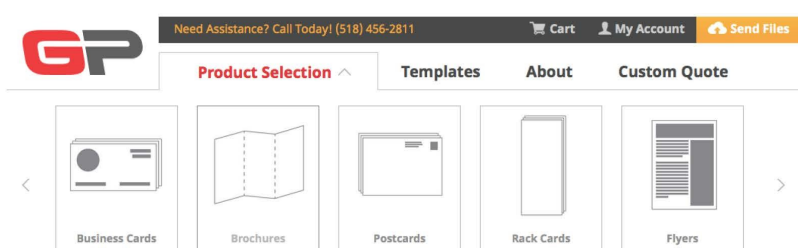
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We are pleased to entrust our printing including our quarterly newsletter to our friends at Guilderland Printing. Thank you for another fine job!

Greetings from the Chief

An exciting start to the year ~ as the health care system becomes overwhelmed during the winter, cold, flu, COVID season, the EMS 911 volume in Schenectady County became very busy at the start of January 2024. The best part about that is the solid leadership, capable providers and stellar system we have developed and deployed to not only serve the emergency needs of the Town of Duanesburg but more so to assist our neighboring areas during their busy times as well. Kudos to our medical team members for not only rising to the occasion to meet the increased volume but more so to take steps to ensure the town remains covered and our residents' needs as their top priority.

My perspective is that the greatest asset the Corps has is the members who serve the mission and vision of the Corps. This includes not only our responders but the administrative staff, the social volunteers who keep us connected to the community and the leadership who help us maintain the focus on our intent and purpose ~ answering your emergency needs. We are quite grateful for the hard work and commitment that makes our efforts that much easier.

2023 DATA SUMMARY

Not everybody likes data, but here at Duanesburg Ambulance, Data Drives Decisions, and our leadership team is able to assess how we have improved our service through that data. The data show that not only did our service model take a solid leadership effort for its highly successful execution but also that the new model not only worked, it worked fantastically and our team continues to grow in service.

2023 RESPONSE DATA

Total # of Dispatches (Primary Response Area) 396 (85.71%)
 Total # of Dispatches (Mutual Aid) 66 (14.29%)
 Total # of Missed Calls 14 (3.63%)

Total # of Day Dispatches (All Areas) 295 (63.85%)
 Total # of Evening Dispatches (All Areas) 48 (10.39%)
 Total # of Night Dispatches (All Areas) 119 (25.76%)

Average Time to Response (Day) 02:53
 Average Time to Response (Evening) 03:44
 Average Time to Response (Night) 07:44
 Average Time to Response (All Hours) 03:37

OF PRIMARY AREA DISPATCHES BY FIRE DISTRICT:

Delanson Fire Department 108 (27.27%)
 Duanesburg Fire Department 129 (32.58%)
 Mariaville Fire Department 114 (28.79%)
 Quaker Street Fire Department 45 (11.36%)

OF RESPONSES TO MUTUAL AID FIRE DISTRICTS:

Burtonsville Fire Department 8
 Esperance Fire Department 11
 Carman Fire Department 4
 Pine Grove Fire Department 3
 Rotterdam Fire District #1 1
 Rotterdam Fire District #2 9
 South Schenectady Fire Department 5
 City of Schenectady 9
 City of Amsterdam 3
 Central Bridge Fire Department 2
 Town of Mohawk 2

ROSTER HOURS SUMMARY:

Duanesburg Ambulance Volunteers (EMT | EVO) 3,743.75 hours (25.88%)
 Duanesburg Ambulance Volunteers (Assistants) 1,096.75 hours
 Duanesburg Ambulance Employees (EMT | EVO) 9,812.75 hours (67.82%)
 Duanesburg Ambulance Hybrid Partners (EMT | EVO) 912.00 hours (6.30%)

These data show that the hard work, dedication and leadership of our entirely volunteer medical leadership team has resulted in a response model that works very effectively. Our response plan, leadership model and results have drawn attention to the agency as not only the EMS agency to strengthen your skills as a basic life support provider; but moreso, as the place to come and work as part of a dedicated team. Tune in

to next quarter's newsletter as we highlight more of our providers and the good work that is already well underway in 2024.

***Be safe
and well!***

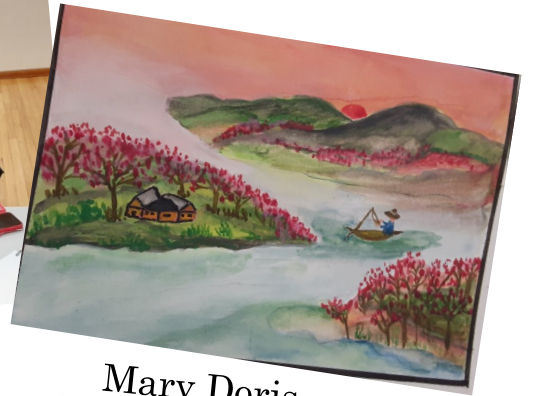
Chief Brodie



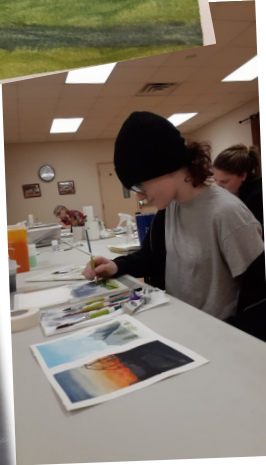


*A great time was had by all during
Watercolor Classes with
Lorraine Dewey!*

Please email social@duanesburgambulance.org to be placed on a mailing list for future class notifications or phone 518-631-5584.



