

Howard County Announces \$3M Investment in R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center

ON APRIL 2, 2024, Howard County Executive Calvin Ball announced a \$3 million investment in the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center (RACSTC) at the University of Maryland Medical Center (UMMC) in Downtown Baltimore. Howard County's investment will assist Shock Trauma in expanding its community outreach efforts and enhancing post-discharge support.

With County backing, RACSTC plans to expand its community outreach efforts significantly, which includes broadening injury prevention education, with a focus on safe driving and fall prevention, enhancing violence intervention programs, large scale expansion of Stop the Bleed training, and providing trauma survivor support services. Additionally, RACSTC aims to bolster support for patient's post-discharge, ensuring a seamless transition and ongoing connection to care and community resources. This initiative emphasizes RACSTC's commitment to comprehensive care and long-term well-being.

In addition to this vital funding, the County also continues to do its part to ensure its personnel are responding as effectively and efficiently to medical trauma incidents. In September 2023, Ball announced the launch of the County's groundbreaking Whole Blood program, the first to be imple-



From left: UMMC CEO and President Bert W. O'Malley, MD; RACSTC Board of Visitors Chair D. Bruce Poole, Esq.; RACSTC Physician-in-Chief Thomas M. Scalea, MD, FACS, MCCM; U.S. Congressman C.A. Dutch Ruppberger; and Howard County Executive Calvin Ball. [Photo: Howard County Government]

mented at a ground-based EMS Department in the state of Maryland. The Whole Blood Program allows trained Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services EMS supervisors to provide whole blood transfusions to critical patients before they reach the hospital, increasing a patient's chance of survival. Since being implemented, nine EMS patients have received prehospital blood before arriving at Shock Trauma.

"I thank the county executive

and council for stepping up. The best trauma care in the world is available 24/7 for our citizens. But it costs money to provide it and to constantly improve. What was science fiction 20 years ago is now standard practice and it will be so again in the future," said D. Bruce Poole, Esq., Chair, Board of Visitors, R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center.

In addition to allocating funding to

See *HOWARD COUNTY* page 14

CALENDAR

MAY

- **2-3:** *American College of Surgeons Point Counterpoint Conference.* Baltimore Marriott Inner Harbor at Camden Yards, Baltimore, MD.
- **13:** *Maryland Highway Safety Summit.* Hilton Baltimore BWI Hotel, Linthicum Heights, MD.
- **19-25:** *National EMS Week.*
- **23:** *National Stop the Bleed Day.*

JUNE

- **2:** *Maryland Fire-Rescue Services Annual Memorial Service.* Annapolis, MD.
- **15-20:** *132nd Maryland State Firemen's Association Annual Convention & Conference.* Convention Center, Ocean City, MD.

SEPTEMBER

- **20:** *Topics in Trauma.* Tidal Health Peninsula Regional, Salisbury, MD.

OCTOBER

- **26:** *R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center Celebration.* France-Merrick Performing Arts Center, Baltimore, MD.

EMS News Digest

■ **Governor Moore Signs Bailey Bullock Act into Law, Requiring All Maryland Schools to Plan for Cardiac Arrest Emergencies (EMSI).** On April 25, 2024, Maryland Gov. Wes Moore signed a bill passed by both houses of the General Assembly during the 2024 Legislative Session that will every public and private school in Maryland to develop a response plan for handling cardiac arrest emergencies. The Bailey Bullock Act is named for a Bel Air teen who died of cardiac arrest outside his school in 2021. Read more: <https://www.emsl.com/school/md-bill-requires-schools-to-plan-for-cardiac-arrest-emergencies>

■ **First Responders | Allegany County Continues a Commitment to Innovate in Emergency Services (Cumberland Times-News).** During 2023, Allegany County Department of Emergency Services delivered the fastest EMS response times in county history, arriving in less than 10 minutes on average, when compared to a nationwide rural average of more than 14 minutes. “Our team has re-

ceived regional attention from Fox 45 and ABC 7 WJLA for this excellence, but the next call is always the one that matters most, and that’s why we continue to push for better service,” says Allegany County DES Director James Pyles. Read more: https://www.times-news.com/news/local_news/first-responders-allegany-county-continues-a-commitment-to-innovate-in-emergency-services/article_fb8b00a-e175-11ee-9b62-97408739bbcf.html

