

Help is close as a button

Lifeline aiding community

by Brigette Crossland

Battalion Reporter
Until May of this year, Lee Perry, 90, could not safely live alone. Now, thanks to a new program called Lifeline, she can be in touch with St. Joseph Hospital at the touch of a button.

Lifeline is an emergency response system that supplies immediate help to users. A button is worn on the user's wrist or around his neck. In the case of an emergency, the user can press the button and the hospital will send one of four responders who have a key to the home of

the users. Lifeline was begun at St. Joseph two months ago, and now has three subscribers.

Laura Olsen, associate director of nursing at St. Joseph, thinks that the Lifeline program is a success.

"We are just beginning to get the information about Lifeline to the public, but we have a high level of interest in the community," Olsen said.

The initial cost of a Lifeline unit is \$495, and is donated by organizations or individuals. In addition to the cost of the unit, there also is an installation fee

from the phone company and a \$10 monthly subscription fee.

Perry, the first subscriber to Lifeline, feels that it is a worthwhile expense.

"It is better, if a person is of sound mind and can take care of themselves, to let them stay in their own home," she said. "I'm 90 years old and I live alone, drive my own car, take care of all my business and dine out twice a day starting with breakfast at 6:30 a.m."

Lifeline was initially designed to allow elderly people to live independent lives, but it is not limited to that.

"We have one young man who is signing up for Lifeline because he is having his jaw wired shut," Olsen said.

The Lifeline program also is useful when babies are diagnosed as having Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. In the event of an attack the parents would not have to halt assistance to the infant to make a phone call to the hospital.

"We hope that people never have accidents," Olsen said. "The purpose of Lifeline is to assure people that if they do have an accident and are alone help is available."



staff photo by Brenda Davidson

A touch of a button on her necklace puts Lee Marie Perry, 90, a Lifeline subscriber, in touch instantly with St. Joseph's Hospital.

Resources seminar here

by Brigette Crossland

Battalion Reporter
The Second Annual Conference on Human Resources Development in business and industry will be held Thursday at Texas A&M.

The one day conference will begin at 9:30 a.m. with a general session, during which Andrew Lupton of the Academy for Educational Development will discuss the cost effectiveness of training programs.

At the same session, Stanley Horner of the Semi-Conductor group, Texas Instruments, Dallas, will speak on the characteristics of organizations and their impact on human resources development.

The luncheon session will feature a presentation by William H. Mobley, dean of the Texas A&M College of Business Administration, on thinking strategically about human resources development.

Following the three addresses, a panel of experts will give its reaction. Members of the panel are Dorothy E. Phillips, human resources representative for Westinghouse Electric Corporation, College Station; Tom

Raine, marketing representative for Zinger Miller, Houston; and Tom Urban, associate professor of management Texas A&M College of Business Administration.

B-CS Chamber meets tomorrow

Brazos County water planning will be discussed at a Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce luncheon meeting Wednesday.

Discussion panel members will be Dr. Jack Runkels, head of Water Resources Institute of Texas A&M University; Ed McDow, an engineer with Riewe/Wichmeyer Engineers; Carson Hoge, general manager of Brazos River Authority in Waco; and Denver Mills, general manager of District Corps of Engineers in Ft. Worth.

The luncheon, which is open to the public, will be held at the Aggeland Inn at 11:45 a.m.

Cost is \$6.50 per person.

Other Chamber business also will be discussed.

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LUNCHEON SPECIALS DAILY

College Station Council seeks PCB storage site

by Rose Delano

Battalion Reporter
The College Station City Council is seeking a site for placement of a PCB storage building to meet U.S. Environmental Protection Agency storage regulations for contaminated materials.

The Council voted Thursday to seek an alternative site for the storage building after hearing arguments from residents near the proposed site.

Residents of the Winwood Subdivision, near the currently proposed site on Switch Station Road off the East Bypass, were concerned with the proximity of the storage site to a residential area.

Area resident Floyd M. Byers said he has seen the effects of PCB, a toxic chemical compound, on the food chain.

"PCBs are potential problems and we should not look at them lightly," he said. "Present sense would say you don't put these things in residential areas."

He said that if livestock eat contaminated grass they can not

be used for slaughter or milking.

Wayne Dunlap, another Winwood Subdivision resident, said the PCB's have a general half-life of 1000 years, meaning that land will remain contaminated that long.

"Maybe a tornado comes through and bumps some of those things around, what happens then?" he said.

Mayor Gary Halter said that because of the precautions taken, an accident of that sort would be very unlikely to cause leakage.

Director of Capital Improvements Elrey Ash said that a storage facility must be built. "If the building is not built, we could be fined," he said.

City Electrical Superintendent Joe Guidry said the building will store contaminated capacitors and transformers removed by the electrical department for a minimum of one year while waiting to be shipped to Deer Park to be incinerated.

Guidry said 20 contaminated capacitors will have to be removed from city utility poles by the 1985 EPA deadline. He said it is not known how many transformers are contaminated, but

they won't be replaced unless they start leaking.

Guidry said it the cost to replace each capacitor will be about \$300.

The contaminated capacitors and transformers will be sealed in barrels which must be protected from water which could cause rust.

The EPA requires that the building must be secure, out of the flood plain and checked daily by city employees.

Electrical technician Gary Lang said the best possible place for the building would be at the site on Switch Station Road because it is out of the flood plain and visited daily.

Lang said that after the PCB's are removed, the building could be used to store valuable materials such as copper wire and transformer oil or converted into a control room.

In other Council business the Council approved: •A comprehensive Energy Management Program for use by city departments.

•An ordinance setting curfew hours for city parks between 1 a.m. and 5 a.m.

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