

Maryland EMS News

For All Emergency Medical Care Providers

Vol. 35, No. 1

July 2008

New Child Passenger Safety Law

Effective June 30, 2008, Maryland's Child Passenger Safety Law has changed. **Every child under 8 years old** must ride in a booster seat or other appropriate federally approved child safety seat until the child exceeds 4 feet, 9 inches or 65 pounds. ("Child safety seat" includes infant seats, convertible seats, forward-facing seats, booster seats, or other federally approved safety devices.) The child restraint must be right for the child's age, size, and weight. **Every child from 8 to 16 years old** who is not secured in a car seat must be secured in the vehicle's seat belt.

To educate the public about the new law, two press conferences were held: on June 25 in Montgomery County for the Metropolitan DC/MD area and on June 30 at the Johns Hopkins Hospital (site of one of the state's pediatric trauma centers) for the Metropolitan Baltimore area. Lt. Governor Anthony Brown, as well as State Delegate Bill Bronrott and State



A press conference to educate the public in the Baltimore area about Maryland's new Child Passenger Safety Law was held June 30 at the Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Senator Jennie Forehand, sponsors of Maryland's child booster seat legislation, and representatives from many health and safety agencies and organizations (including MIEMSS) participated in the press conferences.

Child booster seats can substantially reduce the risk of death and injury to children, but according to a 2007 study by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, only 41

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EMS Week 2008



Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. (Chairman, Maryland EMS Board) speaks at the annual Maryland EMS Awards Program following remarks by Dr. Robert Bass (MIEMSS Executive Director).

The award program took place on May 21, 2008 at 2:00 PM at the BWI Marriott. The annual Stars of Life program recognized 28 of Maryland's outstanding responders, programs, and citizens. (See page 2 for winners.) The Right Care When It Counts program for children recognized six children who made a difference in the care of others. (See page 7 for winners.)

The national slogan for 2008 EMS Week was "EMS: Your Life Is Our Mission."

Maryland EMS Stars of Life Awards

On May 21 MIEMSS presented its annual Maryland Stars of Life Awards that honor EMS personnel, citizens, and EMS programs statewide. MIEMSS Executive Director Dr. Robert Bass, assisted by EMS Board Chairman Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq., presented award plaques that represented nine categories of recognition. Two award winners were selected for the Leon W. Hayes Award for Excellence in EMS. Photos and summaries of the achievements of the award winners follow.

Maryland Star of Life Award

- Volunteer Fire Company # 1 of Chesapeake City
- Hacks Point Fire Company
- Cecilton Fire Company
- Singerly Fire Company
- North East Fire Company
- Volunteer Hose Company of Middletown, Delaware
- Cecil County Department of Emergency Services
- Maryland State Police Aviation
- U.S. Coast Guard
- Maryland Natural Resources Police in Cecil County

On July 21, 2007, the Cecil County 9-1-1 Center received a call that a jet ski had been struck by a boat in the Elk River, north of Town Point. The Volunteer Fire Company No. 1 of Chesapeake City was immediately alerted, and Assistant Chief 12, Robert Holmes, established Elk River command. One victim was in cardiac arrest, another had a partially amputated leg, and a third had less serious injuries.

Patient assessment and the treatment of injuries in this incident were complicated by the fact that the incident occurred in the water several hundred yards from shore. For example, Advanced Life Support had to be initi-

ated in the water and endotracheal intubation was performed while on a moving boat.

The Elk River Rescue illustrated the cooperation and teamwork of six fire companies and four other agencies working together to ensure that the best patient care was available and that there was no delay of patient care. In fact, total on-scene time did not exceed one hour.

Maryland EMS Citizen Award

Charlie Franklin

On March 15, 2007, **Charlie Franklin**, then 14 years old, was heading from his grandmother's house to get fuel in his small boat at a local marina. When he was approaching Solomons Harbor, a wind sheer came through gusting up to a recorded 40 mph. Charlie noticed that several small sailboats from the Solomons Sailing Association were out giving lessons to students from nearby Patuxent High School. The wind flipped many of the small boats, sending several students into the cold March waters.