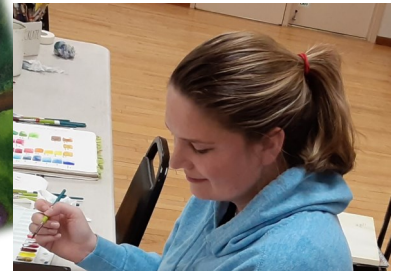
Mary Doris



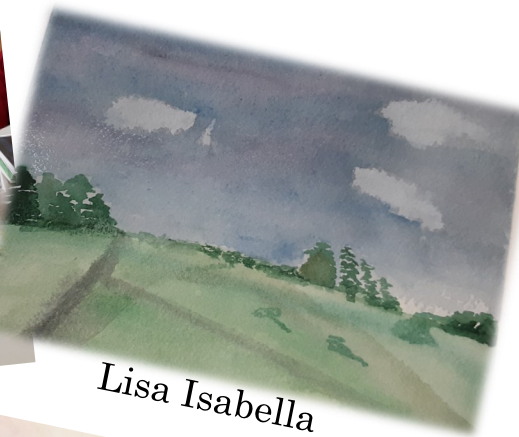
Lexy Patchen



Jennifer Robbins



Lisa Isabella



Lisa Isabella



Janice Vunk

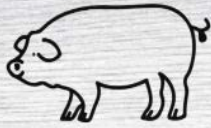


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Chandra Burkhart

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PLEASE JOIN THE DUANESBURG AMBULANCE SOCIAL COMMITTEE!

DA Membership not necessary!
Help organize sponsored events and outings throughout the year.

Please contact
Social@duanesburgambulance.org
for further information (recent events include watercolor class, line dancing and EMT breakfasts)
Come to the recruiting meeting
April 30th @ 6:30 p.m.

FUND DRIVE INFORMATION

DUANESBURG AMBULANCE has had a successful year with the mail campaign fundraiser. We would again like to thank everyone who has contributed to the mail campaign fund raiser and look forward to your continued support.

The Corps works diligently to provide timely and high quality care for the sick and injured in our community. The **2024 MAIL CAMPAIGN FUNDRAISER** is in the planning stages and expected to be mailed in June or July of this year. ~ Amy Jo Simpson

Duanesburg Ambulance

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ATTENTION IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This could be your ad!!

Please contact
Janice Vunk at
treasurer@duanesburgambulance.org
or phone number
(518) 631-5584
to inquire

Town Board Emergency Preparation

One of the annual responsibilities of the Town Board is the preparation of the Town's budget. When we review the Emergency Service's items, we never think of them in terms of something that one of the Town departments may need. One recent snowy Friday morning in this otherwise mild winter, an incident occurred that did require the Town Highway Department to place a call for assistance.

there is no substitute for safety on the roads.

As one of the Town's plow trucks was driving along Schoharie Turnpike, a motorist coming in the opposite direction lost control of their vehicle. Their car crossed the center line and collided with the Town plow truck, a large tandem axle all wheel drive dump truck with dual wings and a front mounted plow. Police, fire, and ambulance all responded to the scene. Fortunately, the driver of the car sustained only minor injuries, and the

Town employees in the Town plow truck were uninjured. The Town truck did however sustain serious damage. The truck will be out of commission for the balance of this winter season. It will be repaired in time for use next winter.

Despite the circumstances, we take away from this situation several things to be grateful for. First and foremost, only one

person was injured, and those injuries were relatively minor. The dedicated emergency personnel carried out their duties efficiently, it was reassuring to see all in action to take control of the scene. The ambulance personnel were on site to tend to the injured motorist. The police report clearly showed that the Town driver was not at any fault. Last year, the Town had an insurance inventory update review to adjust

the coverage amounts on all Town owned property. Regardless of which insurance ultimately covers the damage to the Town vehicle, we can rest assured that the damages will be covered by insurance. In retrospect, this was a situation that could have been much worse.

This is a good time to reiterate, there is no substitute for safety on the roads. While it is easy for us all to think that "it will never happen to me", slowing down for varying road conditions and remembering to always expect the unexpected may save you or a loved one from being involved in an accident. Driving safely may get old, but so do those who practice it.



Town Board Supervisor Bill Wenzel

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 A collage of images showing various cuts of meat, including steaks and ribs, arranged in trays. The background is a light blue color with a white speech bubble containing the text "CALL AHEAD ORDERS ARE WELCOMED!". Below the speech bubble is a phone icon and the phone number "518-895-1031". To the right, there is a light blue box containing the address and hours of operation.

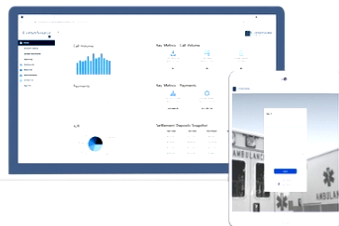


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**Mon closed
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Wed 7 a.m.-3 p.m.
Thur 7 a.m.-7 p.m.
Fri 7 a.m.-7 p.m.
Sat 7 a.m.-7 p.m.
Sun 7 a.m.-2 p.m.**



*Thank you to all
volunteers and
patrons of the famous
Duanesburg Ambulance
Fish Dinner drive thru*



thanks



The background of the poster is a brick wall. At the bottom, there are silhouettes of six people wearing cowboy hats, standing on a wooden plank floor. The text is overlaid on this background.

COUNTRY

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April 29, Monday 6-8 PM

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Superior Storage Units-page 4

Syron's Market-page 12



Duanesburg Ambulance
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coming soon
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Drop In
Health and Wellness Center



Please contact Duanesburg Ambulance with any questions with regard to advertisements, email subscriptions or submissions:

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Fax: (518) 895-2800

Email: treasurer@duanesburgambulance.org
www.duanesburgambulance.org

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TO HELP YOU



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