Maryland EMS Region I Night for Stars
Dinner and Stellar Service Awards

The Region I Emergency Services Education Council recently held its 4th Annual Region I Night for Stars Program. The dinner and presentation of the “Stellar Service Awards” was held at the Ali Ghan Shrine Club on October 8, 2016. MIEMSS Region I is comprised of Garrett and Allegany Counties. Representatives from the prehospital and hospital communities from both counties make up the membership of the Region I Emergency Services Education Council.

During the Night for Stars event, local heroes were recognized for their outstanding care to patients in two separate incidents, both cases involving pediatric patients. In the first case, a six-month-old infant suffered seizures, which progressed to respiratory arrest. The second case involved a teen victim of a motorcycle crash in a remote area of Garrett County. Their stories were told from the initial event to discharge and rehabilitation, with each Region I provider involved being recognized for the exemplary care shown to their fellow citizens. The former patients and their families were in attendance to celebrate the evening. Dinner was served and a reception for both survivors and awardees was held following the awards presentation.

**Allegany County Awardees**

**Allegany County Communications**
- EMD Mark Karalewitz
- EMD Bryan Miller
- EMD David Mills
- EMD Jason Morgan
- EMD Ashley Ringler
- EMD Matt Ross
- EMD Curt Tringler

**Maryland State Police**
- Trooper First Class Shawn Bennett
- Trooper First Class Samuel Sarver
- Senior Trooper Matthew Schoenadel

**Cresaptown Volunteer Fire Department**
- EMT Olivia Lindner
- EMT-Driver Kenneth Hout
- Paramedic Katrina Wolf

**Western Maryland Health System**
- Emergency Room Physician Robert Flint
- Registered Nurse Elisa “Lisa” Opel

**Valley Medical Transport**
- EMT Justin Bean
- Paramedic Scott Williams

**Garrett County Awardees**

**Garrett County Department of Public Safety 9-1-1 Communications**
- EMD Kristal Huber
- EMD Timothy Clark

**Northern Garrett County Rescue Squad**
- CRT Justin Orendorf
- EMT Alison Sines
- EMT-Driver Lowell Thomas

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Maryland EMS Region I Night for Stars Dinner and Stellar Service Awards

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Southern Garrett County Rescue Squad
CRT John Collins

Elk District Ambulance Service
EMT Arthur Welch
EMT Walter Ward Jr.

Kitzmiller Volunteer Fire Department
EMT Sharon Paugh
EMT Missi Nesselrodt
Firefighter Shawn Nesselrodt
Firefighter Richard Armstrong Sr.
Firefighter Jim Armstrong

Garrett Regional Medical Center
General Surgeon Charles Walch
Emergency Department Physician Richard Perry
Registered Nurse Kim Gordon
Registered Nurse Beth Spencer
Registered Nurse Rebecca Wilt
Registered Nurse Cheryl Hinebaugh
Registered Nurse Ryan Hansen
Emergency Room Technician Christin Feaster
Respiratory Care Practitioner Barbara Sisler

Efforts to curb impaired driving have been strengthened by the Drunk Driving Reduction Act of 2016, which went into effect on October 1. Also known as “Noah’s Law,” the bill was named for Montgomery County Police Officer Noah Leotta who was killed by a drunk driver on December 3, 2015. The law requires mandatory participation, even for first-time offenders, in the Ignition Interlock System Program for individuals convicted of driving under the influence of alcohol, or driving while impaired by alcohol and/or drugs.

“Noah’s Law” Goes Into Effect

2017 EMS and Prevention Educational Conferences

Winterfest EMS Conference 2017
January 27–30, 2017
Tilghman Island, Md.

Miltenberger Emergency Services Seminar
March 10, 2017 (Pre-conference)
March 11, 2017 (Full Conference)
Rocky Gap Conference Center

Public Fire and Life Safety Educator Seminar
March 25, 2017
MFRI Headquarters
College Park, Md.

EMS Care 2017
April 26–30, 2017
Ocean City, Md.

