A Newsletter by and for the Employees of Charles County Emergency Medical Services

A MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF
BY CHIEF FINCH

2008 got off to a fast start as we found ourselves without a Director of Emergency Services. However, the Charles County Commissioners along with the assistance of the County Administrator have found us a new Director. Alex Naar will be at the helm of our department, and I'm sure I speak for all of us when I say Congratulations and Welcome. Mr. Naar brings a wealth of knowledge as well as experience in the public safety field. Mr. Naar comes to us from the National Park Service where he was the Fire Management Officer. He has a Masters Degree in Public Services Administration and 27 years of public safety experience in volunteer fire departments and federal agencies. The list goes on with Mr. Naar but I feel we have seen enough to know that he will be a perfect fit to our team. So when you see Mr. Naar please make him feel at home.

Steve Finch

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

-To everyone with a March birthday or anniversary, happy day!

L u c k  o f  t h e  I r i s h  t o  y o u
THE PULSE

Drag Racing Leads To Multiple Deaths On Indian Head Highway

By Lt. Campbell, PIO

In the early morning hours of Saturday, Feb. 16, 2007, Charles County units were first on the scene of a mass casualty incident just over the Charles County line in Prince George’s County. Seven spectators were killed and five were flown to trauma centers from the scene. The accident occurred when a car plowed into a crowd that had gathered to watch an illegal street race. The crowd had spilled onto the roadway to watch two cars as they sped off. Paramedic Ambulance 119 from Bryan’s Road arrived first on the extremely dark and horrifying scene and performed triage and initial size up. PA 119 did an outstanding job of triage and treatment, the engine and command from 11 was IC, Duty 16B was Operations. For a scene of this magnitude, it went very smoothly, thanks to ICS being followed. There was CISD for EMS, Fire and CCSO at Bryans Road afterward. All of our employees are doing well.

AP photo
EMT-P Sheila Howard was riding with the career unit PA 119 and performed as triage Officer. Here, she returns to the scene in daylight to pick up medical supplies.

AP photo
Law enforcement piecing together the scene which will leave many unanswered questions.
Susan Wells of Labrador Retriever Rescue, Inc of Palmyra Pa. contacted the Charles County Department of Emergency Services EMS division, with a request to donate several sets of pet oxygen masks. The sets come with three sizes of masks to fit a wide spectrum of animals. As of now we have received two sets of masks and have placed one set in each EMS duty supervisor vehicle. Due to their popularity, we have made a request to Labrador Retriever Rescue, Inc for more sets of masks which will be placed in emergency vehicles and animal shelters throughout Charles County. Mrs. Wells was very pleased to accommodate our request. Please visit the Labrador Retriever Rescue, Inc at www.lrr.org.

EMT Aldo Zambrana and his lady, Athena modeling the new mask (below).

Pet first Aid Class

The Red Cross and the Charles County Animal Shelter is sponsoring a Pet First Aid class to be held at the Hughesville VFD Station 2. Multiple dates are offered—you only attend one day. 1700-2100. The dates are as follows: March 1,8 and 27th. TEMS and water rescue personnel have been approved for training hours, but everyone is encouraged to attend. Contact Lt. summers for registration and for details.
THE PULSE

From the Office of Health and Safety
Extracted from Lt. Higgins’ 1-15-08 Safety Brief

It’s still Flu season. I’ve been reading some disturbing trends lately regarding the latest Flu strains. They are getting more and more resistant to medications and classic treatments. While we may not have a pandemic this winter, the threat is growing and quite probable within the next few years. As always, the young and old are most susceptible to the virus. Remember that what you pick up at work may affect your family more than it does you. Hand washing is still the number one way to stop these bugs in their tracks (another one of my previous safety briefs…).

A good website to check frequently is: http://www.cdc.gov/flu/

Thanks, David

TRAINING NOTES

SOG # PERS-14 Permitted Training and Training Hours has been temporarily amended due to unforeseen County-wide fiscal constraints. Each employee’s permitted training and training hours will be reduced to the following:

**ALS**: Paramedic Refresher, CPR, ACLS, 24 hours of con-ed
**BLS**: EMT-B Refresher, CPR, 24 hours of con-ed

From Super Safety Sandy

On April 27th I will walking in the March of Dimes for Babies to celebrate all the healthy babies that have become, and those who will become, a part of the Emergency Services/Emergency Medical Services "family".

"Because babies born too soon are more likely to die, or have lifelong disabili-
ties. Because 120,000 babies are born with serious birth defects every year. Be-
cause every baby deserves someone in their corner, the March of Dimes is here for
all babies, those born healthy and those that need help to survive and thrive.

If you do not plan on or are unable to walk in this event, please consider sponsoring me. I have set a personal goal to collect at least $300.00. You can go to my personal web page, www.marchforbabies.org/fsiblondlie, and donate on-line, or see me in person. For those who donate I have "baby footprints" that I will put your name on and hang on the wall to show your support.

