

Monarch Fire Company in Amity marks 75th

Reading Eagle

The Monarch Fire Company of Amity Township celebrated its 75th anniversary Saturday with a parade that culminated in the housing of new equipment.

About 500 people attended over the course of the event, according to Kathy Kline, fire company spokeswoman.

After starting at the Amity Intermediate Center at 1 p.m., the parade made its way along Old Airport and Morlatton roads before ending at the fire company.

After the parade, state Sen. John Rafferty, state Rep. David M. Maloney, Berks County Commissioner Christian Y. Leinbach, Amity Township Supervisor Robert R. Yanos and Fire Chief Brian Gabel addressed the crowd. Past Fire Chief Lee Wamsher served as master of ceremonies.

A dedication ceremony was conducted for a cargo bay addition to the fire company.

The fire company then housed three new pieces of equipment: a 2000 New Lexington rescue pumper, which holds 500 gallons of water and pumps up to 1,500 gallons per minute; a 2003 E-One Quint ladder truck, which holds 500 gallons of water and 30 gallons of foam; and a 2010 Custom Kubota, used for forestry and special services, that holds 70 gallons of water and pumps 55 gallons per minute, Kline said.

If firefighters are responding to an emergency involving trapped people in wooded areas, the Kubota allows them to go in and bring them out where a firetruck can't get to them, she said.

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Monarch Fire Company members house their trucks Saturday at a 75th anniversary celebration in Amity Township.

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