



Press Release:  
May 22, 2023

2023 Maryland Stars of Life Awards!

Wednesday, May 24th 2:30 pm  
Oxford Fire Company,  
300 Oxford Road, Oxford MD 21654

Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems, MIEMSS, celebrates EMS Week by honoring men and women across Maryland who have contributed to the EMS system. [The eight categories](#) for awards relate to specific incidents occurring from January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022. Of the 8 awards, MIEMSS will be recognizing three categories, The **LEON W. HAYES AWARD FOR LIFETIME EXCELLENCE IN EMS** awarded to an individual who has devoted a lifetime of dedication to excellence in patient care, compassion and respect for each patient, and commitment to continuous improvement of the Maryland EMS system through his or her professional and personal life, The **EMS Clinician of the Year** awarded to a clinician who has made outstanding contributions in the past year to the continuous improvement of emergency medical services in Maryland (for example, in the areas of quality assurance, public or EMS education, prevention, delivery of EMS services, and new technology), and **Maryland EMS Citizen** intended for citizen rescuers who have demonstrated quick thinking, fast action, and heroism.

This Year's **Leon W. Hayes Award for Lifetime Excellence in EMS** is being given to **Michael J. "Mike" Young** who joined the Oxford Volunteer Fire Company in 1963. Mike has been an active member and perennial top responder ever since. His EMS career began when the fire company bought its first ambulance in 1966. With initial certification in Advanced First Aid, he progressed through EMT-A in 1972, Cardiac Rescue Technician (CRT) in 1986, and in 1990 he graduated to Paramedic. Upon completion of his CRT training in 1986, Mike began volunteering with the fledgling Talbot County ALS (TCALS). Mike logged 645.5 on-call hours and ran 117 calls. As a career clinician, Mike was hired full-time by the Department of Defense Medical Corps in 1986 and worked primarily as a Paramedic/Instructor and was certified as a Wilderness Medical Technician and Surgical and Respiratory Technician. Mike holds a degree in Education from Salisbury University and teaches EMS Preparedness. He has travelled state-wide teaching, testing, monitoring, and mentoring both students and instructors. Mike was the first "Mid-shore" Advanced First Aid and CPR instructor, assisted with the "Maryland Way" Handbook, provided instruction for Maryland Fire and Rescue (MFRI), and remains and instructor for the American Heart Association. Mike has 57 years of continuous service and is still an active EMS Clinician in Maryland.

The **EMS Maryland Clinician of the year** is awarded to **Captain Jennifer Andrews, NRP** for her role as a Training Committee member specializing in pediatric and hospice care, medical logistics coordinator, and ride-along liaison for the county. Jennifer works as a clinical instructor

at Chesapeake College and is a multidisciplinary American Heart Association instructor, including CPR, Pediatric Advanced Life Support, and Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support. Jennifer is heavily involved with MIEMSS as a pediatric EMS champion and is the ALS Clinician representative to the Pediatric Emergency Medical Advisory Committee, PEMAC. She is the Pediatric EMS Champion for Talbot County since 2019. Jennifer's caring nature enables Jen to build bonds with everyone from her patients and their families to coworkers, volunteers, and hospital staff and is a definitive role model to all EMS and healthcare personnel.

The **Maryland EMS Citizen** award goes to **Gene Dyson** and **Linnie Vann** for acting quickly in response to a co-worker suffering a cardiac arrest. Gene Dyson, finding the co-worker pulseless, called for help on the radio and quickly started compressions. Mr. Linnie Van responded to the radio call and arrived at the scene with an AED. Effective CPR was delivered, resulting in return of spontaneous circulation, ROSC, and a patient was later discharged from Tidal Health Peninsula Regional with no neurological deficits.

POC Bryan Ebling 443-469-3499

For more information about the EMS awards and MIEMSS:  
POC Todd Abramovitz (410) 706-3994