# State of Maryland EISS NEWS Governor William Donald Schaefer

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For All Emergency Medical Care Providers

**June 1994** 

# **EMS Week Activities Throughout Maryland**



A member of Anne Arundel County Fire Department's hazmat team explains a device that measures hazardous particles to Stacey Trohanis during Annapolis EMS Day.



From Cumberland Memorial Hospital, Vince, one of the seatbelt dummies, explains the dangers of drinking and driving, especially on prominight, to Julie Ferqueson.



Preparing to extricate a victim during a mock car crash during the Open House of Emmitsburg Ambulance Company.



Sacred Heart Hospital of Cumberland had a teddy bear clinic at the Country Club Mall in LaVale.

# EMS: The Stars of Life

One of the best expressions of why we celebrate EMS Week appeared in the final ad in the four-week series of ads that Washington County Hospital ran saluting those in Region II EMS. Every ad featured two EMS providers, with photos, quotes from them, and summaries about their involvement in EMS. The final ad included the following:

"The Emergency Medical Service personnel that Washington County Hospital has honored over the past four weeks, represent some of the best and brightest citizens of Washington County. Many in our community owe their very lives to them and their fellow EMS providers. They have names we may never know, and faces we may never see again. Yet the part they play in our safety and well-being is significant and profound. We sometimes take them for granted, and forget just how much of themselves they give for the sake of others. This series of ads has been an attempt to say 'Thank You' to all of the dedicated men and women of the Emergency Medical Services. You are indeed: The Stars of OUR lives.

# **EMS Week Activities Throughout Maryland**

# Governor William Donald Schaefer on EMS Week

"It is reassuring to know that if anyone of us in Maryland should have a life-threatening illness or injury, our superb system of Emergency Medical Services will respond. EMS Week gives us the opportunity to recognize those who are always there for us making the EMS System work."

Emergency medical personnel in Maryland were honored during EMS Week, May 15-21. Numerous events throughout the state centered around the theme of "Emergency Medical Services: The Stars of Life." A sampling of these activities is noted below.

#### Proclamation

Governor William Donald Schaefer, as well as various county officials, showing their dedication and appreciation of EMS personnel, signed proclamations officially declaring EMS Week.

### **Special Activities**

- Frostburg Area Ambulance Service conducted a Block Party and sponsored a poster and essay contest for the elementary schools.
- George's Creek Ambulance Service provided educational programs in elementary and high schools.
- Bel Air Fire House sponsored a Skills Competition for EMT-As.
- Lower Eastern Shore EMS Advisory Council members visited children in elementary schools to educate them about local EMS programs.
- The Thurmont Ambulance Company visited the Thurmont Elementary School where the children were taught about the ambulances and the services provided by ambulance personnel and Frederick County paramedics.
- Jim Morgan, chairman of the Frederick County EMS Committee, and Dave Chisholm, an EMT instructor from Frederick County, assisted in the Congressional Life Saver Day (May 16) by teaching CPR to the congressional staff in Washington, DC (in conjunction with CPR instructors from Alexandria and Fairfax, VA, and from Montgomery, Howard, and Prince George's counties).

## Exhibits, Demonstrations, Open Houses by Prehospital Providers

 MIEMSS Region I Office and the Region I EMS Advisory Council sponsored EMS Day at the Country Club Mall in LaVale

(Continued on page 3)



An auto extrication demonstration at the Open House sponsored by the Havre de Grace Ambulance Corps.



The Annapolis City Fire Dept. distributes safety and prevention literature during Annapolis EMS Day while Vince and Larry, the seatbelt dummies, look on.



From Cumberland Memorial Hospital, Vince, one of the seatbelt dummies, has his photo taken with a child at the Country Club Mall in LaVale.



The Baltimore City Fire Department offers free blood pressure screening at the Inner Harbor.



Thomas (T.J.) Blake, of the Community Rescue Squad, does a blood pressure screening at the Valley Mall in Hagerstown.

## (Continued from page 2)

On display were various types of ambulances from different areas, a rescue truck, a Department of Natural Resources snowmobile rescue sled, a Maryland State Police helicopter simulator, and a hum/v ambulance (a National Guard all-terrain ambulance). There were also displays, such as 9-1-1 and Red Cross disaster response. The EMS Club at Northern Garrett County High School also had a display and did blood pressure screenings.

