

EMH Pre-Hospital December Newsletter 2019

Important Announcements!!

Dinner with Neal & his wife December 19th @ 1800.

Mr Babb Retirement Party January 4th at 1300-1500

Paramedic Graduation at Smith's in Bolivar December 20th 1800

If you would like to attend any of the following, please RSVP ASAP.

Christmas Trivia

The Christmas tree in Rockefeller Center is a tradition that started in 1931, when Depression-Era construction workers erected the 1st tree. The 2019 tree is a Norway Spruce that stands 77 feet and weighs approximately 12 ton. It is adorned with over 50,000 multicolored lights and atop sits a star from Swarovski Crystals. The 3-dimensional star weighs 900 pounds, features 70 spikes is covered in 3 million crystals. At the end of the season, the tree is milled and the wood is donated to Habitat for Humanity.

The Montgomery Ward Department store created Rudolph the Reindeer as a marketing gimmick to encourage kids to buy their Christmas coloring books.

Male reindeer shed their antlers in th winter, therefore, the reindeer pulling Santa's sleigh are likely female!

#femalestrong

America's 1st batch of eggnog was made in the Jamestown settlement in 1607. Its name comes from the word "grog", meaning any drink made of rum.

The Christmas wreath was originally hung as a symbol of Jesus. The holly represents his crown of thorns and the red berries the blood he shed.

The 3 traditional colors of Christmas are red, green, and gold. Red symbolizes the blood of Christ, green symbolizes life and rebirth, and gold represents light, royalty and wealth.

Tinsel was invented in 1610 in Germany and was once made of real silver.

You would have to use your artificial tree for more then 20 years for it to be "greener" than buying a fresh-cut tree

Merry Christmas!!

Neal's Words of Wisdom

It is hard to believe it is December. This is the time of year we all have a lot of activities to attend. Holiday parties, family gatherings, religious events, some of you may also even have that traditional family outing to see all the Christmas Lights!! Therefore, I will be brief.

We have some projects coming in the new year. We will be changing PCR systems from HealthEMS to ESO. Also, we will be implementing a Safe Driving program. We will have a new Medical Director April 1. Dr. Andy Nichols. I have met Dr. Nichols, I believe he will be a great asset for us and help move us to the next level. He will be joining our ERP group and he will have dedicated time with us. So, as you can see, we have a lot of changes happening in 2020!

One of the saying I like is: Keep going, everything will come to you at the right time. As we have grown as a department over the past several years, this proves to true. Sometimes it has felt like we were drinking out of a fire hose. Other times we have worked for a hard on a project or goals and they come to fruition. Over the next several month we will see improvements that will make us better, clinically, which will help make us and our patients more safe.

I do appreciate all of you and what you contribute to our department. I appreciate the Operations Managers and their dedication to each of you. I appreciate how e keep our eye on providing exceptional, compassionate care.

I would like to take this time to extend an invitation from my wife, Becky, and I to you and your guest, to please join us for dinner at El Rodeo on December 19 at 1800. We always have a good time enjoying a little Holiday cheer with each of you and hope to see you then!! Please email me to RSVP ASAP at ntandbt@windstream.net. An accurate head count is appreciated.

I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and is able to enjoy your family.

Neal Taylor A.A.S., Paramedic
Director Pre Hospital Services
Citizens Memorial Hospital

**Do not forget to join Becky & I for
dinner at El Rodeo in Bolivar**

Life & Times from Sunny & Warm Stockton Lake

Cedar County: - Just to get everyone up to date on the new bridge in Cedar County west of Stockton on 32 we are still waiting to close 32 for couple weeks to attach the new bridge, weather has held them up, we will advise as soon as we know something, they are now saying it might be January before they close 32. But when they do remember to take 32 west to 39 and take it north or either K Hwy to U Hwy back to 32 or stay on 39 hwy till you get to 54 hwy and travel west into Colorado Springs.

Personal: Don't forget we still have a Full Time Medic open position in Colorado Springs if you are interested please contact me, we are holding off till the first of the year before we do anything with this position, so you still have time. Thanks to Kellie Wilson for filling in at this position till we get it filled,

Training: CFR class is going great, still have students in the class ok we have dropped a couple since we started but that is to be expected. Morgan is doing a Great job with this class, and Thanks to the on duty trucks that stop by and help out from time to time.

Cedar County Board: Will the 2020 budget has been turned into the board, They reviewed the entire budget this last month, but decided to hold off approving it till the December meeting, we talked about replacing 714 due to all the issues we have been having with it lately, they are going to have us look into upping the possible deliver date to the middle or end of 2020 now instead of waiting till January 2021 to take delivery.

Just something to ponder on as you go through life these days:

We see a lot of different people every day, and normally on their worst day of their life. They all have one thing in common - they need another human being to care for them. Do you know what that taught me? We are all exactly the same. They called for a reason, and they felt like they needed YOUR help! They didn't call to be talked out of going, or be talked into helping them to a vehicle to go by YOU. Remember that on your next call.

Thanks for all you do for CH and be safe out there and watch your partner's back.

Happy Holidays to you and yours!!

Tom Ryan, Paramedic

Cedar County Operations Manager

POLK COUNTY UPDATES

Merry Christmas to everyone who celebrates this holiday. Speaking of Christmas, I have been thinking about our Christmas schedule here in Polk county. More often than not A or B week ends up working both Christmas eve and Christmas day in the same year. Again I have been thinking about next Christmas we split that up. We do a schedule change just for those two days. Next year B week will work Christmas eve and A week work Christmas day, the following year we will switch it around. Think about this and come see me and let me know what you think.