■ **MDOT, Ocean City Officials to Launch 2024 OC Walk Smart, Drive Smart, Bike Smart Campaign (WRDE-TV).** As the summer beach season approaches, the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) is teaming up with Ocean City officials to launch the 2024 OC Walk Smart, Drive Smart, Bike Smart safety campaign. Read more: https://www.wrde.com/news/mdot-and-ocean-city-officials-to-launch-2024-oc-walk-smart-drive-smart-bike-smart/article_57ec3bea-0658-11ef-bf86-8b4a2747e2f4.html. ■

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MARYLAND COMMITTEE ON TRAUMA PRESENTS



NATIONAL STOP THE BLEED[®] DAY 2024

Thursday, May 23, 2024

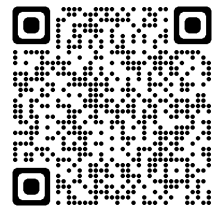
8am-6pm at Baltimore Peninsula

FREE TRAINING FOR ALL MARYLANDERS
THROUGHOUT THE DAY TO LEARN LIFE-
SAVING TECHNIQUES FOR BLEEDING
CONTROL

**SAVE
A
LIFE**

**FREE PERSONAL STOP
THE BLEED KIT FOR ALL
PRE-REGISTERED
ATTENDEES!!**

SCAN FOR PRE-REGISTRATION
AND MORE INFO:



www.mdcot.com/stop-the-bleed

The Johns Hopkins Hospital
Meritus Health
UM Capital Region Medical
Center
Johns Hopkins
Children's Center
Sinai Hospital
Children's National
Medical Center

This event is proudly presented by:



UM R Adams Cowley Shock
Trauma Center
Johns Hopkins Bayview
Medical Center
UPMC- Western Maryland
Suburban Hospital
Tidal Health

Maryland Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians 2024 Awards Luncheon

THE MARYLAND CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS (MD ACEP) held its annual awards luncheon on April 11, 2024, at the UMAB School of Medicine in Baltimore, as part of the organization's Annual Educational Conference. Honorees included UMMS/UMAB Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine **Daniel B. Gingold, MD, MPH, FACEP** (*EMS Physician of the Year*); TidalHealth Peninsula Regional Pediatric Emergency Department Nurse **Alyssa Edwards, BNS, RN, CEN, CPEN, FNE-A** (*Emergency Nurse of the Year*); and Holy Cross Germantown Hospital Emergency Department and Behavioral Health Nurse **Tina Kennedy, MS, MBA, RN, CEN** (*ENA Nurse of the Year*). MD ACEP Immediate Past President Michael A. Silverman, MD, ACEP, presented the awards.



EMS Physician of the Year: *UMMS/UMAB Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine Daniel B. Gingold, MD, MPH, FACEP. [Photo: MD ACEP]*



ENA Nurse of the Year: *Holy Cross Germantown Hospital Emergency Department and Behavioral Health Nurse Tina Kennedy, MS, MBA, RN, CEN. [Photo: MD ACEP]*



Emergency Nurse of the Year: *TidalHealth Peninsula Regional Pediatric Emergency Department Nurse Alyssa Edwards, BNS, RN, CEN, CPEN, FNE-A. [Photo: MD ACEP]*

NATIONAL STUDY CENTER FOR TRAUMA AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**National Study Center for Trauma and EMS Updates**

ON FEBRUARY 22, 2024, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Deputy Administrator Sophie Shulman and NHTSA Region 3 Administrator Stephanie Hancock visited the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center (RACSTC) and the National Study Center for Trauma and EMS (NSC) in Baltimore. The NHTSA delegation spent approximately three hours on campus discussing the traffic safety research conducted by the NSC, including the Crash Injury Research and Engineering Network (CIREN) and Maryland Highway Safety Office research projects. The visit concluded with a tour of RACSTC.