Before any emergency services arrived at the scene and without regard for his own safety, Charlie quickly went to the aid of the students, pulling two girls from the water and taking them to shore where at this point an ambulance had arrived. After dropping them off, he returned to the scene to provide any additional help he could render, even though he too was cold and wet.

EMS Provider of the Year Award

Angela Bennett, NREMT-P

Maryland Fire & Rescue Institute, College Park

The leadership and dedicated commitment to quality exemplified by **Angela Bennett, NREMT-P**, have made the Advanced Life Support Program at the Maryland Fire & Rescue Institute (MFRI) a model for the nation. It has been

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Maryland Star of Life Award (Back row, l-r): Sarah Boulden, Holly Jones, Harold Hathaway, Scott Boulden, Shawn Mullen, Tom Morris, Don Briscoe, Paul Wildey, T.J. Barrow, and Kris Wiley. (Middle row, l-r): Corey Morrison, Rick Stacherski, Robert Holmes, Gary Burge, T. C. Cunningham, John Loveless, and Terry Ferguson. (Front row, l-r): Cpl. John Capozzoli, Maj. A. J. McAndrew, James D. Dinges, Mike Misetic, Andrew Budzialek, and Mike Deckard.



Maryland EMS Citizen Awards (l-r): Dr. Robert Bass (MIEMSS Executive Director), Charlie Franklin, and Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. (Chairman, Maryland EMS Board).

Maryland EMS Stars of Life Awards



EMS Provider of the Year Award (l-r): Dr. Robert Bass (MIEMSS Executive Director), Angela Bennett, NREMT-P (Maryland Fire & Rescue Institute), and Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. (Chairman, Maryland EMS Board).



EMD Provider of the Year Award (l-r): Dr. Robert Bass (MIEMSS Executive Director), Kelly Holzberger, EMD, and Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. (Chairman, Maryland EMS Board).



Leon W. Hayes Award for Excellence in EMS (l-r): Dr. Robert Bass (MIEMSS Executive Director), Pamela doCarmo, PhD, EMT-P (Laurel Volunteer Rescue Squad), and Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. (Chairman, Maryland EMS Board).

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featured at national conferences and seminars relating to the successful integration of medical simulation in training and provider assessment. This technology uses computers and lifelike manikins to simulate various medical emergencies in a realistic manner; this lets health care professionals practice procedures and techniques without the risk of poor human patient outcomes.

Recently under Ms. Bennett's leadership, a further step was taken in the development of the MFRI Advanced Life Support Mobile Simulation Lab. The rear of the mobile trailer simulates the patient compartment of a medic unit and the front is a control module for instructors. This simulation lab allows MFRI to better instruct courses in terms of set-up time, flexibility, and also allows

for the improved documentation of the training and evaluation of students.

In addition, Ms. Bennett spearheaded the accreditation of MRFI's ALS program by the Continuing Education Coordinating Board for EMS, a national accrediting body for EMS continuing education courses and course providers.

EMD Provider of the Year Award

Kelly Holzberger, EMD

Calvert County Control Center

Even before a fire, rescue, or EMS unit arrives at the scene, the Emergency Medical Dispatcher (or EMD) is there—on the phone and giving the 9-1-1 caller needed medical information and pre-arrival instructions.

Pre-arrival instructions are most commonly provided on flip cards, arranged so that the dispatcher can question the caller and, based on the answers, quickly go to the card that contains the correct advice, instructions, etc. The person nominating **Kelly Holzberger** stressed that Ms. Holzberger “always follows her EMD cards regardless of the type of call. She is able to keep her composure and remain professional, even with the most difficult of callers. She will remain on the phone, even after her dispatch is complete to provide any comfort she can for her caller.”

