



Established 1972

By and For the People of Love County

Richard Barker,
Administrator

**Ambulance Emergency
911**

**Clinic Appointments
276-2400**

**Hospital Information
276-3347**

**Adult Day Center
276-1542**

**Community Resources
211**

**Domestic Violence Help
276-2042**
Hotline - 226-6424

**Growers Market
276-9410**

EMS/Fire Brigade Builds Careers

James Parish, Paramedic

James M. Parish has been a full-time Paramedic at Station 2, WinStar Casino, for four years. A "people person," he takes care to talk to patients being transported by ambulance "to take their mind off their pain."

"I've gained way more experience here than I imagined and have learned a lot as a "first out" paramedic on the ambulance. There have been accident and medical incidents that let me test my skills at setting up a command center before an operations chief arrived."

Parish also is a certified firefighter and served five years in the Van Alstyne, TX Fire Department before joining Love County EMS/Fire Brigade in 2014.

"At age 15 I joined a fire explorer post of the Boy Scouts. My dad, James D. Parish, who is a firefighter/EMT, was post leader. From there I graduated from Grayson County College Fire Training Academy. I earned paramedic certification on the job," Parish said.

He is taking online courses from Eastern New Mexico University in the field of administration of emergency management operations or fire departments.

Parish has been married for four years to his wife Sara, a special education teacher.

Preston Derheim, Firefighter/EMT

"We operate like a tight knit family here, just like my own," said Preston Derheim, who, in January 2019, wrapped up his rookie year as a firefighter/EMT at Station 2, WinStar Casino.

Derheim has spent hours each day in crew or individual training to learn fire equipment and procedures. "I've taken rescue training in situations that included darkness, loud noises, and impeded breathing and vision. I've undergone quite a lot of tool training, using cutters, spreaders, chainsaws, and devices to cut vents or break locks. We can make suggestions to our training officer on scenarios we would like to practice," he said.

During 2017, Derheim was a first aid attendant at the casino. "I am happy being where I am and I feel like I'm getting better at what I do," he said. When not on duty, Derheim is a volunteer firefighter for his hometown department in Texas.

He is a graduate of the Grayson County College EMT program.



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