Mark Scarboro, Senior Director of Research Operations and Compliance with Shock, Trauma and Anesthesiology Organized Research Center (STAR-ORC) and the National Study Center for Trauma and EMS, presents to a visiting NHTSA leadership delegation on February 22. [Photo: NSC]

The Maryland Highway Safety Office recently awarded grant funding to NSC for its “Speeding, Aggressive, and Reckless Driving Data Review”, effective April 16, 2024. ■

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆
NSC Biostatistician Joseph Kufera, MA, co-authored a manuscript entitled “A New Computed Tomography-based Measure that Provides Insight into Hip Stability in Patients with Posterior Wall Acetabular Fractures”, which was recently accepted for publication in the Journal of Orthopaedic Trauma. The lead author is University of Maryland School of Medicine orthopaedic surgeon Todd Jaebon, DO.

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆
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MARYLAND EMS REGIONAL NEWS
Southern Maryland to Host New EMS Conference

CALVERT, CHARLES, AND ST. MARY'S COUNTIES, in partnership with MIEMSS, are excited to share that we will be hosting the first annual ‘Patuxent River EMS Conference this Fall. The Conference will be focused on “Charting the course to EMS Excellence”. The need for a conference to be held in the Southern parts of the state has been felt and we are working diligently to put this together for November 2024 inaugural date.

We are putting together the courses to be offered and have secured locations, as well as some sponsors/exhibitors. The first conference will be held in Calvert County with the loca-



tion moving through the other Southern Counties each year. If you would like to be a sponsor or exhibitor please

reach out to Michael Cooney, Region V Associate Coordinator, MIEMSS at mcooney@miemss.org or 443-525-4515.

The sponsor categories are as follows:

- ◆ *Diamond* – \$2,500
- ◆ *Platinum* – \$1,000
- ◆ *Gold* – \$500
- ◆ *Silver* – \$250

If you have further questions about the conference, please email at paxriverems@gmail.com. We hope to see you in attendance this Fall in Calvert County! ■



American Stroke Association®
A division of the American Heart Association.

Together to End Stroke®

DO YOU KNOW?

Strokes occur in toddlers, children and teens.

Stroke is an emergency at any age.



SPOT A STROKE

F.A.S.T.

Face
Drooping

Arm
Weakness

Speech
Difficulty

Time to
Call 911

**If your child has one or more of these signs,
don't delay — call 911 or the emergency system.**

If it looks or feels like a stroke, it may be one.

Additional Warning Signs in Children:

- Sudden severe headache, especially with vomiting and sleepiness
- Sudden weakness or numbness on one side of the body (face, arm and/or leg)
- Sudden confusion, difficulty speaking or understanding others
- Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes
- Sudden difficulty walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination
- New onset of seizures, usually on one side of the body

FACTS TO KNOW



Signs of stroke are often missed in children and teens because of **LACK OF AWARENESS.**



About half of children who had a stroke had a **PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED RISK FACTOR.**



The clot-busting drug tPA and clot retrieval devices **AREN'T FDA APPROVED FOR USE IN CHILDREN.**

Medical conditions associated with stroke include:

Sickle Cell Disease, Moyamoya Disease, Arterial Dissection, Autoimmune Disorders, Congenital Heart Diseases and Blood Clotting Disorders.

Learn more at stroke.org.

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International Alliance
for Pediatric Stroke
iapediatricstroke.org

The American Stroke Association and the International Alliance for Pediatric Stroke
— collaborating to treat and beat stroke in infants and children.



EMS FOR CHILDREN

Childhood Stroke Awareness Day: May 4, 2024

CHILDHOOD STROKE AWARENESS DAY, or Pediatric Stroke Awareness Day, is observed annually on the first Saturday of May, which is May 4 in 2024, to raise awareness of pediatric strokes, a seemingly rare yet critical issue that often is unrecognized by families and clinicians. The Maryland EMS for Children Department, in partnership with Johns Hopkins Childrens Center, has developed an online learning modules located on the MIEMSS Online Training Center located at www.emsonlinetraining.org. Pediatric Stroke: Time is Brain (At Any Age!) module is within the Pediatric Education tab.