Leon W. Hayes Award for Excellence in EMS

Pamela doCarmo, PhD, EMT-P

Laurel Volunteer Rescue Squad

Twenty-eight years ago, **Paramedic Pamela doCarmo, PhD**, joined the Laurel Volunteer Rescue Squad. By that time, she was already one of the first instructors of emergency medical technicians or EMTs in Maryland. She got

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Maryland EMS Stars of Life Awards

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her start in the emergency medical field when she was trained in first-aid while working as a physical education teacher at the University of Maryland. Later her focus shifted to EMS and she spent many years teaching students at Northern Virginia Community College. In fact, she was so dedicated to EMS and her students, that she even wrote textbooks that concentrated on the basic skills needed for EMTs.

In the early 1980s, Paramedic doCarmo became one of the first two female volunteers in the country to become a



Leon W. Hayes Award for Excellence in EMS (l-r): Dr. Robert Bass (MIEMSS Executive Director), Jack E. Coe, EMT-B/IVT (New Windsor Fire & Hose Co. #1), and Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. (Chairman, Maryland EMS Board).



Maryland EMS-Geriatric Award (l-r): Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. (Chairman, Maryland EMS Board), Charlestown EMS members Joseph Besche, Craig Nelson, and Wayne Fisher, and Dr. Robert Bass (MIEMSS Executive Director)

paramedic. As a squad volunteer, she helped staff the Prince George's County Fire Department's Mobile Intensive Care Unit or Medic 3. By that time, Paramedic doCarmo had advanced to teaching paramedics, as well as EMTs, and she had also become an Advanced Cardiac Life Support Instructor. Through many hours of schoolwork on her own, she eventually received her Doctorate in Education, while she continued actively participating at Laurel Volunteer Rescue Squad and mentoring other rescue squad volunteers.

Paramedic doCarmo has been honored many times for her EMS service to the community. She received the Leon W. Hayes Award for her more than 30 years as a dedicated volunteer EMS provider and for her tireless work in EMS education.

Leon W. Hayes Award for Excellence in EMS

Jack E. Coe, EMT-B/IVT

New Windsor Fire & Hose Co. #1

During his 39 years as an active EMS provider, **Jack E. Coe** has exemplified the compassion, respect, and commitment to excellence in patient care described in the requirements for the Leon Hayes award. He first joined the New Windsor Fire Department in 1962 after returning from a tour of Vietnam. By 1969, he had taken his first EMS class, which was the American Red Cross course "First-Aid to the Injured." He has continued taking courses to elevate the level of care that he is certified to provide. Just this past summer he recertified as an EMT-B/ IV-Tech which allows him to be an active EMT provider through his 70th birthday.

According to statistics compiled by the New Windsor Fire Department, Mr. Coe has been on approximately 43 percent of its calls during the past 15 years. In fact, if an ambulance responds without Mr. Coe, people will often ask where he is. In New Windsor, Mr. Coe is so linked with EMS that some people have called his plumbing company and requested an ambulance.

Besides his tireless dedication to patient care, Mr. Coe serves EMS through his leadership roles, such as EMS Lieutenant, Captain, and Assistant Chief, and currently as an employee supervisor. He has always encouraged others to get involved in EMS and to further their EMS training.

Maryland EMS-Geriatrics Award

Charlestown EMS

Led by manager and paramedic Mike Tiberio, **Charlestown EMS** is on call 24/7 to respond to the emergency calls of a retirement community of 2,300 residents and 1,200 employees, as well as countless visitors. In 2007, Charlestown EMS responded to 1,530 calls for service. However, it does more than respond to emergency medical calls; for example, the EMS team also:

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Maryland EMS Stars of Life Awards

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- Participates in wellness fairs and has a monthly blood pressure and oxygen level “clinic” for residents and staff.
- Regularly checks the AEDs it has installed throughout the community.
- Gives CPR training classes to the staff.
- Appears on community TV to familiarize the residents with EMS staff, equipment, and procedures.
- Ensures that residents complete the Vial of Life medical information forms and keep them in a standardized location in their residences so that they can be easily accessed by EMS during an emergency.
- The EMS Team also participates in Emergency Preparedness drills on the Charlestown campus.

