



Governor Holcomb Celebrates with Volunteer Firefighters and Emergency Medical Responders



Governor Holcomb visits with longtime volunteer firefighters. The Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association has 837 member departments.

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Volunteer firefighters from Indiana who have served their communities for 50 years were celebrated on March 6, 2017, at the Indiana Statehouse. Governor Holcomb met with the 61 firefighters and thanked them for their commitment and service.

The Governor also celebrated Emergency Medical Services Day, February 9, 2017, with members of the Indiana Emergency Medical Services Association. The group discussed highlights in the EMS community and goals moving forward.

(Pictures continued on page 5)



Governor Holcomb visits with an EMS professional. The Indiana Emergency Medical Services Association represents ambulance services, emergency medical technicians (EMT), advanced EMTs (AEMT) and paramedics across the state.

Indiana Homeland Security Foundation Awards Scholarships to 18 Students

Eighteen Indiana students who serve in public safety organizations will receive scholarships from the Indiana Homeland Security Foundation to supplement their 2016-17 college education.

“Indiana is excited to offer the Secure Indiana Scholarships to support students who based the safety and well-being of others as a career focus,” said Ken Neumeister, Chair of the Indiana Homeland Security Foundation Board. “I applaud their commitment to service and to pursuing a higher education in public safety.”

Each student receiving a scholarship attends an Indiana college and has volunteer experience at a public safety organization such as emergency

medical services (EMS), emergency management agency (EMA), or a police or fire department. Students studying full-time receive a \$2,000 scholarship and students studying part-time receive a \$1,000 scholarship. The students must hold a grade point average of 2.8 or higher on a 4.0 scale.

“These students are obviously driven to serve and assist their fellow Hoosiers,” said Neumeister. “As the future of public safety, we are honored to help them achieve their education dreams.”

The funding for these scholarships was provided through purchases of “Secure Indiana” license plates. The Indiana Homeland Security Foundation also provides financial support for critical public safety needs across Indiana. The foundation offers the Secure Indiana Scholarship to provide higher education financial

assistance for Indiana students who wish to pursue a degree.

To purchase a “Secure Indiana” license plate to support the scholarship program, visit DHS.in.gov/2363.htm.

For more information on the Indiana Homeland Security Foundation Scholarships, visit DHS.in.gov/foundationsscholarship.htm.

Clay

Cooper Smith, Indiana State University, volunteers at Centerpoint Volunteer Fire Department and Bowling Green Volunteer Fire Department.

Makenzie Snow, Indiana State University, is an active firefighter at the Dick Johnson Township Fire Department.

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EMS Instructors Learn New Moulage Techniques



Certified Emergency Medical Services primary instructors from Indiana attended moulage techniques training courses in central Indiana on February 20-21. The courses were taught by instructors with Moulage Concepts, a company that assists medical professionals in creating realistic training scenarios, and were organized by the Indiana Department of Homeland Security.

LEFT: EMS primary instructors practice applying newly learned moulage techniques that they will be able to teach in trainings across the state.

The two-day courses were held at the Hamilton County Training Center and Franciscan Health in Greenwood.

Moulage is a technique where fake injuries are created on “patients” using makeup. The simulations help medical professionals train on providing aid to different types of injuries. The primary instructors are able to take the new techniques that they learned and teach their students in separate courses across the state. ■

Homeland Security Scholarships (cont.)

Clinton

Joshua Ford, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, volunteers as an EMT for Clinton County Emergency Medical Services.

Krista Padgett, Ivy Tech Community College, volunteers at Perry Township Volunteer Fire Department.

Decatur

Craig Haley, Ivy Tech Community College, volunteers at Westport Volunteer Fire Department.

Dubois

Morganne Hass, Vincennes University volunteers at Ferdinand Volunteer Fire Department.

Greene

Joshua Axe, Indiana State University, volunteers at the Greene County Emergency Management Agency.

Jennings

Jackson Shepherd, Franklin College, volunteers in the technical department at Johnson County School Corporation.



Lake

Alexandra Danielides, Indiana University, volunteers at Recreation on Campus for Kids (R.O.C.K.S.) After-School Program.

Marion

Danielle Friday, Ball State University, interns at the Marion County Emergency Operations Center.

Montgomery

Nathaniel Busenbark, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, volunteers at Crawfordsville Fire Department.

Brooklyn England, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, volunteers at Crawfordsville Fire Department.

Morgan

Collin Wampler, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, serves as an

emergency medical technician (EMT) and volunteer firefighter for Green Township Fire Department and Bargersville Community Fire Department and an EMT at Morgan County Emergency Management Agency.

Pulaski

Cameron, Ball State University, volunteers at Francesville Volunteer Fire Department.