Strokes can happen to anyone at any time – including teenagers, children, newborns, and unborn babies. A

third of pediatric strokes occur in neonates and infants. Early recognition of strokes in children requires proper assessment and stabilization along with appropriate triage and transport decisions to minimize neurologic disability. Maryland has two children's hospitals with Pediatric Stroke Team, Children's National Hospital and Johns Hopkins Childrens Center. The module is presented by Ryan J. Felling, M.D., Ph.D., Director of the Johns Hopkins Pediatric Stroke Program and Co-Director of the Johns Hopkins Pediatric Neurocritical Care Program. The objectives are listed below:

1. Identify the many and varied causes of pediatric stroke
2. Recognize the presentation

- of stroke in children that may look like seizure or migraines
3. Plan prehospital care of child with possible stroke
4. Understand hospital treatments and destination choices for children with possible stroke

If you know a family that has experienced a pediatric stroke, online resource are available from the International Alliance for Pediatric Stroke. Website – Family Tool Kit – International Alliance for Pediatric Stroke (<https://iapediaticstroke.org/>)

The course offers 0.5 hours of NCCP Individual credit for ALS clinicians and 0.5 hours of Medical credit for BLS clinicians.

For more information, please email pepp@miemss.org. ■

DOT Updates Emergency Response Guidebook for 2024

THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DOT) Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) has released the 2024 Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG). The ERG is updated every four years. It is available in English, Spanish and French.

DOT's goal is to place an ERG in every public emergency service vehicle nationwide. DOT is now distributing 1.8 million free hardcopies of the 2024 edition through its state emergency management ERG distribution coordinators. In Maryland the Department of Emergency Management (MDEM) will coordinate the distribution of the ERG to local jurisdictions for distribution to their public safety



Image: The U.S. Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

entities.

The 2024 ERG is also available digitally as a PDF or via PHMSA's ERG Mobile App. If you've already installed the 2020 ERG via the ERG

Mobile App, there is no need to download the 2024 edition on an Android, the app will update automatically.

See **GUIDEBOOK** page 14



American Stroke Association®
A division of the American Heart Association.

Together to End Stroke®

DO YOU KNOW?

Infants and unborn babies can have a stroke.

Perinatal stroke usually occurs between the middle of pregnancy and 1 month after birth.



WARNING SIGNS & SYMPTOMS

NEWBORNS

- Seizures (repetitive twitching of face, arm or leg)
- Apnea (pause in breathing)
- Lethargy, poor feeding

WHAT TO DO:

Alert medical team/emergency services for possible signs of stroke.

DEVELOPING BABIES

- Decreased movement or weakness on one side of the body
- Hand preference before age 1
- Developmental delays

WHAT TO DO:

Consult with your child's health care team, which may include a pediatric neurologist. An MRI of the brain is usually required.

IF IT LOOKS OR FEELS LIKE A STROKE, IT MAY BE ONE.

RISK FACTORS

The cause in most perinatal strokes remains unknown.

Some factors that could lead to stroke include:



Congenital heart disease



Disorders of the placenta



Acute blood-clotting disorders



Infections

FACTS TO KNOW

- **Less than 1%** of children who have a perinatal stroke **will have more strokes.**
- Recurrence in future pregnancies is **rare (<1%).**
- Perinatal stroke affects **about 1 in 1,000 to 1 in 3,000 children at birth.**
- **About 65% of children with perinatal stroke** will have permanent neurological disabilities. *These may include one-sided weakness (cerebral palsy), epilepsy, speech and language difficulties, visual impairments, learning and memory problems and behavior changes.*

Learn more at stroke.org.

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International Alliance
for Pediatric Stroke
iapediastroke.org

*The American Stroke Association and the International Alliance for Pediatric Stroke
— collaborating to treat and beat stroke in infants and children.*



EMS FOR CHILDREN

Meet the Pediatric EMS Champions

MARYLAND'S EMS SYSTEM is comprised of 29 EMS operational programs divided into five regions. In this month's article, we will highlight some members of Maryland's Pediatric EMS Champion Team from across the State.