Speaking about the EMS Team, the Director of Charlestown, Garret Falcone, asserts: “Not only are their medical skills of the highest caliber but their compassion, dedication, and love for the residents that live here shine through in their daily work.”

Outstanding EMS Program Award

Aberdeen Proving Ground Fire & Emergency Services

One of the first Public Access Automated External Defibrillator (or AED) programs on a federal installation, **Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) Fire & Emergency Services** has more than 170 AEDs in service and trains more than 2,000 people a year to use them. They have had several successful saves, including one during the month of January this year.

In addition, their civilian firefighters and paramedics are also currently training and certifying Combat Life Savers—that is, frontline war fighters whose primary mission is combat duties with the secondary mission of life safety. During a week of training, soldiers are taken from basic first-aid skills to establishing nasopharyngeal airways, intravenous lines, and saline locks. This course teaches that 90 percent of those wounded on the battlefield will die before reaching a medical facility, but with Combat Life Savers on the front line, 15 percent of those casualties can be saved.

Maryland EMS for Children Award

Four groups of EMS providers were honored for their part in the rescue of then 6-year-old Lindsey Harding.

From Vienna Volunteer Fire Department

- Alfred Travers, Jr., EMT-B
- Kathy Sellers, EMT-B
- Robert Helmer, Jr., FF/FR
- Greg Cusick, FF
- Reginald Seller, Jr., FF
- Vicky Wheatley, FF
- Christopher Travers, FF

- Mike Bramble, CRT-I
- Timothy Newcomb, FF
- Keifford Jackson, Driver
- Mary Ann Spears, EMT-B
- Robert Willey, FF

From Dorchester County 9-1-1 Center

- Justin Koshar, EMD
- Verlon Dukes
- Shelia Brittingham

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Outstanding EMS Program Award (l-r): Dr. Robert Bass (MIEMSS Executive Director), Asst. Chief of EMS Raymond B. Campbell, Paramedic Michael Slayman (both with the Aberdeen Proving Ground Fire and Emergency Services), and Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. (Chairman, Maryland EMS Board).



EMS for Children Award (Back row, l-r): Dr. Robert Bass (MIEMSS Executive Director), Marynan Spear, Alfred Travers, Jr., Jason Shorter, R. J. Helmier, Greg Cusick, Verlon Dukes, Christopher Travers, and Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. (Chairman, Maryland EMS Board). (Front row, l-r): Mike Bramble, Sheila Brittingham, William Foard, and Justin Koshar.

Maryland EMS Stars of Life Awards

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From Dorchester County Emergency Services

- **Jason Shorter, NREMT-P**
- **Francis Nicholas, EMT-B**
- **William Foard, NREMT-P**

From the Sheriff's Office

- **Kevin Messick, NREMT-P**
- **Jay Lewis, FR**

On April 4, 2007, Dispatcher Justin Koshar received a frantic 9-1-1 call from a mother whose then 6-year-old daughter Lindsey Harding had been hit in the chest by a ball and lost consciousness when she had carried her into the house. He gave CPR instructions to Lindsey's 15-year-old sister Nicole who repeated them to her mother, telling her how to do CPR on Lindsey. (Nicole received a Right Care When It Counts Award at the EMS Award ceremony.)

Immediately after the 9-1-1 call, the Dorchester County EMS and Sheriff's departments were dispatched. First on the scene within 2 minutes were Alfred Travers, Jr. and Christopher Travers, who were pulling into their driveways just a few houses away. They took over CPR while Ambulance 11 responded with a full crew. They

attached an automated external defibrillator or AED and delivered 2 shocks to Lindsey's heart.

CPR continued as the transport unit rendezvoused with the Dorchester County EMS units. BLS and ALS care continued en route to Dorchester General Hospital. Lindsey, who had minimal spontaneous respirations and pulse when she arrived in the Emergency Department, was later transferred to the Johns Hopkins Medical Center where she was treated and released within a week. When her rescuers checked on her a few days after she arrived home, they found her riding her bike as if nothing had ever happened.

