

Maryland EMS News

For All Emergency Medical Care Providers

Vol. 32, No. 5

June 2006

MIEMSS Presents Statewide Awards During EMS Week

In a two-part ceremony in Annapolis on May 17, MIEMSS honored children from across the State and also presented its annual Stars of Life Awards to honor EMS personnel, citizens, and EMS programs. Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. and First Lady Kendel Ehrlich assisted with the ceremony. Photos of the winners receiving their awards, as well as summaries of why they received them, follow. Unfortunately, several winners were unable to attend the ceremony (Mark Berry, John M. Murphy, George Linnell, Captain William R. Davis, and Lieutenant Stephen L. Grogg), so their photos were not available.

Five children were recognized for their actions which ensured that people in Maryland received “the right care when it counts,” by assisting in providing a life-saving service to someone in their community. Each of the following received a “Right Care When It Counts” Award.

Matthew Driscoll (5 years old):

On Friday January 13, 2006, Matthew called Baltimore County 9-1-1 Center because his mother had fallen. Matthew talked with the dispatcher and met the crew from Engine 10 at the door, taking them to his mother’s side. He remained calm throughout the entire call, and both his family and the Baltimore County Fire Department are very proud of him

Leah Davis (10 years old): Leah called the Kent County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) on a number of occasions when her mother’s blood sugar dropped too low. Several times Leah found her mother unconscious and followed the family emergency plan to contact 9-1-1 and stay with her mother until help arrived.

Brandon Schuler (10 years old): On February 10, 2006, Brandon called 9-1-1 when his mother had an appar-

ent seizure. Brandon, who was home alone with his mother at the time, remained on the phone with the dispatcher until EMS providers arrived. He was calm and provided the team with essential information to help his mother.

John D. Baxter (7 years old):

John is a first-grader at Damascus Elementary School who paid attention when firefighters visited his school for October’s Fire Prevention Month. He brought home the message that every smoke alarm must be tested—and his family found that one of their batteries was dead. They replaced the battery, tested the alarm, and reviewed a family escape plan with John.

A few weeks later the smoke alarm awoke the

family on Thanksgiving Day. The entire family escaped their burning home, went to their designated meeting place, and then dialed 9-1-1. When the fire department arrived, everyone was out of the house and safe. John, his family, and his school now plan to expand the Risk Watch program activities—with John as one of the youngest role models!

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The Governor proclaims EMS for Children Day in Maryland: May 17, 2006. (L-r) First Lady Kendel S. Ehrlich, Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. (Chairman of the Maryland EMS Board), and Dr. Robert R. Bass (MIEMSS Executive Director).

MIEMSS Presents Statewide Awards

'Right Care When It Counts'

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Mark Berry (13 years old): On February 14, 2006, Mark and 100 of his eighth-grade classmates from Takoma Park Middle School were on a science and math trip to the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. During an evening activity at the hotel swimming pool, Mark noticed something

on the bottom of the pool. An expert swimmer with Boy Scout safety training, Mark did a surface dive and found his classmate. He pulled Michael to the surface where a teacher began resuscitation efforts. Seconds later Michael opened his eyes and realized his prayers to live

had been answered. Michael hopes to be able to someday be a cardiac surgeon. Mark's life is also changed forever—knowing that he has the training and the ability to respond to save the life of another person. For this summer he plans to be a lifeguard—a job he already has put into practice.



The Right Care When It Counts Award: Award winner Matthew Driscoll with (l-r) Cynthia Wright-Johnson (Administrator for the EMS for Children Program at MIEMSS), Dr. Joseph Wright (Medical Director of the Maryland EMS for Children Program at MIEMSS), Gov. Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., First Lady Kendel S. Ehrlich, Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. (Chairman of the Maryland EMS Board), Kellen and Paul Driscoll (Matthew's parents) with baby brother Alec.



The Right Care When It Counts Award: Award winner Leah Davis with (l-r) Cynthia Wright-Johnson (Administrator for the EMS for Children Program at MIEMSS), Dr. Joseph Wright (Medical Director of the Maryland EMS for Children Program at MIEMSS), Gov. Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., First Lady Kendel S. Ehrlich, Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. (Chairman of the Maryland EMS Board), Meg and Joe Davis (Leah's parents).



The Right Care When It Counts Award: Award winner Brandon Schuler with (l-r) Cynthia Wright-Johnson (Administrator for the EMS for Children Program at MIEMSS), Dr. Joseph Wright (Medical Director of the Maryland EMS for Children Program at MIEMSS), Brandon's mom Laurie Schuler, Gov. Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., First Lady Kendel S. Ehrlich, Brandon's dad Brian Schuler, and Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. (Chairman of the Maryland EMS Board).



The Right Care When It Counts Award: Award winner John Baxter with (l-r) Cynthia Wright-Johnson (Administrator for the EMS for Children Program at MIEMSS), Dr. Joseph Wright (Medical Director of the Maryland EMS for Children Program at MIEMSS), John's mom Kelly Baxter, Gov. Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., First Lady Kendel S. Ehrlich, John's dad Fred Baxter, Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. (Chairman of the Maryland EMS Board), and Capt. Scott Graham (Montgomery County Fire Dept.).