- Southern Garrett County Rescue Squad sponsored an open house and assisted with the 100th anniversary of Oakland Volunteer Fire Department.
- The EMS Committee of the Washington County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association sponsored a three-day display at the Valley Mall Shopping Center in Hagerstown. Emergency vehicles and equipment, including ALS equipped ambulances as well as first responder (medic



Richard Mettetal, MIEMSS Region II Administrator, gave out hundreds of EMS balloons to children at the Valley Mall in Hagerstown.

assist) fire vehicles, were on display. Staff were available to distribute EMS and fire safety literature and to provide information and answer any questions about the equipment or the vehicles. Each display also had a supply of "EMS - The Stars of Life" helium-filled balloons for children. Participating companies included: Halfway Volunteer Fire Department. Washington County Civil Defense, Williamsport Ambulance Service, Clear Spring Ambulance Service, and Community Rescue Service. Also at the Mall, the MIEMSS Region II Office staffed a large EMS pictorial display depicting EMS across the state, MIEMSS, and the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center. Continuous EMS videos were displayed for public viewing and various EMS literature distributed. As with the other displays, EMS helium-filled balloons were available for the children.

• County Medical Transport, Inc. in Washington County displayed a half-page ad



Shown with Washington County's EMS Week Proclamation are (L) Randy Spies (Chairman of the WCVFRA's EMS Committee and (R) Roger (Jerry) Reed (Washington County Fire and Rescue Coordinator).



Shown with Frederick County's EMS Week Proclamation are (L-R) Bruce L. Reeder (Frederick Co. Commissioner); Andrew Marsh (Deputy Director, Frederick Co. Department of Fire and Rescue Services); Ronald L. Sundergill (President of Frederick Co. Board of Commissioners); Richard Mettetal (MIEMSS Region II Administrator); Gail T. Bowerman (Frederick Co. Commissioner); and Sue Ann Yingling (Frederick Co. Commissioner).

in the Sunday newspaper saluting their staff during National EMS Week.

- An EMS Day in Annapolis, sponsored by the Region III EMS Advisory Council, included exhibits on rescue activities and injury and poison prevention. Ambulances and fire trucks were also on display. In addition, there were demonstrations of underwater rescue and EMS response to a trauma patient and a cardiac patient. Maryland State Police paramedics demonstrated intubation techniques on manikins. Among the participants at EMS Day were EMS representatives from Annapolis City, Baltimore City, BWI Airport Fire Department, and Anne Arundel, Baltimore, and Howard counties. The hazmat and underwater rescue teams from Anne Arundel County Fire Department and the critical care/trauma team from Maryland Express Care were also there.
- Havre de Grace Ambulance Corps sponsored an open house. Included were equipment displays, demonstrations of cardiac resuscitations and auto extrication, and safety inspections for car safety seats.
- Level Volunteer Fire Company in Harford County held an open house.
- Kingsville Volunteer Fire Company held an open house.
- Emmitsburg Ambulance Company held an open house. A mock two-car collision was staged to demonstrate EMT training and treatment required in emergency situations. Ambulance and medic units from Emmitsburg, Thurmont, Frederick, Fairfield (PA), and Gettysburg (PA) participated. Also at the scene were the Maryland State Police Trooper 3 helicopter and Frederick County sheriff's deputies who arrested the driver who caused the mock accident. In conjunction with the open house, the Frederick County Sheriff's Department sponsored a bike safety rodeo for children.
- Queen Anne's County EMS hosted an EMS Day that included auto extrication demonstrations, EMS exhibits, and award presentations.
- St. Mary's County held an EMS Day with stretcher races, games for children, a visit from Barney, and other fun activities for the family.
- Baltimore City Fire Department conducted blood pressure screenings and demonstrations of treatment of patients in cardiac arrest.
- Rescue squads throughout Charles County had EMS displays, a poster contest, and free screenings.
- Anne Arundel County Fire Department sponsored an EMS Week Expo at Annapolis Mall featuring: EMS equipment, displays, and demonstrations; free blood pressure screenings

(Continued on page 4)

# **EMS Week Activities Throughout Maryland**

(Continued from page 3) and health appraisals; free printed health information.