MIEMSS Director's Award for Excellence in EMS

Mark Paolini

PGA Head Professional at the Clifton Park Golf Course

Clifton Park Golf Course is one of five Baltimore Municipal Golf Courses that have voluntarily participated since 2003 in the Maryland Facility Automated External Defibrillator or AED Program that is coordinated by MIEMSS. **Mark Paolini** was trained to use the AED, never thinking that it would make him a "hero." But Mr. Paolini found that the afternoon of May 6, 2007, demanded the quick thinking and actions of a hero—and he was up to the occasion.

After a typically busy weekend, Mr. Paolini had stepped into the pro shop after talking with veteran cart attendant Roger Levasseur. When he returned five minutes later, he discovered that 75-year-old Mr. Levasseur was slumped over a golf cart and unresponsive. Mr. Paolini leaped into "emergency mode," calling 9-1-1 and starting CPR after discovering that Mr. Levasseur was lacking a pulse and not breathing.

After cycling through several rounds of CPR, Mr. Paolini realized that he needed to get his hands on the AED in the pro shop, but did not want to leave Mr. Levasseur alone. Luckily a golfer happened upon the scene, and Mr. Paolini raced to the pro shop.

Following his training and the AED voice prompts, Mr. Paolini delivered a shock to Mr. Levasseur's heart, which sparked a pulse. Mr. Paolini then monitored vital signs until paramedics arrived.

Mr. Levasseur regained consciousness in the hospital and underwent a successful triple bypass. The doctors said that Mr. Paolini's quick action in starting CPR and using the AED was the "key" to saving Mr. Levasseur's life.



MIEMSS Director's Award for Excellence in EMS (l-r): Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. (Chairman, Maryland EMS Board), Mark Paolini (PGA Head Professional at the Clifton Park Golf Course), Roger Levasseur who was saved by Mr. Paolini's use of the AED, Sandy Martin (cardiac arrest victim who was saved by Andrew Cordova (last year's recipient of the Director's Award), and Dr. Robert Bass (MIEMSS Executive Director).

Children, Teens Receive EMSC ‘Right Care When It Counts’ Awards

On May 21, MIEMSS honored five children and teens; each had assisted in providing a life-saving service to someone. Their actions had ensured that people had received the “right care when it counts.” MIEMSS Executive Director Robert R. Bass, MD, FACEP, EMS Board Chairman Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq., Cyndy Wright-Johnson, MSN, RNC (EMS for Children Program Director at MIEMSS), and Dr. Joseph L. Wright, MD, MPH, FAAP (Associate State EMS Medical Director for Pediatrics at MIEMSS) presided over the awards presentation.

The following received special certificates for “giving the right care when it counts.”

Alexus Epps (from Prince George's County)

On September 17, 2007, **Alexus Epps**, then 4 years old, saw smoke coming from a bedroom door and told everyone in her home of the immediate danger. Alexis and two other small children, along with four adults, escaped the fire that was extinguished by Prince George's County firefighters.

Tyler Wilkerson (from Charles County)

Last October, 12-year-old Tyler Wilkerson was awakened at 4 AM by strange sounds outside his home. Looking out the window, he saw flames and went into action. Tyler woke up his parents and both his younger brothers, and they all ran out the back door of the house. Before the smoke alarm went off upstairs, the entire front of the house was in flames. Tyler and his entire family were safely away from the fire and watched as firefighters from Charles and Prince George's Counties fought the flames.

Bryden Bibbens (from Wicomico County)

At 4 AM last January, first-grader Bryden Bibbens was awakened by the sound of a smoke alarm. He saw fire in the kitchen of his home and immediately “got adult help” by waking up his mother and then his sisters and brothers, and they went outside. Then they called 9-1-1. Bryden learned how to respond to a fire at school during Fire Prevention and Safety Week.

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Award winner **Alexus Epps** with Joseph L. Wright, MD, MPH, FAAP (Assoc. State EMS Medical Director for Pediatrics, MIEMSS), Cynthia Wright-Johnson, MSN, RNC (EMSC Program Director, MIEMSS), and Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. (Chairman, Maryland EMS Board).



