EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES – 2006

Newton's Emergency Medical Service responded to 250 emergency calls last year. The people of Newton should be very proud to have such dedicated Emergency Medical Technicians who are willing to drop everything, leave meals, wake from sleep or leave jobs to respond to help their fellow citizens. This service is never withheld no matter how unpleasant or frightening the circumstances. Anyone who finds themselves in an emergency can rely on these remarkable people twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

The EMS team in Newton is equipped at the Advanced Life Support level which is the highest level of pre-hospital care in the state of New Hampshire. In addition, our members have honed their skills and gained invaluable experience working and training in other communities with higher call volumes. Our equipment is some of the most advanced in the state. Newton has a long history of leading the region in emergency services and it continues that proud tradition today.

This last year held some great accomplishments for the town of Newton in regards to keeping people safe. Dale Putnam worked very hard to provide both schools in Newton with AEDs (Automatic External Defibrillators) which have been proven to save lives in cardiac arrest situations. Several members of the department provided training and education for various community groups. The department gained new members who have strengthened the team. We continue to have a good working relationship with American Medical Response which provides our ambulance transportation.

When a person calls 911 in this community they can count on the best equipped team responding in minutes and providing the highest, most professional level of care in as discrete and proficient manner possible. For those who find themselves injured, sick, without hope or frightened there is no way of saying what help is worth. It's beyond what the average person on the average day can comprehend. Help is the most precious gift in the world. It feels good to be there at the right time with the right knowledge and the right tools to make a difference in a life. That is why we do what we do for the people in this community, and that is why I am proud to be a part of this EMS team.

> Respectfully submitted, Weston Bartlett Paramedic Newton EMS