RYAN STACEY, NRP
Pediatric EMS Champion
Ocean City Fire Department

Ryan Stacey, NRP, is one of the Pediatric EMS Champions for Ocean City Fire Department. He is also a PEPP Course Coordinator and a TECC instructor. Ryan has always had a passion for helping people – even as a kid. One of his goals is to remove the “Oh, no” stigma associated with treating pediatrics. Ryan tries hard to instill confidence in EMS clinicians when treating pediatrics, frequently telling them, “Relax, it’s just another patient.” Ryan reports that the follow-up he receives from patients he has

treated is his favorite thing about his EMS career, citing that he loves having the opportunity to hear how the treatment he provided made a difference in someone else’s life.

Growing up on a farm, Ryan began working at a young age. He loved playing soccer as a child and continued to play well into his 20s. Ryan shares that his favorite holiday is Christmas, noting that his father always made sure Christmas was a special holiday for the family, and it definitely wore off on him – the excitement on the kids’ faces is unmatched.

As a means to relax from work and life in general, Ryan loves to go camping with his family. Speaking of family, Ryan shared that his family is deeply rooted in public service. He has multiple family members who currently serve

or have previously served in one or multiple services, including the military, police, fire, and EMS.



ANDREW HENKEL, NRP
Pediatric EMS Champion
Queen Anne's County

Andrew Henkel, NRP, is the Pediatric EMS Champion for Queen Anne’s County. In addition to his role as a Pediatric EMS Champion, he also is a Rescue Task Force instructor and a member of our jurisdiction’s Active Assailant Task Force as an EMS representative. As part of that task force, Andrew has attended a number of trainings and lectures on active threat events and the optimal combined EMS, Fire, and Law Enforcement response.

Additionally, Andrew is one of the department’s Tactical Emergency Medical Service (TEMS) clinicians and therefore a member of the Queen Anne’s County Sheriff’s Office SWAT Team. He is very passionate about this portion of his job, noting it is an unique opportunity which tests his skills and abilities outside of the normal challenges faced on the medic unit

Andrew shares that after attending college, he was in search of a fulfilling career that would motivate him and provide purpose. He had an interest in first aid growing up and decided to pursue EMS and looks forward to seeing where his career leads him.

When not at work, Andrew enjoys hunting, fishing, and recreational shooting in order to spend time outdoors. He also enjoys writing music, singing, and playing the guitar to relax. The best piece of advice he has ever received? “Never quit.” ■



THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN (EMSC) Program at MIEMSS addresses the unique needs of children within the EMS system, providing a focal point for statewide resources and networking on emergency care for children and their families. Learn more at <https://miemss.org/home/emsc>, or scan or click on the QR code at right.





Topics in Trauma



2024 Trauma Conference

September 20, 2024
TidalHealth Peninsula Regional
Salisbury, Md.

More information coming soon





MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION EMERGENCY RESPONSE SYSTEM

MHA Hosts Chemical Emergency Surge Tabletop Exercise

ON MARCH 7, 2024, the Maryland Region V Healthcare Coalition participated in a Chemical Emergency Surge Tabletop Exercise (TTX) hosted by the Maryland Hospital Association (MHA) that examined the preparedness efforts taken and response actions initiated to a mass casualty incident related to widespread sarin exposure. The exercise was designed to review existing emergency care assets, evaluate roles, and identify operational gaps during a large-scale chemical incident. The Maryland-National Capital Region Emergency Response System (MDERS) observed the exercise to gain better insights into healthcare response.

The Chemical Emergency Surge TTX covered three modules that engaged essential response components within the scenario, including initial recognition, community collaboration, and ongoing healthcare coordination. Each module contained information portraying a sarin attack at a large community gathering and the aftermath of chemical exposure casualties. The scenario emphasized the need to assess patients, decontaminate, treat injuries, and coordinate with public health and emergency managers. Throughout the exercise, participants from fire/EMS, public health, emergency management, acute-care facilities, and the Maryland Healthcare Coalition provided suggestions on specific response procedures utilized to reduce chemical exposure.