Award winner **Tyler Wilkerson** with Joseph L. Wright, MD, MPH, FAAP (Assoc. State EMS Medical Director for Pediatrics, MIEMSS), Cynthia Wright-Johnson, MSN, RNC (EMSC Program Director, MIEMSS), and Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. (Chairman, Maryland EMS Board).

Children, Teens Receive EMSC ‘Right Care When It Counts’ Awards

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Laight Phelps (from Caroline County)

Late last summer, on his way to have his high-school senior picture taken, 18-year-old Laight Phelps noticed something unusual—a car in the water with someone inside. He put on boots and waded out to try and help the 80-year-old occupant. Laight helped to break open the window and move the victim to safety.

Nicole Harding (from Dorchester County)

On April 4, 2007, Nicole Harding, then 15 years old, watched as her mother carried her 6-year-old sister into the house after she had been struck by a ball in the chest and was unconscious. After her mom dialed 9-1-1, Nicole took the phone and relayed to her mother the dispatcher's instructions on how to do CPR. She stayed on the phone with 9-1-1 and watched for rescuers to arrive as her mother did CPR on her young sister.



Award winner **Laight Phelps** with Joseph L. Wright, MD, MPH, FAAP (Assoc. State EMS Medical Director for Pediatrics, MIEMSS), Cynthia Wright-Johnson, MSN, RNC (EMSC Program Director, MIEMSS), and Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. (Chairman, Maryland EMS Board).



(L-r) Joseph L. Wright, MD, MPH, FAAP (Assoc. State EMS Medical Director for Pediatrics, MIEMSS), Cynthia Wright-Johnson, MSN, RNC (EMSC Program Director, MIEMSS), **Tammy Griffen** who accepted the award for **Bryden Bibbens**, and Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. (Chairman, Maryland EMS Board).



Award winner **Nicole Harding** with her sister Lindsey standing in front of Joseph L. Wright, MD, MPH, FAAP (Assoc. State EMS Medical Director for Pediatrics, MIEMSS), Cynthia Wright-Johnson, MSN, RNC (EMSC Program Director, MIEMSS), and Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. (Chairman, Maryland EMS Board).

National EMS Memorial Bike Ride Comes to Maryland

On May 19, more than 100 EMS workers from around the country (all participating in the National EMS Memorial Bike Ride) made their way through Maryland on their way to the National EMS Memorial Service in Roanoke, Virginia. From Delaware, they entered Chesapeake City in

Cecil County around 9 AM on May 19, and then biked through Maryland's Eastern Shore, with various rest stops provided by local fire and EMS companies along their route; their last stop before boarding buses to cross the Chesapeake Bay was Kent Island Volunteer Fire Department in

Stevensville. Shortly before 6 PM, they rode their bikes down Rowe Boulevard in Annapolis to the Maryland Fire Rescue Memorial. There members of local emergency services in Maryland joined the national group in a formal memorial service that included the reading of the names of each fallen EMS provider from across the country.

The following morning, the group was on the road again, stopping briefly at the Capitol Heights Fire/EMS Department #805 before continuing their ride to Washington, DC, where they held a ceremony at the Capitol before moving on to Roanoke. At Roanoke, they were joined by another contingent of bicyclers who had begun their ride in Lexington, Kentucky.

The National EMS Memorial Bike Ride honors Emergency Medical Services personnel by organizing and implementing long-distance cycling events that memorialize and celebrate the lives of those who serve everyday, those who have become sick or injured while performing their duties, and those who have died in the line of duty. The objectives of the bike ride are:

- Remember EMS workers who have died in the line of duty.
- Raise public awareness about line of duty deaths and disabilities in the EMS profession.
- Honor EMS workers who continue to work despite dangerous safety conditions.
- Advocate for a national tracking of injuries, near misses, and a line of duty deaths in EMS.
- Provide a safe, friendly, and supportive environment for registered participants to bicycle.
- Promote healthy lifestyles for EMS providers through physical activity and nutrition.