Shelby

Jacob Kelley, Vincennes University, firefighter at Flat Rock Volunteer Fire Department.

Tippecanoe

Michael Graham, Purdue University, serves as a rescue squad captain at Wabash Township Volunteer Fire Department.

Tipton

Seth Grimme, Indiana University Kokomo, volunteers for Tipton County Emergency Management Agency.

Andrew Wyant, Ivy Tech Community College, volunteers at Carmel Fire Department. ■

FDIC 2017 Approaching: April 24-29

Indianapolis will be hosting the 2017 Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC), and this year marks the 90th conference by the organization.

The event will take place in the Indiana Convention Center and Lucas Oil Stadium, and will run from April 24-29. This year, 11 speakers from the state of Indiana will be presenting.

Listed below are the Indiana Speakers scheduled to present:

- John M. Buckman III of IDHS
- Eric Dreiman of Indianapolis Fire Department
- Charlie Fadale of Fishers Fire Department
- Tobias Frost of Lafayette Fire Department
- Brian Kazmierzak of the International Society of Fire Service Instructors, Granger
- Benjamin Peetz of Napoleon Volunteer Fire Department
- John Shafer of Washington Township Fire Department in Avon
- Debra Taylor of St. Vincent Hospital, Indianapolis
- Todd Taylor of Advanced Rescue Solutions, Plainfield
- Steve White of Fishers Fire Department

Topics covered in presentations this year will include field amputation training, large truck extrication, and the inspection of manufacturing and industrial facilities. ■

Indiana River Rescue School Sessions Scheduled for May 8-12 and June 5-9



The St. Joseph River in South Bend is the site of the Indiana River Rescue School. The East Race waterway (to the right of the dam) is where the training takes place. Water can move very quickly through the East Race at 1500-2000 cubic feet per second.

The Indiana River Rescue School (IRRS) is holding two Operations/Technician level water rescue classes in South Bend from May 8-12 and from June 5-9. Students will learn about hazard recognition, risk assessment, water safety equipment, shore and boat-based operations and rescue techniques.

“Hoosiers love water,” said Captain Keith Dinn with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources and an IRRS board member. “Anywhere you have people in water, you have a potential for risk, and knowing how to identify and mitigate the risk is huge for any emergency responder.”

The five-day course costs \$600 (which includes books and lunches) and involves extensive

training on the St. Joseph River and the East Race Waterway, which allows for realistic but controlled training in water rescue.

“Our whole intent is to ensure that our responders, whoever they might be – firefighter, policeman, paramedic, EMT, show up to the scene of any water emergency and they don’t become a victim,” said Dinn.

Interested applicants should be in good physical condition, able to swim 300 meters nonstop (required to navigate class I–III rapids in approved personal flotation devices), capable of functioning as a member of a team and have some knowledge of ropes and knots.

After completing the course, Dinn said, students will “have the basic ingredients for so much more success, so much more

competence, and it’s what you take from there and how you expand upon it and how you train on it regularly, that’s how you become so much more competent, safe and capable.”

To register for the course, learn more about the course agenda and get information on lodging in South Bend, visit www.indianariverrescue.com.

Based in South Bend, the Indiana River Rescue School was formed in 1983 through the cooperative efforts of the South Bend Parks and Recreation Department, the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, South Bend Fire Department, South Bend Police Department and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. ■

Gov. Celebrates with Volunteer Firefighters and Emergency Medical Responders (Cont.)



Governor Holcomb visits with responders on EMS Day at the Statehouse on Feb. 9, 2017.



Governor Holcomb visits with longtime firefighters...and future firefighters.

In Brief

South Bend Fire Dept. Partners with Area Utility Companies to Conduct Underground Training

The South Bend Fire Department partnered with Indiana Michigan Power to conduct an underground confined spaces training in South Bend on March 28-30, 2017. With utility equipment often stored and used underground, the training served to help prepare the utility company on how to respond to an emergency that may happen in the 16-by-16 foot holes.

The South Bend Fire Department is also planning a similar training with the utility company NIPSCO in April. ▪

Paoli Fire Dept. Participates in “Home Fire Campaign”

The Paoli Fire Department participated in the Home Fire Campaign on April 2, 2017, partnering with the American Red Cross and Indiana University Health-Paoli. The campaign worked to install free smoke alarms in the area, with a goal to reduce death and injury caused by home fires by 25 percent by 2019. Volunteers also provided families with emergency escape plans and fire safety information. Smoke alarms greatly increase the chance of families surviving a home fire. ▪

Search and Rescue Conference April 21-23

Indiana Department of Homeland Security Search and Rescue and Gateway Search Dogs, Inc., will be co-hosting a search and rescue conference from April 21-23, 2017.