In the first module, units responded to a potential chemical agent release in a densely populated area with office buildings, retail space, and schools. Within minutes, multiple patients experiencing various symptoms arrived



[Photo: MDERS]

at nearby hospitals. During the response phase, participants discussed a variety of initial actions that involved the activation of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), preparing Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) operations, contacting poison control personnel, and deploying decontamination equipment to establish the immediate removal of contaminants. Considering the large acute exposure, participants reviewed real-time information sharing capabilities between hospitals and response partners particularly due to requesting specialized EMS transportation resources and disseminating critical incident information. In preparation for treating an influx of patients, these response activities set the foundation for ongoing healthcare coordination.

In the next phase, participants were informed of the evolving nature of the emergency with hospitals, clinics, physician offices, and other healthcare facilities becoming inundated with victims suffering from a range of adverse

effects due to the sarin exposure. Participants referred and adhered to hospital protocols related to chemical emergency response to determine alternate areas for triage, on-site decontamination, and community evacuation. With the potential for misinformation and public concern, participants activated the EOC Joint Information Center (JIC) to coordinate public information with Healthcare Coalition members to provide consistent communication to mitigate mass panic.

While the actions of participating response agencies diminished the harm from chemical attack in the primary and immediate vicinity, participants explored other alternative methods to maintain and uphold regional healthcare coordination. Participants assessed mutual aid agreements to transport patients for ongoing care to facilities with appropriate resources, collect/dispose of contaminated materials, request staffing support, and

See *MDERS* page 16



CONVENTION & CONFERENCE



MSFA 132nd ANNUAL CONVENTION AND CONFERENCE

Mark your calendars for June 16th-20th! Visit us in beautiful Ocean City, Maryland at the recently renovated, state-of-the-art, Roland E. Powell Convention Center, and see what the 2024 MSFA Convention and Conference has to offer!

**Over 14 Special
Events Held During
Convention Week**

**FOR MORE INFO VISIT
CONVENTION.MSFA.ORG**

DEPARTMENTS:

FREE educational seminars

FREE Hands on Training by OC
FOOLS

Awards and recognition

EXHIBITORS:

Over 50,000 square feet of exhibit
space available

Both apparatus and booth spaces

Three days of prime exhibiting hours

SPONSORS:

Event sponsorships

Ad space in annual convention
program book

Corporate sponsorship packages

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!



2024

ATTENDANCE:

- MSFA membership: 350+ fire, rescue, and ambulance departments, and 200+ member auxiliaries
- 14,500 Convention members
- 35,000 Convention guests in total, including family, friends, volunteer, career, gov't agency emergency services personnel
- Convention guests from Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey!

The MSFA Convention Headquarters are located at 4001 Coastal Highway (MD Route 528) and 40th Street.

MSFA 132nd ANNUAL CONVENTION AND CONFERENCE

Ocean City is home to some of the Mid-Atlantic's best beach resorts and conference centers, and has proven to be a winning destination for the MSFA Convention and Conference year after year.

Our Convention remains one of the largest attended emergency services events in the region. It is located within a reasonable drive for one-third of the nation's population, drawing attendance from across the Mid-Atlantic region.



CONVENTION & CONFERENCE

HOWARD COUNTY...

(Continued from page 1)

Shock Trauma, Ball's Fiscal Year 2025 proposed budget also includes funding for the county's only hospital – the Johns Hopkins Howard County Medical Center, as well as Sheppard Pratt in Elkridge and other vital health institutions serving Howard County residents. These investments aim to decrease emergency room wait times and increase the health, wellness and survivability of county residents and visitors.

“For the last 50 years, the citizens of Maryland have had access to the finest trauma care in the world,” said Dr. Thomas M. Scalea, Physician-In-Chief, R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center, Chief for Critical Care Services at the University of Maryland Medical System and The Honorable Francis X. Kelly Distinguished Professor of Trauma Surgery at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. “The kind of partnership we have with the people of Maryland, our counties and state legislators doesn't exist anywhere else. I want to express my gratitude to County Executive Ball for stepping up and leading the charge to ensure our unparalleled system is preserved for the future. Shock Trauma has made countless contributions to the trauma field and there's much more on the horizon. Buckle your seatbelt, we're not done yet.”