- Tantallon Center was the site for EMS displays and a recognition ceremony for "EMS Stars of Life" in Prince George's County.
- Landover Mall was the site for EMS displays, demonstrations, and mini-health fair.

#### **Hospital Activities**

- Cumberland Memorial Hospital had Vince, one of the seatbelt dummies, talk to children and have photos taken with him on EMS Day at the Country Club Mall. They also had drawings for free bike helmets.
- Sacred Heart Hospital in Cumberland sponsored a dinner for prehospital care providers in the area. They also held a teddy bear clinic at the Country Club Mall.
- Cumberland Memorial Hospital and Sacred Heart Hospital in Cumberland both took full-page ads in the Sunday edition of the



A fire truck, equipment, and free literature are displayed by the Volunteer Fire Company of Halfway at the Valley Mall in Hagerstown.

Cumberland Times in honor of EMS Week.

- The Washington County Hospital sponsored several newspaper ads saluting two EMS personnel each day in which photos and biographies were also listed, highlighting the "Stars of Life."
- The Washington County Hospital Trauma Prevention Committee staffed a display at the Valley Mall Shopping Center in Hagerstown where they provided information pertaining to children's car seat safety and the wearing of seatbelts. Their staff also conducted face painting and provided heliumfilled EMS balloons for the children.
- Carroll County General Hospital sponsored an EMS Day.
- Fallston General Hospital sponsored an EMS Day with demonstrations and a bike rodeo.
- Hopkins Bayview Medical Center held an open house for EMS Providers in their new emergency room.
- The R Adams Cowley Trauma Center, Adult Emergency Department, and Pediatric Emergency Department at the University of



The Maryland State Police and Baltimore County Fire Department demonstrate field procedures at Annapolis EMS Day.

Maryland Medical Center gave meal vouchers to prehospital care providers during EMS Week.

- Atlantic General Hospital hosted a First Year Birthday Celebration, and an EMS picnic was given by the emergency department.
- Memorial Hospital at Easton sponsored full-page ads honoring EMS providers and offered refreshments to prehospital care providers in the emergency department area.



The EMS Club at Northern Garrett County High School (foreground) and the hum/v ambulance (a National Guard allterrain ambulance) (background) at the Country Club Mall in LaVale.

- Doctor's Community Hospital in Prince George's County sponsored a teddy bear picnic, safety lecture for parents, and picnic lunches and dinners honoring nursing staff and area prehospital providers.
- Physicians Memorial Hospital in Charles County sponsored a teddy bear clinic and hosted an appreciation dinner for rescue squad personnel.
- Martin's Crosswinds was the site for a "Stars of Life" Recognition Dinner sponsored by Prince George's Hospital Center's Trauma Service and Prince George's County Fire Department for hospital and prehospital care providers.
- All the hospitals in Montgomery County showed their appreciation to prehospital care providers by providing free coffee and doughnuts, lunch, or special presents, such as squeeze bottles.

#### **Post EMS Week Events**

Several hospitals and organizations, due to scheduling problems, planned special events to take place after EMS Week.

- The Frederick Memorial Hospital will sponsor a special recognition night for Frederick County EMS providers at the Frederick Keys baseball stadium.
- A picnic will be sponsored by the Washington County Hospital in June showing appreciation to the EMS providers in Washington County.
- The Region I EMS Advisory Council is planning an Awards Reception for June 1.

## Heard at the EMS Awards Reception, May 19

'Prehospital care providers gather and deliver services that ease human suffering.... On nights best fit for sitting before a warm fireplace, you respond. When your own spouse or child is ailing, you respond to a stranger's call. Whatever your workload from business and life, you are there, serving as the backbone, the fulcrum of an entire emergency response and medical community.... At a time when so many have lost sight of the worth of human life, you work untiringly to save, sustain, restore, and prolong life. And for that I compliment you. Lest there be any doubt, let me state unequivocally, from the standpoint of the EMS Board, that the work you do is considered to be the lifeblood of the entire EMS System.

> Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. Chairman, Emergency Medical Services Board

"I think the prehospital care professionals really are the critical link between the health care system and the community. And we are only as good as that prehospital care system is."

