



# Hoosier Responder

February 2013

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## March2Recovery Anniversary



March2Recovery continues to aid Hoosiers in Clark, Jefferson and Washington counties who were affected by

the March 2, 2012 tornadoes. The organization will celebrate the results of recovery efforts on March 2, and while it has accomplished many goals, it looks to continue aiding in recovery efforts.

Recovery has come a long way in one year. Volunteers played a key role in the rebuilding of Henryville High School in time to open for the 2012-2013 school year, many families have been placed back into permanent homes and donations continue to come in to address the needs of the community.

Since April 24, more than 11,500 volunteers from 49 states have arrived to help in efforts. Many of the volunteers assisted initially in cleanup, but as specific skills were needed, those skilled volunteers have continued to step-up and help in the long term. While some arrived on their own, many were organized by various groups such as Sharing Hope Ministries from Pennsylvania which provided teams of skilled labor from Amish and Mennonite communities and trucks with equipment.

With the upcoming one year anniversary the amount of volunteers is expected to stay about the same. Even with the large scope of the recovery efforts, executive director Carolyn King is not concerned about the organization's ability to continue.

*(Continued on page 2)*

## In This Issue:

New Labrador Retriever to Aid in Arson Investigations	2
Emergency Pet Preparedness	3
EMA Spotlight: Morgan County Installs New Emergency Notification System	3
Fire Spotlight: Madison Mutual Aid Agreements	3
Emergency Management Agency Professional Emergency Management Certifications	4
EMS Spotlight: Heartland Upgrades to Propane Fuel	4
Great Central US Shakeout Recap	5
Fire Marshal Leadership Seminars	5
Resources on Website	6

## From the Director's Chair — Executive Director John Hill We Must Maintain Strong Inter-agency Relationships

Relationships are essential to effective public safety. Frankly, every facet of our lives is about relationships.

Strong relationships don't simply happen; they're forged over time, as is anything that's worthwhile. I pledge that I will do all that I can to maintain, strengthen and create new relationships between IDHS and local, other state and federal partners.

Today, we live in a world of increasingly greater demands on our public safety professionals. Relationships help us

work together as we plan, identify gaps, assess solutions and meet the ongoing challenges in our communities, state and country.

In today's climate, we have many opportunities to get together, whether through in-person or online meetings, classes and more. Those occasions allow us to share concerns and offer ideas on how to solve important public safety issues. While conferences and exercises can teach us valuable lessons, one of the unexpected benefits is the networking opportunity provided by

personal interaction.

Within our area of authority and with available resources, we want to work for the good of Indiana citizens with you as an important partner.

We also want to listen to your concerns. This may seem simple, but can be



*(Continued on page 2)*

## New Labrador Retriever Donated by Memorial Foundation

On January 8, a three-year-old yellow Labrador retriever named Trace joined the Indianapolis Division of Homeland Security's Fire Investigations Section. He will be assisting with potential arson investigations.

Trace is currently trained in the detection of thirteen different ignitable liquids. He was purchased after a generous donation to the David S. Moore Foundation by the International Association of Insurance Special Investigators.

"We would like to thank and acknowledge both the Officer David S. Moore Foundation and the International Association of Insurance Special Investigators for their contribution," said Indianapolis Homeland Security Chief Gary Coons. "Trace will be instrumental in obtaining leads in arson investigations."

Trace was purchased from Texas where his previous handler changed positions

and wanted to ensure that he would be sent where his skills would be used frequently. Trace replaces the previous detection canine named Scout. Trace has been assigned to handler and arson detective Dave S. Kinsey.

The Officer David S. Moore Foundation was founded in memory of the fallen police officer. Stories of his kindness inspired the founding of the organization to continue supporting individuals and groups with projects that improve the community. The group supports faith-based organizations, civic groups, educational institutes and government agencies. The foundation sometimes also runs its own service programs.

*Trace was purchased from Texas and will assist arson investigations in Indianapolis. He was purchased by the Officer David S. Moore Foundation.*



### Story Ideas?

Know of story that belongs in the Hoosier Responder? Let us know! E-mail us at [pio@dhs.in.gov](mailto:pio@dhs.in.gov).

