

COMMUNITY NEWS

FEBRUARY 2005

Dear Fellow Residents,

Tri-Community Ambulance Service, Inc has served the towns of Cambria, Lewiston, Tuscarora Indian Reservation and Wheatfield since 1956. We are a 100% volunteer independent ambulance service and to operate we charge for transports and over years have had a subscription membership to supplement our operating budget. Due to new regulations and opinion both our legal counsel and New York State, we can no longer offer a subscription service.

Over the years the money from this has kept the cost of ambulance transport down and we have used that money to update our equipment. In 2004 we purchased 3 new stretchers and 3 new stair chairs costing over \$16,000.00 from subscription account.

Also, this year we have taken out a loan to purchase a new Ambulance to replace 1990 ambulance at cost of \$126,000.00. Also, we have taken out loan to upgrade out defibrillators [we have 4 of them] to do 12 lead electrocardiograms @ cost of \$72,000.00. As you can see, EMS equipment does not come cheap. Over the years, we have upgraded our serve to New York State Department of Health Paramedic Certified.

Tri-Community wishes to thank you for your support over the last 49 years. So instead of a subscription service we are going to have a yearly **Supporting Membership**. Any donation will be put into a separate account and 100% of this money will be used for new equipment purchases except for cost of mailing the one time request. This donation is 100% tax deductible as determined Internal Revenue service as a 501[c]3 tax-exempt volunteer organization. If you can make a donation please fill out enclosed card and mail check in prepaid envelope.

The other fund raising we do is our annual **Basket Auction** on Saturday, May 7th, 2005, 4:00 to 10:00 p.m. (Main Raffles starting at 7:30 p.m). This will be held at American Legion, 6525 Ward Road, ROUTE 429, [between Niagara and Lockport Roads] Wheatfield, NY.

If you have any questions please me or visit our Web Site www.tri-community.org. Thank you for your continued support from active members

Ken DeVole, President