



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 Lieutenant Keeps Vehicles Running

James Dixon, Firefighter/EMT, Lieutenant

James Dixon has played a pivotal role in assimilating fire service into the EMS since 2008. Hired just as Station 2 EMS/Fire Brigade opened on WinStar Casino grounds, Dixon has found a niche repairing the department's fleet of fire trucks, ambulances, and SUVs.

Brakes, steering, shocks, suspensions, air conditioning, small engine work -- not much goes wrong that Dixon, aided by crew members wanting to learn vehicle maintenance, can't fix.

"I'm still learning, but a repair has to be well out of my range to have to send a vehicle to a shop," he said. The rest of the day, he's doing a Lieutenant's work of overseeing crews and, at times, driving or riding in fire trucks to 911 emergencies.

Growing up in Sherman, TX, Dixon absorbed like a sponge the knowledge of fire, medical, and mechanical operations from a host of family members involved in those respective fields. He formerly served as Chief of his hometown volunteer fire department.

His immediate family includes wife Suzanna, an advertising executive; and daughters Lillie, age 19, a nursing student who operates a small business, Cookies by Lillie on the side; and Faith, 17, a high school junior and prize-winning portraitist.



Colton Rains, Firefighter/Paramedic

While a summer lifeguard in high school, Colton Rains witnessed emergency responders in action. The experience set him on a fast-developing career as a firefighter/paramedic.

"Lifeguards were taught first aid and CPR, but we also got to practice emergency scenarios with the nearby fire station. They would respond and their crew would take over from us at the swimming pool as in a real emergency. This was my introduction to what they do."

Rains loaded up on online college credits while still in high school, then entered North Central Texas College's fire and paramedic academy. He joined the Lindsay, TX volunteer fire department and took a part-time job as a first aid attendant at WinStar casino. He graduated in 2018.

On January 2, 2019, one month before turning age 21, Rains launched his career as a professional firefighter/paramedic with Station 2 of Love County EMS/Fire Brigade.

He works 48 hour shifts and is quickly adapting to station life.



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