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# AMBUGLANCES

**VOL 25 NO 6 THE NUMBER ONE EMS REGION IN GEORGIA August 2012**

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## **IMPORTANT STROKE MEETING FOR EMS**

The next phase of the Coverdell Acute Stroke Registry collaboration with EMS in Georgia is a workshop to be held in Gainesville, Georgia on Thursday, August 16, 2012 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Northeast Georgia Medical Center in the Walters Auditorium. It is important to have representation from each Georgia EMS Service. Please e-mail the following information to [kkrompf@emory.edu](mailto:kkrompf@emory.edu) or call 770-380-8989: full name, role, phone number, hospital or EMS and e-mail address.



## **MIKE WILLINGHAM NAMED AS RTAC COORDINATOR**

Mike Willingham, former program director of the Southeastern Affiliate of the American Heart Association's STEMI program, was named as the Coordinator of the Region 1 RTAC program.



## **LAWANNA MERCER-COBB ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT**

Lawanna Mercer-Cobb, EMS Program Director for Office of EMS Region 6 headquartered in Augusta, has announced she will be retiring on August 31, 2012 after 34 years of state employment. Lawanna was responsible for the creation of two of the major Georgia EMS conferences (TIME in Albany and CHANGES in Augusta) and was recognized with a Governors Public Safety Award for her service.

## **RELICENSURE DEADLINE ENDS ON SEPTEMBER 30**

The re-licensure deadline for all EMS personnel ends on September 30, 2012. All personnel must complete all requirements, submit fee and form to the Office of EMS by the deadline. See the Georgia Office of EMS website for complete information at <http://ems.ga.gov/>

## **TRAUMA ADVISORY COMMITTEE STAKEHOLDERS TO MEET IN CALHOUN**

The Northwest Georgia Region 1 Regional Trauma Advisory Committee stakeholders meeting will be held on August 17, 2012 at the Trinity Baptist Church on highway 53 beginning at 10:00 a.m. The purpose of the meeting is to seek input on the creation of a regional trauma plan for EMS Region 1 and the membership of RTAC. The RTAC steering committee of the northwest Georgia Region 1 EMS Council has been working on a draft of this plan for the past several months. For more information, contact David Foster at [dtfoster@dhr.state.ga.us](mailto:dtfoster@dhr.state.ga.us)



### **KELLY BUDDENHAGEN NAMED DIRECTOR OF STATE EMS-C PROGRAM**

Kelly Buddenhagen, EMS Region 1 Council member, has returned to the Georgia Office of EMS as the program director of the EMS for Children program. Congratulations, Kelly.

### **EMS EDUCATOR CONFERENCE NEWS**

The Georgia EMS Educator Conference will be held again this year in Savannah at the Marriott Savannah Riverfront Hotel from September 22-25, 2012. The conference will have pre-hospital and educator tracks as well as pre-conference courses from September 22-23. For more information, visit the Georgia Association of EMS at <http://www.ga-ems.com/>

### **GOVERNORS PUBLIC SAFETY AWARD NOMINATIONS OPEN**

It is time for nominations for the Georgia Governors Public Safety awards. Two awards will be given to EMS personnel – Heroic Actions and Public Service. The deadline for the nominations is Friday,

September 7, 2012. Forms can be found on the Northwest Georgia EMS website. Let's not let this opportunity slip away to recognize one of our own.

### **TWO EMS GRANTS AVAILABLE FROM GAEMS**

In April, 2012 the Georgia Association of EMS received two grants from the Georgia Trauma Commission. The first grant is funded for \$112,143.70 for 19 Medical First Responder training at local services. All zoned Georgia EMS services may apply. The second grant will fund the purchase of trauma related equipment for zoned EMS services. \$437,646.42 is available from this grant. Applications are posted on the Northwest Georgia EMS website. The application deadline for both grants is September 15, 2012.



### **MAC THE MEDIC JOINS GORDON EMS**

Mac the Medic, the Gordon EMS Superhero of Safety, made his debut appearance recently at the Northwest Georgia Christian Academy. There, he spoke to the children about various safety issues and gave them a tour of a Gordon EMS ambulance.

"For years we've wanted to offer a program on safety issues for the children of our community," Taylor added. "But we wanted to deliver it in a way that was more engaging and be something that they would better remember."

EMT Woody Davis, who has more than 20 years of public safety experience, joined with Taylor to research and plan the concept that would ultimately result in Mac the Medic. After obtaining blessings and funding from the Gordon Hospital administration and the Gordon Hospital Auxiliary, Mac is now ready to work.

"The Auxiliary, when presented with the idea of Mac the Medic, saw this as an engaging, memorable tool with which to present an icon of our hospital at schools, fairs, parades, and other community events," said Sue Rathbun, co-president of the hospital's Auxiliary volunteer group. "When children see Mac, he will not only bring big smiles to their faces, but our hope is that he will also place in their minds a positive image of our hospital and important information on their personal safety."

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