At the Maryland Fire Rescue Memorial in Annapolis, National EMS Memorial Bike Ride participant Steve Berry speaks. In the background are Jennifer Frenette (president of the National EMS Memorial Bike Ride, Inc.), Dr. Robert Bass (MIEMSS Executive Director), and Paul Sterling (President, Maryland State Firemen's Association).



Participants in the National EMS Memorial Bike Ride stop to rest at the Cecilton Volunteer Fire Company.

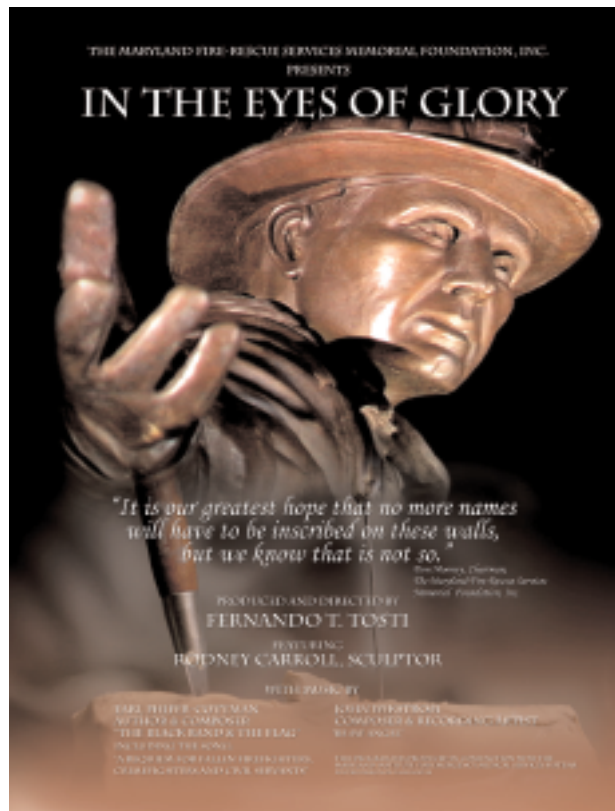
'In the Eyes of Glory' Premiere on MPT

"In the Eyes of Glory," produced and directed by Fernando Tosti (Director of Video Services at MIEMSS) in conjunction with the Maryland Fire-Rescue Services Memorial Foundation, Inc., had its television premiere July 6, 2008 on Maryland Public Television. The 42-minute documentary detailing the construction of the Maryland fire-rescue services memorial park at 101 Calvert Street in Annapolis is interwoven with brief stories of several Marylanders who died in the line of duty. It features survivors and supporters of Maryland's fire, rescue, and EMS personnel who honor the many brave rescuers who died so deserving of recognition.

The large bronze figures, the centerpiece of the memorial park, were created by Baltimore sculptor Rodney Carroll and completed in 2006. Entitled "Between Morning and Night," the memorial statues depict a female EMS provider and a male firefighter ascending stairs but stopping to look back at the families they leave, represented by a woman, a boy, and an older man. The memorial park was dedicated June 11, 2006.

The documentary was first shown publicly at the Maryland State Firemen's Convention in 2007 and then again this year.

To purchase a DVD copy of this documentary, go to the website www.mdfirerescuehero.org or send \$12 (includes shipping) for each DVD to Maryland Fire-Rescue Services Memorial Foundation, Inc., P. O. Box 706, Annapolis, MD 21404.



In Memoriam:

J. Donald Mooney

The Board of Directors and Members of the Maryland Fire-Rescue Services Memorial Foundation, Inc. sadly announce the passing of Chairman J. Donald Mooney on Thursday, July 10, 2008.

The creation of the Memorial Park was a dream come true for Chairman Mooney. His many years of dedication and devotion to the fire service have served as a motivating force to everyone associated with the completion of the Project. . . .

There are many grateful hearts in the fire service family who are now afforded the opportunity to visit the Memorial Park - a symbol of respect and love from the fire service community.

May he rest in peace.