Ricardo Martinez, MD, FÁCEP Administrator-Designate, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

# 26 EMS Award Recipients Honored by MIEMSS

Twenty-six EMS award recipients were honored on May 19 at a "Stars of Life" awards reception held by MIEMSS.

Certificates of honor were awarded to 14 EMS/public safety personnel and to 8 Maryland citizens for their extraordinary efforts in providing life-saving care. Four EMS personnel were recognized with Distinguished Service Awards for improving Maryland's EMS system.



Dr. Ricardo Martinez, Administrator-Designate of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, addresses the audience at the EMS Awards Reception.

## Region I Frederick W. Miltenberger, MD,

FACS, received a Distinguished Service Award. He has made numerous contributions in Emergency Medical Services throughout Region I (Garrett and Allegany counties) and Maryland since 1973. His vision and achievements have prompted many EMS advancements in Region I. In his role as EMS Advisory Council President (two terms), Chairman of the Prehospital Care Committee, and Region I Medical Director, Dr. Miltenberger developed position papers supporting Med-Evac and Trauma Center services for the area, co-crafted Maryland's first 9-1-1 legislation, and encouraged subsequent enhanced 9-1-1 legislation. He has played an integral role in improving medical control for both Advanced Life Support and Basic Life Support, and in improving the medical consultation process in Region I. Currently, he represents Region I on the State EMS Advisory Council and serves as President of the Maryland Trauma Network.

Janie Hutcherson, a registered nurse with the Allegany County Health Dept., was awarded a Civilian Certificate of Honor for the emergency care that she administered to a choking 15-month-old boy. At a local church supper, Ms. Hutcherson responded quickly to a plea for



Janie Hutcherson, Dr. Frederick Miltenberger, Cynthia Skiles, and Donald Butler were honored at the annual EMS Awards Reception. They are shown here with Region I Administrator David Ramsey (far right).

help by administering the back blow method used for obstructed airways in infants. Today the infant is alive and well due to Ms. Hutcherson's effective application of CPR in an emergency situation.

Cynthia Skiles and Donald Butler received Civilian Certificates of Honor for performing effective CPR on a 57-year-old truck driver when he collapsed in a Sheetz Convenience Store parking lot in Oakland, on May 14, 1993. Ms. Skiles, an employee at the store, established an airway and immediately began cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Joined shortly by Mr. Butler, a retired member of the Oakland Volunteer Fire Department, the two continued CPR 5 minutes until the Southern Garrett County (Continued on page 6)



Region II award winners Clarence (Smiley) White, Jr. and CRT Patrick Myers received a Distinguished Service Award and EMS/Public Safety Certificate of Honor, respectively. They are shown here with George Delaplaine, Jr. (far left), Chairman of the Statewide EMS Advisory Committee, and Region II Administrator Richard Mettetal (far right).

# 26 EMS Award Recipients Honored by MIEMSS

(Continued from page 5)

Rescue Squad arrived. As a result of advanced life support care by the squad and subsequent procedures administered at the Garrett Memorial Hospital, the patient regained consciousness and was released from the hospital four days later.

## Region II Clarence (Smiley) White, Jr.

received a Distinguished Service Award for his 30 years as a volunteer in the fire and rescue service in Maryland. Mr. White is also vice-chairman of the Statewide Training Committee of the Maryland State Firemen's Association. His interest in EMT and firefighter training also extends to high-



Kim Boyce and Battalion Chief Lawrence N. D'Elia III work together in the Don't Drink and Drive Program that is part of the prevention effort of the Baltimore County Fire Department. In recognition of her participation in the program, Ms. Boyce was given a Civilian Certificate of Honor.

school students. He set up the EMT-A Fire/Rescue Curriculum that is part of the Career Study Program for Frederick County schools. Mr. White has addressed the problems of recruitment and retention facing rural EMS, while serving on the Volunteer Recruitment/Retention Committee of the Frederick County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association. He is a vocal supporter for public involvement in the fire/rescue services.