The conference, which will include area search, human remains detection, basic rope techniques and disaster training, will be held at Camp Atterbury in Edinburgh, Indiana.

For more information on the conference, or registration requirements, contact Lillian Hardy at lhardy@dhs.IN.gov. ▪

Washington Township Fire Dept. Helps Train Area Professionals on Safe Digging

The Washington Township Fire Department in Northwest Indiana worked with the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission and NIPSCO to educate professionals in the area on safe digging practices. Partners put on a live demonstration of a pipeline being hit on March 29, 2017.

The day-long event started with a classroom session on the importance of calling 811 before digging, and culminated in the live demonstration, where the Washington Township Fire Department helped respond. Although it is legal in Indiana to dig on your own property up to 12 inches, it is always important to call 811 before digging to ensure safety. ▪

Survey to Help Identify Training Courses for State Level Exercise

In response to communication from local partners, the scope of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security's State Level Exercise has been changed from a full scale event to training opportunities identified with assistance from participating districts.

To assist with identification of appropriate training, IDHS is asking partners to complete a survey by 5 p.m. April 21, 2017.

IDHS is now going to conduct position specific training classes during the State Level Exercise August 28-September 1, 2017, at Muscatatuck Urban Training Center. Participants will be

provided opportunities that they can take back to their respective jurisdictions to sustain the Incident Management Team (IMT) concept.

The 2017 State Level Exercise will prioritize IDHS districts 5, 6 and 7, but will also be open to emergency management and response professionals throughout the state, space allowing.

Training will be provided at no cost to the individuals taking a course. Lodging can be provided for participants who have to travel more than 50 miles. Participants should contact Elisabeth Westfall, State Training Officer, at ewestfall@dhs.in.gov, for assistance with setting up lodging.

Emergency managers and other public safety professionals are encouraged to complete a survey to help identify which courses will be offered. The survey can be found here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VSSSL6C>. To ensure consideration, please complete and submit the survey by April 21, 2017 by 5 p.m.

Any further questions regarding the State Level Exercise can be directed to IDHS training staff at training@dhs.in.gov. ▪

EMAs Support Criminal Investigation in Delphi

White County and Tippecanoe County emergency management agencies (EMA) are two of several state, local and federal agencies to assist with the initial missing person search and now criminal investigation for the murders of two Delphi teens.

Due to the high visibility and size of the response, the EMAs provided a wide range of services to assist law enforcement: staffing, equipment and telecommunication services, and managing volunteer search parties, donations and tip lines.

"We were happy to help and there was an absolute need," said Smokey Anderson, Tippecanoe County EMA director. "We help each other out when we can."

White County and Tippecanoe County EMA both assisted in the missing person search, and Tippecanoe County EMA responded with a mobile command center from Purdue University, communications equipment, heating units and portable generators.

"Carroll County EMA is grateful to White County EMA and Tippecanoe County EMA for their assistance with this difficult situation," said Dana Jeffries, Carroll County EMA director. "Thanks to their additional staff and resources, Carroll County EMA was able to focus on other needs in the community."

Once the deceased were located, EMA efforts switched to supporting law enforcement partners in the criminal

investigation. White County EMA provided light towers for the crime scene, and both EMAs assisted with securing the perimeter of the scene.

"White County EMA is always ready to share any and all equipment to help out in any kind of incident... no matter how big or small," said Roberta York, White County EMA director.

As of February 28, more than 50 local, state and federal agencies had been involved in the investigation. ▪

Cities of Decatur and Fort Wayne to Purchase and Demolish Flood-Prone Properties

The cities of Decatur and Fort Wayne will soon begin projects to purchase and demolish the structures on 10 flood-prone properties after being awarded 676,860 in federal grants.

“These properties have experienced repetitive flooding and damage, resulting in recurring economic injury to the individual and family owners,” said Indiana Department of Homeland Security Executive Director Bryan Langley. “Purchasing these properties will take them out of harm’s way, and remove some of the financial and emotional stress from this community and these property owners.”

Each city has teamed up with the Maumee River Basin Commission to help contribute 25 percent of the \$902,480 total project cost.

The remaining 75 percent of the necessary funds were awarded by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Indiana Department of Homeland Security will manage the grants and be the liaison among local government, organizations, homeowners and FEMA.

“The Pre-Disaster Mitigation program enables communities to implement critical mitigation measures to reduce or eliminate the risk of loss of life and property,” said Janet Odeshoo, acting regional administrator, FEMA Region V. “These projects will lessen the financial impact on individuals and the communities when future flooding occurs in this area.”