The Hoosier Responder is always looking for stories about the goings on in local departments. Whether it is celebrating a milestone, overcoming a unique obstacle or trying something new, the Hoosier Responder looks to share stories for the benefit of responders state-wide.

Also if you know of EMS, Fire or EMA program that deserves spotlight attention, submit them and they may be profiled in future editions.

### EMS Member Passes

Rox Anne Harris, of New Ross, passed away on January 21, 2013. She was a member of the Walnut Township Emergency Medical Services of Montgomery County Indiana.

### March2Recovery Update

"What has been the most inspiring part of this story is the number of volunteers, organizations and countless other people that continue to donate their money and time," King said. "All we have to do is pick up the phone and say we have a family in need and people are there to help out."

One of the recent campaigns that March2Recovery completed was the "Home for the Holidays" campaign. This project successfully placed eight families in homes in time to celebrate the holiday season. Habitat for Humanity had a similar push in the area and starting in October, built 10 additional houses. Even with these accomplishments and a new year started, the organization looks to continue housing those still in need.

The organization's Spiritual and Emotional Needs Committee had another effort called "Hope for the Holidays." This involved holding spiritual and other events to help victims through the holidays, which can be tough when recovering from an event such as the tornadoes.

The communities have also planned events to remember the effects of the storm and to celebrate accomplishments. Henryville will have a flag raising ceremony and a parade on March 2.

For more information visit [march2recovery.org](http://march2recovery.org).

### Maintain Relationships

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overlooked. Listening, an essential component of communication, also strengthens relationships. If there are areas that aren't working, let's be honest, focus on improvements and make appropriate decisions for our citizens.

Working together as a team is a hallmark of the public safety community. I am glad to become part of the process as Indiana continues to move forward and improve its efforts to provide leadership for a safe and secure Indiana.

I will be around to meet many of you in the coming weeks. Thank you, in advance, for our continuing relationship.

## FIRE Spotlight: City of Madison Mutual Aid Agreement

The fire departments in the City of Madison and Madison Township of Jefferson County were able to form a mutual agreement to better serve both departments.

The city had an aerial fire truck held in storage. When a local hospital moved outside of the city limits, Madison township's fire department was suddenly required to have an aerial truck to service the hospital.

A mutual aid agreement was reached. Now the truck is stored with the township department and responds when needed. The truck is also used to support the city department whenever requested as back-up, helping both departments to respond to emergencies.



The City of Madison's Aerial fire truck has gone around to a few places before being used by Madison Township Fire Department.

Within the City of Madison, there are six independent fire departments, each with their own set of colors. The truck began with the Kelley Green Department, who bought a new aerial truck in 1986. This truck was sold to Sullivan County, then sold back to the City of Madison when Sullivan County bought a new truck. After sitting in cold storage at the local airport, the truck now serves Madison Township.

## Starke County EMS Upgrades Services

Starke County Emergency Medical Services recently upgraded from Basic Life Support units to Advanced Life Support units, to better serve the more than 23,000 people in the community.

The Starke County EMS made the upgrade with the support of county commissioners, the county council and IU Health Starke Hospital. The EMS director, Paul Mathewson managed the process of acquiring a new ALS certified ambulance along with additional full and part-time personnel.

The ALS certified unit works with the local BLS teams to provide the advanced support county wide. The county currently operates Basic Life Support services out of three bases around the county, each with full-time crews. Mathewson looks forward to continuous improvement of the service.

## Emergency Pet Preparedness

When making a disaster preparedness plan, pets can be often overlooked. Since most shelters don't allow pets for health and safety reasons, it's important for Hoosiers to know how to properly care for them in an emergency.

1. Try to keep list of places you and your pet can go together.
2. If the situation may require you to evacuate, move your pet as soon as possible.
3. If you must leave your pet, bring it inside and place it in an area that's easy to clean.
4. Do NOT leave pets outdoors.
5. Leave only dry foods and fresh water in non spill containers. If possible, leave a faucet dripping into a large container or partially fill a bathtub with water.
6. Do not leave vitamin treats. They can be fatal if over-eaten.

For more information visit the Board of Animal Health Website: [boah.in.gov](http://boah.in.gov).

