



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 Emphasizes Paramedic-Level Support

There are eight ambulances, and no vehicle rolls without a paramedic on board as leader. These paramedics are trained in advanced cardiac life support, pediatric advanced life support, and pre-hospital trauma life support. Assisting the leader is another paramedic or an emergency medical technician (EMT). The crews answer thousands of emergency calls per year and render pre-hospital care that saves the lives of critically ill or injured patients.

Jeff McGuire, Paramedic

After responding to a car wreck in which a passenger died, the Empire Volunteer Fire Department west of Duncan determined to acquire a "jaws of life" extrication tool to help them in the future.

"If we're going to get jaws of life someone needs to take emergency medical technician training, too," a firefighter remarked. The assembled crew turned to look at their youngest volunteer.

That volunteer was Jeff McGuire. "Already I was in the department by accident," he recalled. "I worked as a mechanic and had said to the chief one day 'if there's anything I can do to help, let me know,' but I had in mind fixing the trucks. The next thing I knew he had signed me up as a volunteer firefighter."

Nevertheless, McGuire completed EMT training. He liked it. More schooling followed until he gained paramedic licensure then made a 25-year career in the field. Currently he is lead paramedic on an ambulance crew at Station 1, Marietta, of Love County EMS/Fire Brigade.

McGuire rejoined the department in April, having also worked here from 2003-2004. Affiliations with ambulance services in Alaska and Ardmore followed, and he has also worked as a paramedic instructor.

A high point of McGuire's career was involvement in three cardiac arrest saves in one month. That's bringing back to life patients whose hearts have stopped. "I like helping people and have made a difference for quite a few," he said. "It's been a good career."

Asked the secret to good patient relations, he replied, "I treat each of them like I would want my mother to be treated."

Between shifts, McGuire is a fulltime student in the nursing program of Murray State College.



We're YOUR Hospital, Clinic and EMS

Mercy Health/Love County

300 Wanda - Marietta, OK 73448

www.mercyhealthlovecounty.com

*The Small-Town Hospital
with the Big Heart*