The City of Decatur property buyouts are for six flood-prone residential structures in the floodplain of the St. Marys River.

The City of Fort Wayne buyout is for four structures located in the Junk Ditch and St. Marys River floodplains. The 10 structures will be acquired, demolished and the properties returned to their natural state in perpetuity.

Rod Renkenberger, Executive Director of the Maumee River Basin Commission, said, “The Indiana Legislature created the Maumee River Basin Commission (MRBC) to reduce flood damage in northeast Indiana. With the strong support of our partners at the Indiana Department of Homeland Security, we will continue implementing flood buyout projects in Auburn, Decatur, and Fort Wayne. These projects represent one more step toward reaching the national, state and MRBC objective of making communities flood resilient.” ▪

4th Annual EMS Directors’ Conference is April 28

The 4th Annual EMS Medical Directors’ Conference will be held Friday, April 28, 2017 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Indianapolis Marriot North.

The Medical Directors’ Conference provides participants a venue to discuss the most up-to-date standards of care for emergency medicine, develop a strategy for practicing emergency medicine using those standards and to discuss the results of recent outcome-based research in pre-hospital emergency medical care.

EMS medical directors, paramedics, public safety officials, emergency department leadership and hospital administration are encouraged to attend. Current physicians and EMS professionals can receive continuing education credit by attending the conference.

Registration is available at <http://bit.ly/EMSDirectorsConference>. Though the event is specifically geared towards EMS medical directors and those in EMS leadership, anyone is welcome to attend.

Conference supporters include Community Health Network, Eskenazi, Edwards Lifescience, IU Health LifeLine and IU Health Methodist Trauma Center.

The conference is hosted by Indiana State Department of Health, Division of Trauma and Injury Prevention. For more information on the Division of Trauma and Injury Prevention, visit <http://www.in.gov/isdh/19537.htm>. ▪

Plan Now for May Outreach

The year is moving quickly, and with May just around the corner, it's an excellent time to plan ahead for outreach opportunities. There are several events that emergency services and emergency management professionals can use as educational platforms in the month of May.

Building Safety Month: May 1-31, 2017

Promoted by the International Code Council, Building Safety Month is a public awareness campaign to help individuals, families and businesses understand what it takes to create safe, resilient, affordable and energy-efficient homes and buildings.

More information, including sample press releases, brochures and other materials, can be found online at <http://www.iccsafe.org/about-icc/building-safety-month/campaign-toolkit/>. IDHS also has information about fire and building safety at GetPrepared.in.gov.

Arson Awareness Week: May 7-13, 2017

Arson Awareness Week focuses on different aspects of arson and arson prevention. For 2017, the U.S. Fire Administration is focusing on "Arson Prevention at Houses of Worship."

For educational materials for 2017, as well as an archive of previous themes and educational materials, visit https://www.usfa.fema.gov/prevention/outreach/arson_awareness.html. For more fire safety tips, visit GetPrepared.in.gov.

National Emergency Medical Services Week: May 21-27, 2017

Created by the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) in partnership with the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT), the National EMS Week and EMS Strong program brings together associations, EMS services, sponsors and national media to honor the dedication of EMS practitioners nationwide.

EMS Week promotional materials are available online at <https://www.acep.org/emsweek/>, as well as <http://www.emsstrong.org/>.

World Password Day: May 4, 2017

Passwords are critical gatekeepers to our digital identities, granting access to online accounts that enable our shopping, dating, banking, social media, and private communication. World Password Day is a global celebration to promote better password habits, celebrated on the first Thursday in May.

More information, as well as password safety tips, are available online at <https://passwordday.org/>. IDHS also have cybersecurity information at GetPrepared.in.gov.

National Dam Safety Awareness Day: May 31, 2017

National Dam Safety Awareness Day occurs each year to commemorate the South Fork Dam failure that occurred on May 31, 1889 in Johnstown, PA. However, more people die at low head dams than from the failure of dams themselves, showing the importance of education about these lovely, but dangerous structures. In the last 20 years, at least 24 Hoosiers have died at low head dams, and many more have needed rescue and treatment.

For more information on National Dam Safety Awareness Day, visit <https://www.fema.gov/dam-safety>. For more information on safety at Indiana low head dams, visit GetPrepared.in.gov.

Mission

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security will provide statewide leadership, exemplary customer service, and subject matter expertise for the enhancement of public and private partnerships and the assurance of local, state and federal collaboration to continually develop Indiana's public safety capabilities for the wellbeing and protection of our citizens, property and economy.

Contact

The Hoosier Responder is a publication of The Indiana Department of Homeland Security. Please direct any questions or comments to the IDHS Office of Public Affairs at (317) 234-6713 or pio@dhs.in.gov.

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