## EMA Spotlight: Morgan County Installs Everbridge Emergency Notification System

In 2012, the Morgan County Emergency Management Agency installed the Everbridge Emergency Notification System for its residents and businesses.



Residents of Morgan County can go to the Emergency Management Agency's website to register for text message alerts.

The Everbridge system is a mass notification tool. It allows residents that sign up to receive text messages, e-mails and tweets regarding important emergency information.

Morgan County EMA has already used the system in July to send notification about the burn ban during the summer drought and for boil water advisories around the county. More recently, it has been used for snow travel advisories and an emergency declaration during

the late December snow storm.

"I have been working on this for six years and I felt strongly that we needed this system for early warning, for the residents of Morgan County," said Morgan County EMA Director Jeff Neal. "As of right now, with a population of close to 70,000, we have over 20,000 residents and businesses that are in the system to receive notifications."

## Professional Emergency Manager Certification Recipients

The following individuals earned their Professional Emergency Manager (PEM) Certification or Recertification in 2012:

- Robert Baldwin
- Bernie Beier
- Doug Cooke
- John Copeland
- Laura Dresen
- Shannan Hinton
- Dean Larson
- Mike Schantz
- Jerry Sears
- Charles Shaneyfelt
- Dean Small
- Timothy Thomas
- Brian Topp
- Adrian Ellis
- Frank Kriz
- Karen Wilson

## Fire Marshal Leadership Seminars

State Fire Marshal Jim Greeson held the first of 3 Fire Marshal Leadership Seminars in Corydon on January 26.



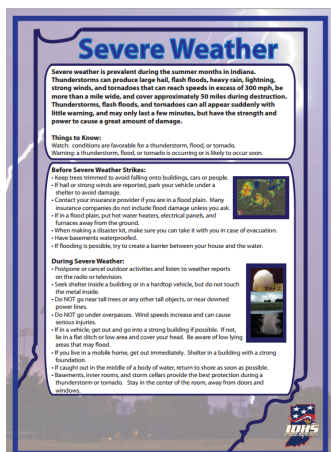
The leadership seminars replaced what was formerly known as the Fire Chief's Orientation. The seminars focus on educating fire personnel about responsibilities in the community, with a focus on collaborating to develop a response plan for events in the local community.

*The Fire Marshal Leadership Seminar held in Corydon on January 26 provided an opportunity for fire chiefs to learn how to better serve their communities and to network with other fire chiefs.*

Additional topics to be included will cover how to successfully work with other local agencies, elected officials and community organizations. Also reviewed will be how to raise public funds to address needs of local fire

*The seminar began at 8 am. In addition to State Fire Marshal Jim Greeson, other speakers included representatives from the Indiana Association of Cities and Towns, National Fire Incident Reporting System and Fire Training Director John Buckman. There were more than 50 firefighters in attendance.*

## Preparedness Handouts Available

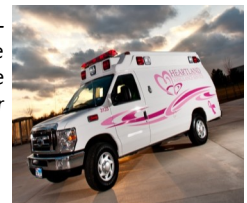


Preparedness handouts are available for delivery. If you would like handouts to help prepare Hoosiers for disasters, please call the PIO on duty at 317-234-6713 or email [pio@dhs.in.gov](mailto:pio@dhs.in.gov).

## EMS Spotlight: Heartland Upgrades to Propane Fuel

Heartland Ambulance Service, located in Kokomo and Muncie, Indiana, is currently in the process of converting all 25 of their service vehicles from gasoline to propane fuel.

*The first of Heartland's vehicles to be converted to propane is their breast cancer awareness vehicle.*



Heartland has been in business for 2 and a half years and decided last year to switch to propane. Propane is clean, efficient, green and is easier on the engines in the vehicle. At about \$1.54 per gallon, propane is also cheap compared to gasoline. The change was made to avoid making cuts that affect employees.

biggest expense is employees with the fuel right behind in second. We didn't want to take away from the employees."

So far, Heartland has converted three trucks, and have set the goal of converting its entire fleet by August. The company has a tank on-site to allow refueling when needed.