R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center

Named in remembrance of U.S. military surgeon Dr. R Adams Cowley, who is considered the father of trauma care and popularized the term “golden hour,” RACSTC is the heart of Maryland's world-renowned Emergency Medical Services (EMS) sys-

tem. Our nation's first and only integrated trauma hospital and a national model of excellence, Shock Trauma treats more 6,500 patients annually. With a 95 percent survival rate, Shock

Trauma is dedicated to treating the severely injured and employ groundbreaking research and innovative medical procedures with one goal in mind, to save lives. ■

Scan or click on the QR code at right to view the April 2 press conference announcing Howard County's \$3 million RACSTC investment



GUIDEBOOK...

(Continued from page 7)

For iPhones toggle on the ERG 2000 icon, a page will appear asking if you want to continue use the 2000 ERG edition or upload the 2024. If you tap the 2024 box it automatically takes you to the ERG 2024 app site. Press “GET”, double click the side button and it will automatically download and replace the 2000 edition.

PHMSA has provided a summary of changes that were incorporated in the 2024 edition. Major changes include:

- QR codes were added to the back cover of the hardcopy (the last page of the PDF version) for quick access to critical incident reporting information for users on the scene of an emergency.
- In the White pages, certain markings, labels and placards were updated to include new ones introduced since 2020 and to eliminate obsolete ones.
- The White pages now include a section, Considerations for Lith-

ium Battery and Electric Vehicle (EV) Fires. The Orange guide 147, Lithium Ion and Sodium Ion Batteries, has been expanded to include considerations for different types of battery fires.

- All information on Chemical and Biological Warfare Agents is now consolidated within a single section in the White pages, under Criminal or Terrorist Use of Chemical, Biological and Radiological Agents.
- In the Yellow and Blue pages, UN numbers have been updated to align with the most current UN Model Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods. Orange guides were added or updated to ensure materials were assigned to the appropriate Orange guide.

Learn more and access digital or mobile app versions of the 2024 ERG on PHMSA's website: <https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/training/hazmat/erg/emergency-response-guidebook-erg>. ■

~ Visit MIEMSS online at www.miemss.org ~

Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration's (MDOT MVA)

Maryland Highway Safety Office

The MDOT MVA Highway Safety Office (MHSO) is dedicated to saving lives and working with many partners across the State to reduce the number of crashes each year. In addition, the MHSO looks for ways to reduce crash severity and ways to treat crash victims easier and faster.

Maryland aims to reduce the number of crashes, and the resulting deaths and injuries, to zero by 2030.

Look Twice for Motorcycles

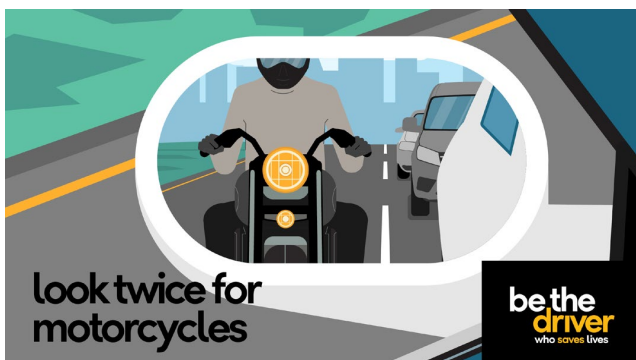
Motorcycles travel at the same speeds as other vehicles on our roads, but motorcyclists lack the same protections that cars and trucks provide — making them some of the most vulnerable road users.

Each year in Maryland, more than 70 riders and passengers are killed in traffic crashes and nearly 1,000 riders and passengers are injured. When there is a crash involving a car or truck and a motorcycle, the motorcyclist almost always loses. Without the protection of a car or truck, motorcyclists are injured in nearly three out of four crashes

Though most drivers don't think about it, they get out of the habit of looking for motorcycles during the winter months, making spring especially dangerous for riders getting back on the road in nice weather. Coupled with the smaller size of a motorcycle, drivers must be extra alert for motorcyclists on the road.

