

Delaware County Commissioners

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Delaware County—EMS Week honors those who serve

National Emergency Medical Services Week 2012 is May 20 - May 26 with this year's theme, "EMS: More Than A Job. A Calling." National EMS Week brings together local communities and medical personnel to publicize safety and to honor the dedication of those who provide the day-to-day life-saving services of medicine's "front line."

"We encourage the community to take time to learn more about Delaware County EMS before they need us. Often times, people also like to visit and thank those paramedics who have given their family great care in the past. Either way, we encourage residents to stop by our EMS Station Open Houses. At each of our Open Houses, we will provide information on the latest equipment and procedures we offer to our patients," shared Chief Rob Farmer.

Delaware County EMS will also be offering a free Heart Saver CPR and First Aid class on Wednesday, May 23, from 6 to 8 to 10:30 pm at their Administrative Offices, 10 Court Street, in Delaware. To register, contact Captain Eric Burgess at (740) 833-2192 or Eburgess@delcoems.org.

Throughout the week, Delaware County EMS will celebrate with Open Houses scheduled below:

Sunday, May 20, from 1 to 3 pm:

Station 1 Delaware, 909 U.S. Rt. 23 North

Station 5 Ashley, 245 W. High St.

Station 7 Genoa Township, 7177 Northgate Way

Station 8 Ostrander, 6457 U.S. Rt. 36 West

Station 9 Harlem Township, 13961 Woodtown Rd.

Saturday, May 26, from 1 to 3 pm:

Station 2 Sunbury, 283 W. Granville St.

Station 3 Orange Township, 6226 Third St.

Station 4 Radnor, 4095 St. Rt. 203

Station 6 Porter-Kingston Township, 12844 Olive Green Rd.

Station 10 Berlin Township, 2708 Lackey Old State Rd.

EMS Week began in the early 70s with Congress authorizing the Emergency Medical Services Systems (EMSS) Act of 1973, and in 1974, President Gerald Ford signed the bill and appointed Dr. David Boyd as the first director of the Division of EMSS, part of the Public Health Service in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. Director Boyd then convinced President Ford to proclaim EMS Week as the third week in May every year.

Many past and present DCEMS employees, current and past elected officials, residents and friends of DCEMS recently celebrated the department's 40th anniversary. On April 18, 1972, emergency medical services began to be provided countywide in a combined effort between the Delaware County Commissioners, the Delaware County Sheriff's Office, and the Jane Case Hospital. From 1972 to 1978, the Delaware County Sheriff's Office supplied two ambulance cruisers to develop what is known today as the Delaware County EMS and in 1978, transferred the responsibility back to the Delaware County Commissioners.

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