New Child Passenger Safety Law

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percent of children ages 4 to 7 use them nationwide regardless of their weight or height. Children in this age group are at increased risk of injury or death due to either inappropriate restraint in adult seat belts or lack of any restraint at all.

Children between the ages of 4 and 8 are typically too big for a child car seat and too small for a regular seat belt. Booster seats provide a platform that lifts the child up off the seat so that the adult seat belt fits better. An improper fit of a seat belt can cause the lap belt to ride up over the stomach and the shoulder belt to cut across the neck, potentially exposing the child to serious abdominal and/or neck injury. When children are properly restrained in a child safety seat, booster seat, or seat belt (as appropriate for age, weight, and size), their chance of death or injury in a crash is greatly reduced.

In 2002, Delegate Bronrott and Senator Forehand sponsored legislation that made Maryland the first state in the Mid-Atlantic region with a child booster seat law, but an amendment limited it to a half-strength requirement that has protected child passengers only until they turn age 6. With the new 2008



Many gathered at the Fitzgerald Auto Mall in Montgomery County on June 25 to participate in a press conference to heighten the public's awareness about Maryland's new Child Passenger Safety Law effective June 30.

full-strength child booster seat law, Maryland joins 18 states (including every state in the Mid-Atlantic region other than Maryland) that include 6- and 7-year-olds in the booster seat statute. The fine in Maryland for failure to properly buckle up children is \$48. The focus of the law is not the fine but to educate parents, family members, and healthcare providers about the importance of booster

seats and to protect children from injury.

For more information, contact Maryland Kids in Safety Seats (KISS) at 410-767-6016, toll-free at 1-800-370-SEAT, or online at www.mdkiss.org. EMS and hospital providers (or other health professionals) can find child passenger safety (CPS) materials on the MIEMSS website at www.miemss.org/EMSCwww/CPSHome.htm.

Mark Your 2008 Calendar

July 22-27

Firehouse Expo

Baltimore Convention Center

Information:

<http://www.publicsafetyevents.com/pub/fhe/index.po>

September 4-7

Pyramid 2008

Holiday Inn Select

Solomon's Island, MD

Contact: MIEMSS Region V Office, 301-474-1485

September 19

PRMC Trauma Conference

Ocean City, MD

Contact: PRMC Trauma Dept. at 410-543-7328

September 23

MidAtlantic Life Safety Conference

Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab, Laurel

Contact: Fire Marshal's Office, 1-800-525-3124

New Region III EMS Medical Director



*Dr. Eric Nager
Region III EMS Medical Director*

The MIEMSS Region III Office is pleased to announce the recent appointment of Dr. Eric Nager to the position of Region III EMS Medical Director. This position was previous-

ly occupied by Dr. Kevin Seaman, whose term concluded this year. Dr. Nager has been involved in EMS in Region III since 1998. He is an Associate EMS Medical Director for the Baltimore County Fire Department and the Emergency Medical Services Program Medical Director at the Community College of Baltimore County, Essex. Dr. Nager is currently employed as an emergency physician at Franklin Square Hospital and has previously worked at several other Baltimore area hospitals. He is an active participant in the education of EMS providers as a certified Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) and Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) instructor, and has presented at numerous conferences on a wide variety of topics.

As Region III EMS Medical Director, Dr. Nager will represent the Jurisdictional Medical Directors in Region III on issues concerning off-

line medical control. (There is a Jurisdictional Medical Director representing prehospital providers from each jurisdiction in Maryland.) Dr. Nager will report to State EMS Medical Director Dr. Richard Alcorta and will work closely with the Regional EMS Medical Directors from the other four Maryland EMS regions on issues of common concern. Among other responsibilities, Dr. Nager will participate in, and encourage the participation of Regional hospitals and Jurisdictional Medical Directors in, addressing issues pertaining to hospital and prehospital care and education. In addition, he will be responsible for the supervision, planning, implementation, and evaluation of pilot programs and prehospital studies that are completed in Region III.

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**Governor Martin O'Malley
 Lt. Governor Anthony Brown**

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