CRT Patrick E. Myers was awarded an EMS/Public Safety Certificate of Honor for his rescue of two adults and four small children from a fire on April 18, 1994. CRT Myers, who lives one block from the



Cathleen Webb (center) received a Distinguished Service Award. She is shown here with Region V Administrator Marie Warner-Crosson (left) and Asst. Chief Mary Beth Michos (Montgomery County Department of Fire/Rescue Services).

fire and operates one of Frederick County's ALS Medic Units, was the first to arrive at the scene. He raced to the second floor of the burning structure, kicked down a door. grabbed the three-month-old baby from her bassinet, and woke the two adults who then were able to assist in evacuating the other three children. Minutes after the children's rescue, their bedroom erupted into flames. CRT Myers' bravery and quick action in entering the burning and smoke-filled building saved the lives of the entire family.

#### Region III

Ten-year-old Christopher Roberts performed the Heimlich Maneuver on his father on July 24, 1993, when his dad was choking on pizza. Christopher had often accompanied his father, who taught CPR, to his classes. It was there that he learned what to do if someone started to choke, and he was able to apply the knowledge to save his dad's life. For his life-saving action, Christopher received a Civilian Certificate of

Neil Cariello received a Civilian Certificate of Honor for the emergency care that he gave to a Rodgers Forge woman who ran out of her house with her clothes (Continued on page 7)



Region III Administrator John Donohue (kneeling) and Region III award winners (beginning clockwise) Christopher Roberts with his father Curtis, Battalion Chief Donald Howell, Bill Boyce who accepted the award for his daughter Kim, Neil Cariello, and Bobby Thompson and his father Robert. All received Civilian Certificates of Honor, with the exception of Chief Howell who received a Distinguished Service Award.



Sgt. Scott Zimmerman (center) and Sgt. George Ball (right) receive EMS/Public Safety Certificates of Honor from Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. (left), Chairman of the Maryland Emergency Medical Services Board.

# With Certificates of Honor, Distinguished Service

(Continued from page 6)
on fire. Mr. Cariello, a lawn care professional
who was working a few houses away, yelled to
the woman to drop to the ground and roll
toward him. He then batted out the remaining
flames and waited for the arrival of the
paramedics. Unfortunately the woman did not
survive

Battalion Chief Donald R. Howell received a Distinguished Service Award for 26 years in EMS-related activities. He started as a volunteer firefighter in the Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services (HCDFRS) and has progressed through the ranks there to his current position as Battalion Chief in charge of Emergency Medical Services. Chief Howell is an EMS leader in Howard County and in the state, involved in such activities as the Governor's Commission on EMS. Among his many accomplishments is the implementation of the critical incident stress management program for the HCDFRS. In addition, he was also instrumental in the



Robert Burkhardt of Elkton (R), received a Civilian Certificate of Honor. He is shown here with Region IV Administrator Marc Bramble and his father Bill Burkhardt.

implementation of the Critical Incident Stress Hotline located in the Howard County Emergency Communications Center that handles critical incident stress management calls from the entire county.

Fifteen-year-old Bobby Thompson received a Civilian Certificate of Honor for his quick thinking and action in three rescues. On March 20, 1993, Bobby's father suddenly was engulfed in a flash fire in his garage. Bobby, recalling his fire safety training from elementary school and the Boy Scouts, yelled to his father to "STOP-DROP-and ROLL." Because of his quick response, his father is totally recovered today. On April 4, 1993, Bobby came to the aid of a friend who had fallen 6 feet from a rope swing into a shallow, rocky stream. Suspecting possible head or back injuries, Bobby rolled his friend from the stream onto the embankment and placed him on an improvised backboard until the ambulance arrived. His friend was released

from the hospital with minor injuries. On June 23, 1993, Bobby, hearing screams for help, found his neighbor who had been injured on his dirt bike. Again suspecting possible back injuries, Bobby insisted that his neighbor not move while he ran to call 9-1-1. Today his neighbor is fully recovered from his injuries.

**Kim Boyce**, a junior at Towson State University, was recognized with a Civilian Certificate of Honor for her work with the Don't Drink and Drive Program that is part of the prevention effort of the Baltimore County Fire Department. Ms. Boyce, whose leg had to be amputated due to injuries received when a drunk driver crashed into a car that she was standing behind, has told her story to thousands of

(Continued on page 8)



Chief Gary Summers and Capt. Dale Hupp, representing Charles County Rescue Squad, and Paramedic Joseph E. Stine III receive EMS/Public Safety Certificates of Honor from Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. (far left), Chairman of the Maryland Emergency Medical Services Board.