Always look twice for motorcyclists, they can be easy to miss.

Visit ZeroDeathsMD.gov/motorcycle for more information on helping keep motorcyclists safe on our roads.



Protecting Children from Hot Car Deaths

Cars can be a tempting place for children to play. Whether playing hide and seek or getting into the car to play with a toy they left behind, children don't understand the dangers associated with gaining access to an unattended vehicle. Pediatric vehicular heatstroke is one of the leading causes of non-crash, vehicle-related deaths for children 14 and younger, causing an average of 37 deaths per year.

Toddlers and young children can get into a situation where they get in the car but are unable to get out, or they fail to realize how quickly a car can become dangerously hot. Even when the temperature outside is mild — heatstroke can occur in outdoor temperatures as low as 57 degrees, according to [NHTSA](https://www.nhtsa.gov).

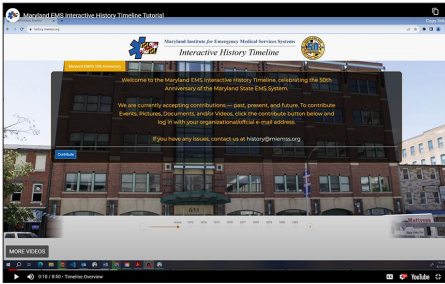
These three tips could save a child's life:

- NEVER leave a child in a vehicle unattended.
- Make it a habit to look in the back seat EVERY time you exit the car.
- ALWAYS lock the car and put the keys out of reach of children.

For more information, visit: [NHTSA.gov/heatstroke](https://www.nhtsa.gov/heatstroke)



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Maryland EMS News

MIEMSS

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Prevention

THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION (NHTSA) has prepared materials for use by law enforcement and public safety personnel for the following upcoming public safety and prevention campaigns:

■ **National Bicycle Safety Month (May 2024).** Communication is a key part of bicycle safety programs. You can use this material to help spread awareness and educate the public about bicycle safety. Be sure your bicycle safety communication plan includes driver behavior messaging and the importance for bicyclists wearing a helmet. Many assets are available in English and Spanish. Download materials here: <https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/safety-topics/bicycle-safety>

■ **Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month (May 2024).** Millions of people across the United States ride motorcycles – some as a primary or secondary form of transportation, and others as a leisure ride. You can use this material as part of your communication plan to promote motorcycle safety – for motorcyclists and drivers. Download materials here: <https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/safety-topics/motorcycle-safety>

[torcycle-safety](#)

■ **National Mobilization: Click It or Ticket (May 13 – June 2, 2024).** *Click It or Ticket* is a national high-visibility enforcement campaign that focuses specifically on the consequences of not wearing a seat belt while urging riders to always buckle up. Material created for this campaign highlights law enforcement's goal of encouraging drivers and passengers to wear seat belts and to spread awareness about the increased police presence on our nation's roads during this period, including Memorial Day Weekend. Download materials here: <https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/safety-topics/seat-belt-safety/click-it-or-ticket>.

■ **Summer Driving Tips (May 15 – September 2, 2024).** For many of us, summertime usually means vacations and summer road trips. Now is a good time to review these summer driving safety tips. A little planning and some safety checks might spare you from dealing with the consequences of a breakdown — or worse, a highway crash. Download materials here: <https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/safety-topics/vehicle-safety>. ■

MDERS...

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execute situational awareness communication strategies among healthcare partners.

As the exercise concluded, participants enhanced their knowledge about the emergency notification processes and existing mutual aid agreements that were crucial in responding to and coordinating medical care. The discussion-based exercise examined the response capabilities across hospitals and

healthcare facilities, revealing the necessity for more robust collaboration, resource allocation, and communication practices. MDERS supports active participation in exercises, viewing them as an indispensable training tool that fosters personnel development and optimizes operational efficiency. ■