



Kanawha County Emergency Ambulance Authority
 601 Brooks Street
 Charleston, West Virginia 25301
 304-345-2312
www.kceaa.org

KCEAA

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2007

Providing professional health care and support services while maintaining a standard of excellence.



KCEAA CHAMPIONS STROKE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN



Did you know stroke is the leading cause of adult disability in America?

Did you know delaying transport to the hospital could make the difference between life and death or how you live your life?

What you don't know can hurt or even kill you. That is why KCEAA will begin a Stroke Awareness Campaign to run throughout the month of May. Our goal is to help everyone know the facts about strokes and to understand they must not ignore the signs.



Time matters, call 911 immediately if any symptoms occur.



KCEAA AND SHERIFF TO PRESENT ATV SAFETY PROGRAM

In the fall of 2006, Commissioner Kent Carper requested KCEAA and the Kanawha County Sheriff's Department develop an ATV Safety Course presentation to be made available to Kanawha County Schools. Alarmed by the growing number of ATV deaths, his direction was to provide an educational program with the goal of keeping our children safe.

This ATV Safety Course is designed for Grades 4-6 for one class period, approximately forty-five minutes and focuses

ATV Safety Institute's Golden Rules

#3

Never ride under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.



on the ATV Safety Institute's Golden Rules. It is designed to be entertaining and encourage discussion between the instructor and students.

It is our belief this course can provide a meaningful introduction to ATV Safety. We hope to encourage students to understand the responsibilities of driving/riding an ATV and to seek further courses to provide hands-on ATV training. For more information, **contact**

Mike Jarrett at 345-2312.



KCEAA UNVEILS NEW WEB SITE



KCEAA website has a new face. Patty Pitrolo, KCEAA Marketing Director and our Board of Directors are trying to make sure our trucks, website and printed materials all have the same look. We want all things KCEAA to be easily identified. The

public respects us and we want to give them the comfort of immediately recognizing a "trusted friend."

The new website still contains all of the information found in the previous website. However, where the previous website focused on meeting the needs of KCEAA, the new website hopes to grow into a user friendly site for both employees and the public.

People are becoming increasingly dependent on web sites and we hope to reach out to the community with information that is both relevant and timely. We also hope that each department

will take "ownership" of their section of the website. So much is happening at KCEAA and the website can let both staff and the public know what is available, whether it is continuing education classes, Health Fairs, important Homeland Security information or opportunities for KC the Ambulance to visit classrooms.

We are only limited by our own imagination in the many ways our new website can enhance the mission of KCEAA. We invite you to visit our new site at

www.kceaa.org

BAYER BEARS TO COMFORT CHILDREN



The Bayer MaterialScience South Charleston site has donated 100 stuffed "Bayer Bears" to KCEAA to be kept on ambulances as gifts for children in hopes of making a typically upsetting ride a little more comfortable.

"I heard a report on the radio that a local sorority had donated 52 stuffed animals to KCEAA, and I thought, 'We could do that,'" said Jo Stern, Senior Technical Specialist at the BMS South Charleston site.

When Mike Jarrett, KCEAA Public Information Officer, heard the news, he couldn't have been more delighted. "Presenting a child with a stuffed animal when they board the ambulance makes all the difference in the world. They provide comfort and companionship and serve as an icebreaker, cementing the trust between child and paramedic.

They're as important as any medicine we carry on the ambulance. We try to keep each ambulance fully stocked." **Thank you Bayer MaterialScience.**



First Row: Jennifer Ford, Jo Stern, Patricia Caruthers. Second: Richard Skorpenske, Mike Miller, Bob Gastinger.

KCEAA CELEBRATES SIGNING



KCEAA joined Firefighters and EMS workers from around the state to celebrate Governor Joe Manchin III signing into law House Bill 2717 and House Bill 2801. The signing of this legislation was the result of many months of research and working with state agencies, the legislature and the Governor.



H.B. 2717, "Emergency Medical Service Workers Retirement," creates a specific retirement system for EMS personnel that will be fully funded and secure. At a time when so many pension funds are grossly under-funded and retirement benefits are not secure, this bill will make sure that EMS personnel within this fund have a secure system that will be ready for their retirement.

H.B. 2801, the "WV Fire & EMS Survivor Benefit Act," provides the ultimate degree of support to the Public Safety community in West Virginia. This bill provides a \$50,000 death benefit to the families of firefighters and EMS personnel who are killed in the line of duty. **Thank you WV State Legislature!**



KCEAA

601 Brooks Street
Charleston, WV 25301



www.kceaa.org

GOVERNOR MANCHIN NAMED WV FIRST RESPONDER

On March 27, **KCEAA**, Kanawha County Commissioners Kent Carper and Hoppy Shores and WV EMS Personnel & Firefighters from around the state joined the WV Emergency Medical Service Coalition in naming Governor Joe Manchin III as West Virginia First Responder.

Manchin was presented with a jacket and a proclamation honoring his "steadfast and un-

wavering support for WV's Emergency Medical Service Agencies and Providers. Governor Manchin has timely responded to disaster scenes in all areas of the State of West Virginia, physically appearing at each disaster scene and providing aid, comfort and encouragement..."



In the 1990's, Governor Manchin served as the Board President for the Marion County Rescue Squad. His first-hand experience has lead him to a greater understanding of emergency workers in West Virginia.

Thank you Governor Manchin.