Representatives from five of the eight St. Mary's County rescue/medic units cited for extraordinary rescue efforts related to the "El Toro" boating incident received EMS/Public Safety Certificates of Honor. Pictured above are CRT Sean Davidson of Lexington Park, Chief Kerry Klear of Leonardtown, Chief Paul Sullivan of Ridge, Asst. Chief Wenona Sullivan of St. Mary's County ALS Unit, and Paramedic Sharon Davis of Hollywood. Far left is John Bohanan, district director for Congressman Steny Hoyer, who presented a special award from the Congressman.



Governor William Donald Schaefer

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636 W. Lombard St., Baltimore, MD 21201-1528

Chairman, EMS Board: Donald L. DeVries, Jr., Esq. Managing Editor: Beverly Sopp (410-706-3248)

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## **DATED MATERIAL**

# 26 EMS Award Recipients Honored by MIEMSS

(Continued from page 7) teenagers. She does approximately 25-30 presentations a year in an effort to show the devastating results that can occur from drinking and driving.

#### Region IV

Sgt. Scott Zimmerman and Sgt. George Ball were awarded EMS/Public Safety Certificates of Honor for their rescue on November 4, 1993, of a man trapped in his car that had rolled down a 20-foot embankment to land inverted in 4-5 feet of water. Sgt. Zimmerman, the pilot of a Natural Resources Police Bell Jet Ranger helicopter, had been trailing the man who was headlighting on a plowed farm when he suddenly realized the man's vehicle was submerged in water. Following his rescue, the victim, suffering from shock and hypothermia, was taken to Memorial Hospital at Easton and discharged the same day.

Sixteen-year-old **Robert Burkhardt** received a Civilian Certificate of Honor for singlehandedly rescuing three Delaware residents from the Elk River on June 24, 1993. His actions and knowledge of how to respond to a water emergency certainly prevented more serious injuries.

## Region V

Receiving EMS/Public Safety Certificates of Honor for their response to the sinking "El Toro II" were the following:

Ridge Volunteer Rescue Squad; Leonardtown Volunteer Rescue Squad: Mechanicsville Volunteer Rescue Squad; Lexington Park Volunteer Rescue Squad: Seventh District Volunteer Rescue Squad: Second District Volunteer Rescue Squad; Hollywood Volunteer Rescue Squad; and St. Mary's County ALS Medic Unit. On board the charter boat when it sank in the Chesapeake Bay on December 5, 1993, were 23 people, including 3 children. All but three survived, due in large part to the efforts of 82 EMS prehospital providers. The rescue, which lasted more than 6 hours, depended on finely tuned teamwork during a mass casualty incident.

The Charles County Rescue
Squad, Paramedic Joseph Stine III,
and CRT Tina Bragg received EMS/Public
Safety Certificates of Honor for their initial
response to and management of seven
severely injured patients involved in the
head-on collision of two cars on January 3,
1993. This was the largest number of
patients to be flown out from one incident
scene in Charles County in the past 15
years.

Cathleen Webb, RN, CEN, NREMTP received a Distinguished Service Award for more than 14 years as an EMS provider. Ms. Webb is a nurse with the Montgomery County Department of Fire and Rescue Services, an emergency department nurse working part-time at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, and a paramedic instructor in both Montgomery and Frederick counties. She is also involved in educating emergency department nurses.



Mark your calendars! Pyramid '94 returns to the Harry Lundeberg School of Seamanship at Piney Point, St. Mary's County, September 10 - 11. Southern Maryland's sixth annual EMS Conference is accredited for 12 hours of continuing education for Maryland EMTs, CRTs, and EMT-Ps. Topics will include Hypothermia; Incident Command; A Panel Discussion on the El Toro II Incident; Abuse of the Elderly; What to Do for the Patient in a Long Extrication Situation; Be Aware! Be Alert! Be Street Smart!; MAIS Reports: A Headache or a Benefit!; and several workshops on pediatric emergencies.

Complete program details and registration information will be distributed from the MIEMSS Region V Office. For further information, contact the Region V Office at 301-474-1485.