



The Official Newsletter Of The Fraternal Association Of Professional Paramedics

Volume 1 Issue 1

May/June 1996

EMS WEEK MAY 19-25

By Paula R. Alexander
Pittsburgh Medic 1

The week of May 19-25, 1996, has been designated as National Emergency Medical Services Week in honor of those who dedicate their time, talent, and effort to save the lives of others and to help educate the public regarding the use and access of EMS. This year's theme is EMS: It's Up To You.

Thirty years ago the National Academy of Sciences published a report entitled Accidental Death and Disability: The Neglected Disease of Society, which identified trauma as the fourth leading cause of death in the United States and which asserted that a person had a greater chance of dying on American roadways than on the battlefields of Vietnam. The report served as a strong impetus for change in EMS and contributed greatly to the establishment of the system of emergency care accessible to Americans today. *Cont on page 3*



City Of Pittsburgh. Paramedics Tom Broderick, Kurt Gardner, and John Soderberg prepare to extricate "victims" of an accident in Market Square. *Story on page 6.*

PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS

By Tom Broderick
Pittsburgh Rescue 1
FAPP President

Spring is the time of year when we celebrate life and new beginnings. A few years ago the powers that be moved EMS Week from Fall to Spring - a much more appropriate season to honor the profession we have chosen as EMS providers. So, with this in mind, I can't think of a more appropriate time to welcome our new paramedic newsletter, *FAPPulse*. It's been quite a few years since FAPP has published a newsletter, but now more than ever our union must stay informed on issues that concern us as paramedics as well as a labor organization. I'd like to thank Paula Alexander and her staff for taking on this responsibility and all of the hard work that goes with it, and ask that our members help out by submitting articles and providing information for the good and welfare of our union. We wish the staff of the *FAPPulse* good luck in this adventure and would like to thank all of our members during EMS Week '96 for the professional service they provide to the residents and visitors of our fine city.

Thank You

INSIDE FAPPulse

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