"With government funding cuts, it was the smart thing to do," said Heartland's owner, Ken Jackson. "The

## The Great Central US Shakeout



In this picture, the Lake County Homeland Security/Emergency Management Agency gathers underneath a table in their central office. Hoosiers all around the state participated in the shakeout drills at 10:15 am.

On February 7, Indiana once again led the way for the Great Central US Shakeout. With more than 560,000 participants statewide,

Hoosiers in schools, hospitals, government agencies and businesses practiced "Drop, Cover, Hold On." The Shakeout drill is held to remind people that while severe earthquakes are rare, they are still possible. In addition to drilling, participants were encouraged to review emergency plans and to prepare for an earthquake.

Hoosiers all over the state took part in the drill, with events receiving media coverage in Terre Haute, Evansville, Indianapolis and Jeffersonville.



### March 12 through 16 is National Flood Awareness

National Flood Awareness Week is March 12 through March 16 in 2013. During this week, Hoosiers are encouraged to plan for and practice for a flood.



an ice jam. This could result in overland flooding.

Melting snow mixed with rain can also cause flooding events when blocked drains force water to gather and pool.

Floods are a common hazard, and each one is different. Flash floods can occur shortly after a storm or after a sudden release of water from

Learn more and find flood awareness resources at [getprepared.in.gov](http://getprepared.in.gov).

### Phil Johnson Appointed to Homeland Security Foundation

Phil Johnson, of South Bend, was recently appointed to the Homeland Security Foundation by former Governor Mitch Daniels.

Johnson is director of security and police at University of Notre Dame. His term with the foundation will expire June 30, 2015.

The foundation funds public safety projects at the local level. The foundation, formerly known as the Emergency Management, Fire and Building Services and Public Safety Training Foundation, is funded by revenue from the "Secure Indiana" license plate.

The foundation consists of nine voting members and four nonvoting advisory members. The voting members are appointed by the governor. No more than five of the appointed members can be of the same political party.

If you would like to purchase a "Secure Indiana" license plate to support the Homeland Security Foundation, please visit [www.in.gov/dhs](http://www.in.gov/dhs).



### Vermillion County Resident Oldest Active Volunteer Firefighter in Indiana

Jack H. Dunkley of Vermillion County was recognized as the oldest active volunteer firefighter in Indiana by an Indiana House Resolution presented by Representative Alan Morrison.

On January 13, Indiana Representative Alan Morrison presented the resolution that recognized Dunkley's years of service. It was the first resolution passed in the Indiana House of Representatives.

Dunkley was one of six member to establish a fire brigade for the town of Centenary, and later helped found the Clinton Township Fire Department.

He became the first president of the fire department when it was recognized in 1961, and continued to serve since. Black Diamond Fire Department has since replaced Clinton Township Fire Department.

Dunkley had been previously recognized by the Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association for his 50 years of service, in addition to a meritorious service award.

At age 90, Dunkley no longer actively fights fires, but still qualifies as a volunteer as he continues to attend meetings and participate toward the betterment of the department.

### Resources on Website

There are resources related to many different disasters and preparedness for those events at [getprepared.in.gov](http://getprepared.in.gov).

The Get Prepared website is updated regularly as new material is created and other information is updated. There are talking points about how to prepare for, endure, and recover from disasters, how to make a preparedness kit, as well as resources for kids.

Get Prepared will also be updated regularly about events promoting preparedness, such as the Great Central US Shakeout.

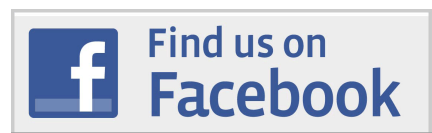


There are several items that can be used as handouts at various events. Fact Sheets are handy one or two page handouts containing the most relevant information for preparing and enduring a given disaster. There are also instructions for preparing in general for disasters, such as getting a kit, how to make a plan and how residents can be actively involved in community preparedness.

## Coming Up: Indiana Emergency Response Conference

The Indiana Response Conference (IERC) will take place August 21 through August 24, 2013 at the Sheraton Indianapolis Hotel at Keystone Crossing in Indianapolis.

To learn more about the conference visit [www.indianaerc.com](http://www.indianaerc.com).



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