Thanks in advance for your support!

Sandy
MOTHERBOARD!

EMS 3 has taken delivery of a bariatric board for lifting, moving and transporting large patients. You can request this resource through communications when you need it. You should also request 6 people to lift!

CONGRATULATIONS!

EMT Kelly Scott and Police dispatcher Chris Conley

Twin girls born Feb. 26th, 2008;
Makenzie Jean was born at 1334 hours weighing in at 4 lbs, 11oz, followed by her sister Mikayla Ann, who arrived at 1359 hours weighing 5 lbs, 9 oz. The girls were born at 36 weeks and are both being monitored in the NICU at Mary Washington Hospital but are doing well. Mom is doing well and was discharged.

Mikayla Ann

Makenzie Jean

Photos Courtesy of J. Monday
Explosives Training

By Assistant Chief Adam Weiss, TRT

On January 26th, 2008, the Charles County Tactical Response Team held an Introduction to Explosives and Improvised Explosive Device Recognition Training. The Tactical Response Team provides 8 hours of Explosives and IED training to its members annually. The objective of this training is to enable the first responder with the necessary tools to recognize the problem, call for the proper resources and create a safe perimeter.

MVC with Fuel Leak

By Assistant Chief Adam Weiss, TRT

On February 15, 2008, The Charles County Tactical Response Team responded to a motor vehicle accident involving a tractor trailer and a mini-van. Due to the crash, the tractor trailers’ 300 gallon saddle tank was punctured causing a loss of approximately 100 gallons of fuel. The first step in TRT’s mitigation process was to stop the further spread of fuel leaking into the soil by plugging the tank. The team was then able to utilize their Sandpiper Pump to successfully off load the remaining 350 gallons of diesel.

Photos courtesy Assistant Chief Weiss

QUIZ OF THE MONTH:
We have a new General Order on Uniform Allowances….what does it say?
THE PULSE

CAUGHT IN THE ACT!

….of doing the right thing

Photo courtesy WaldorfVFD.com

The Ides of March, Why Worry?

A soothsayer warned Julius Caesar to “beware the Ides of March”, foreseeing his bloody assassination on that day in 44BC. Although originally just a way to refer to March 15th identifying the appearance of a full moon, the premonition has forever imbued March 15 with a sense of foreboding. It has come to be a metaphor of impending doom, in modern times thanks to Act 1, Scene 2 of William Shakespeare’s Julius Caesar….

Caesar: “Who is it in the press that calls on me? I hear a tongue, shriller than all the music Cry “Caesar!” Speak. Caesar is turn’d to hear” Soothsayer: “Beware the Ides of March.”

Are you superstitious?

I SPY

Sue Perry, Monica Reeher, Sheila Howard 2-16-2008 MCI on 210. Outstanding job.

Jackie Martin, Allen Bryant 3-3-08 Trouble breathing that was a witnessed code: save

Allen Bryant has donned all of his gear for this early morning rollover
# Mark Your Calendars....

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- 3 April Fool's Day
- 2 Passover begins at sundown
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- 11 Payday
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- 22 Earth Day
- 23 Administrative Professional's Day
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- 25 Arbor Day
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Mission Statement

The mission of Charles County Government is to provide our citizens the highest quality service possible in a timely, efficient, and courteous manner. To achieve this goal, our government must be operated in an open and accessible atmosphere, be based on comprehensive long- and short-term planning, and have an appropriate managerial organization tempered by fiscal responsibility.

Vision Statement

Charles County is a place where all people thrive and businesses grow and prosper; where the preservation of our heritage and environment is paramount; where government services to its citizens are provided at the highest level of excellence; and where the quality of life is the best in the nation.

Commissioners of Charles County:
Wayne Cooper, President
Dr. Edith J. Patterson, Vice President
Samuel N. Graves Jr.
Reuben B. Collins II
Gary V. Hodge

Questions or Newsletter Submissions:
E. Campbell, EMS Lt.
Phone: 301-399-8156
E-mail: CampbellE@charlescounty.org

Mission Statement CCEMS

It is the mission of the Charles County Department of Emergency Services, EMS Division to provide superior quality emergency medical support to the citizens of Charles County, Maryland and requesting jurisdictions.

Vision Statement CCEMS

With well-trained, capable and professional personnel; The Charles County Department of Emergency Services, EMS Division will provide the best premium quality of preventative and emergency care in the fastest, most efficient and cost effective manor possible to the citizens of Charles County, Maryland and requesting jurisdictions. It is the goal of the Charles County Emergency Services, EMS Division to be at the vanguard of pre-hospital emergency care.

ANSWER TO QUIZ: SOG # H & S-13 Annual Uniform Replacement has been temporarily amended due to unforeseen County-wide fiscal constraints. Each employee’s uniform allowance will be reduced from $600.00 per employee to $400.00 per employee per fiscal year. This reduction will not