Everyone, for the most part, have been picking up several extra shifts. I really appreciate the dedication you have shown over the last couple of pay periods.

I would like to thank all the FTO's that have been working hard with all the students and the new hires we have riding as well. You all have been working together to make sure everyone is getting what they need to succeed.

Some housekeeping items. Allison was placed in charge of ordering linens for us every week now. Also, I still have been noticing some things not being picked up. Please pick up after yourself.

I have been working with Kevin on the truck rotations and getting them into fleet, I need you all to cooperate with Kevin he is to track the out of service time of the ambulances and he needs your help. He asked for emails when the trucks go to fleet and what time they return. Please do so he has been tasked with this information. Also help him get the trucks as needed and when they are needed, if something happens that is a higher priority he needs to be notified so he can rearrange the schedule down the road. We are competing with the other counties for fleet time, so he needs to work with them on scheduling. Your cooperation is expected to help facilitate our trucks being ready.

If you have any questions or comments feel free to reach out to me.

Aaron Weaver, Paramedic
Operations manager - Polk County
CMH EMS

Deep Thoughts From Hickory County

As we see the year 2019 come to an end, reflecting back, it has been interesting to say the least. Record flooding last spring that held over through the summer months. Major wind damage in May, causing a decline in the tourism traffic that we usually have. All this caused a major decline in our call volume. I know none of us are complaining about that, but it sure has been hitting us hard this fall with the increase in CVA's, respiratory calls, respiratory failure and cardiac arrest and patients just generally not feeling well all the way around. Then we finish the year off with SMDW and ICY roads and prediction of spring like weather over Christmas.

We seem to be making up the lost calls over the past couple of months that we lost over the summer, and may end up around 50 calls short for the year from our normal. It's been a little rough on a few shifts, but hang in there, we got this!

Bob Anthony will be moving into his actual float position in a couple of weeks. He will be scheduled one day a week in Hickory. I know he did some ride time in our county during paramedic class, but please make sure that you assist him with questions, any orientation needs for our station and county.

We have hired a PRN AEMT for Hickory County, **Richard Grednuff-Cronley** who will be in hospital orientation Dec. 23rd. Please welcome him and make him feel at home. He moved up here from Texas and staying with family in the Avery area. He has experience but of course will need orientation on CMT, our area, protocols and policies. Once he is off orientation I ask that if you are needing to take off work once the schedule is out, to contact him first to cover your shift. This will help in decreasing our overtime. He wants to work and will also be willing to work wherever he is needed in our other service areas. Once Richard is off orientation we will be fully staffed.

Just as a reminder, **WE DO replace disposable supplies with both rescue groups.** MUST BE same like item that we can order. Orders from materials management have been slow as of late so I do ask that you are not giving out as a replacement the last item in our supply room and giving to either rescue group. Add what they are needing replaced, and to which rescue group to the order sheet hanging up in the supply room. Only thing that I know of right off hand that we can't replace for them is VMA's and Combitubes.

In closing, I want to **thank each of you** for providing the best service possible to our community, to our patients and their families. Empathy and compassion goes a long way and it shows by how loyal and supportive our patients and their families are to us. Until this year, I had never heard a patient comment negatively about getting a different ambulance service other than CMT. I have heard 2 now that wished CMT crews had transported them the last time they went to the ER. Times sure have changed, and that is a reflection of DU.

Thank you to the crews that will be working over the holiday, as I know you would rather be off work. It is greatly appreciated.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Alice Roberts Paramedic

Hickory County Ops. Manager

HOLIDAY SAFETY

Merry Christmas!

Advent started at the first of the month, and it is a joyous time of meditating on the coming of the God-Man, Jesus. I look forward to celebrating His birth and giving gifts to my loved ones in remembrance of God's gracious gift to humanity.

On to the business of EMS. We have just finished our last Safety Seminar for the year. We have put on several this year and I'm really grateful for the team work from Theron, Morgan, and others that helped put the classes on. I know some of the information is repetitive, but when you really think about the content of what we talked about it is important for your safety, your partner's safety, and the patient's safety. Have a safety first attitude. Don't have a safety third attitude. The small every day and every shift choices you make will help to keep you safer in the dangerous work we do. We have received some good feedback from the classes this year, thank you for the honest feedback.

One thing we talk about in the Safety Seminar is Crew Resource Management. What CRM means is valuing all people on your team, making sure they know their job, making sure they know their role on the team, and making sure they know they can speak up if they see something unsafe or questionable. It's the same reason we have the contraindications for RSI checklist on the EMT side of the protocol. EMTs should know that and speak up when they see a red flag. Remember, the EMT's job is to save the paramedic.

As we move into the new year, if you have suggestions for equipment or protocol changes, please send them to your manager or Theron. We have another equipment committee meeting in January.

Do your part to make safety a priority. Your small choices are a big deal.

Thank you.

Brice Flynn, Paramedic



Celebrations!!

December Birthdays!

Cheyenne Smart Dec. 3rd

Morgan Young Dec. 10th

Kellie Smith Dec. 16th

Mike D'Agostino Dec. 21st

Jesus Christ Dec. 25th

Goldie Masters Dec. 31st

Happy Birthday to all!!

December Anniversaries!

Comorgan Jones 2 Years

Craig Scroggins 2 Years

Jay Fry 4 Years

Bruce Fugate 8 Years

Cory Sidwell "Sid" 8 years

Thank you for your years of service!!



EVS Driving Class





2019 CMH EMS Paramedic Academy

CONGRATULATIONS!!

JAMES PURSSELLEY BRENT WALLEN

KEVIN SCHOEN

ALLEN WERNER GOLDIE MASTERS

2019 CMH EMS PARAMEDIC ACADEMY