Point/Counterpoint 2017
May 11–12, 2017
Baltimore, Md
MIEMSS Staff Participate in Day to Serve Program

MIEMSS staff members volunteered time with the Maryland Food Bank during the Day to Serve Initiative, which ran from September 10 to October 10, 2016. Staff worked in the Maryland Food Bank kitchen on October 4, 2016 preparing foods for both cooking and distribution. Day to Serve is an annual, month-long community service initiative in which Maryland joins Washington, DC, Virginia, and West Virginia in encouraging individuals to get out and volunteer.

Many agencies throughout state government performed service projects for Day to Serve. This year, the Maryland State Police and the Department of Transportation worked together for “Stuff-A-Truck,” the 4th annual statewide Hunger Action Month food drive. Donations of nonperishable items were accepted at State Police barracks and select Department of Transportation offices.

Maryland Resuscitation Academy Accepting Applications for November Course

The Maryland Resuscitation Academy (RA) along with MIEMSS is pleased to announce the one-day Maryland RA will be held Thursday, November 3, 2016, at Howard County’s Public Safety Training Center in Marriottsville. The intensive one-day academy course is dedicated to improving survival rates of patients suffering prehospital cardiac arrest, and is suitable for EMS supervisors, medical directors, fire/EMS chiefs, EMS personnel of all levels, and hospital staff across Maryland and surrounding regions. Based on the curriculum of the world-renowned Resuscitation Academy in Seattle, Washington, the Maryland RA is co-sponsored by the Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services and MIEMSS. Tuition is complimentary, and conference costs are generously covered by RA sponsors.

For more information and to apply, please visit www.ramaryland.org. The deadline to apply is Monday, October 24, 2016.

National Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Month

October is Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Month, an initiative aimed at raising awareness of Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) and informing the public about what it is, how it affects people, and what can be done to help save lives. Time-to-treatment is critical when considering the chance of survival for an SCA victim. Ninety-five percent of those who experience SCA die because they do not receive life-saving defibrillation within four to six minutes.

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Many thanks to Gary C. Rains, MFRSMF, for contributing this article to Maryland EMS News.

In 2017, the Maryland Fire Rescue Services Memorial Foundation, Inc., will celebrate 20 years as an incorporated non-profit whose mission and purpose is “to design, construct, and maintain a unique living Memorial, dedicated to the Members of Maryland’s Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Medical Community who have given their lives in the performance of their duties.”

I had the honor and privilege to write a story about the Foundation and its remarkable 20-year journey. The written story has been adapted into a short film, and is now available to view on YouTube at youtube/oX9jRanlzV8.

I hope everyone throughout Maryland’s fire and EMS community will watch, enjoy, learn from, and share this Maryland story about tradition, loyalty, and compassion; about people from all over Maryland and what they can accomplish together; about bravery and selflessly helping your neighbor; and about honoring the lives that were lost while serving the citizens of Maryland.

National Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Month

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The Public Subcommittee of the MIEMSS Out-of-Hospital Sudden Cardiac Arrest Steering Committee continues work on educating laypersons to recognize sudden cardiac arrest and learn Hands-Only CPR. In recognition of Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Month, MIEMSS again launched a Hands-Only CPR advertising campaign. Throughout the remainder of FY 2017, the campaign will feature 30-second radio clips, MTA bus advertisements, and digital advertising.

Number of EMS Operational Programs participating: 23 of 24 with the implementation of phase 6. There is only one more EMSOP to come on board in the late fall, and then CARES will be statewide!

Total number of runsheets exported to CARES from January 1 to August 31, 2016: 1,989

This Month’s CARES Tip

For all cardiac arrest calls, regardless of whether the patient was transported to the hospital or pronounced at the scene, CARES question 16-1 must be answered. If the transporting ambulance (or unit that pronounced the patient) arrived first, and there was another ambulance or law enforcement agency at the scene that came afterwards, the answer to this question should still be “yes.”

If the answer to question 16-1 is “yes,” question 16-2 must be answered regardless of whether the patient was transported to the hospital or died at the scene.