



Information and Updates for the North Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas operations

ARLINGTON ROAD TESTS SAFETY CONCEPT AMBULANCE

The future of emergency medical transportation is currently on the roads in **Arlington**, as AMR begins a month-long road test of a prototype ambulance, which was jointly developed by AMR and American Emergency Vehicles (AEV).

This is the third Safety Concept Vehicle produced jointly by the two companies, which are designed to raise awareness within the industry of the need for greater safety, to reduce the risks faced by ambulance crews and to provide the latest innovations in patient care. The new vehicle incorporates many elements that came directly from the input, suggestions and feedback of caregivers across the country.

Some of the 40+ distinct safety features built into the new concept ambulance include:

- A four-camera video system that greatly improves driver vision to the sides and rear of the ambulance. The system, similar to those currently found on police vehicle, also records all ambulance movement.
- Enhanced rear-seating harnesses, which can also record when all the seat belts and harnesses are properly engaged.
- Multiple internal components, such as lighting, suction and air controls, designed to reduce the amount of time medics have to leave their seated positions to render patient care.
- Redundant three battery system, with emergency start switch.
- High efficiency return air filtration, to remove bacteria and other airborne contaminants within the ambulance.
- Unique exterior graphics that greatly enhance the vehicle's visibility to other motorists.
- Rear sensors to enhance the safety of backing up.

The new unit was unveiled for the Arlington Fire Department, local hospital/medical professionals and the media in January, providing up close inspection and instruction of the vehicle's capabilities and features.



Arlington team members show off the new concept ambulance at a "roll out" event for the Fire Department, local hospital officials and media.

(L-R) Rachel Triplett, Carlos Huerta, Larry Stapleton, Michael Erwin, Ross Terry, Tracey-Lynn Walker and Deena Lavender



The new unit will be incorporated into the Arlington EMS system and road tested for one month

IN THE



- **Arlington** received significant coverage for the Concept Safety Ambulance, with an article in the *Star-Telegram*, the *Fort Worth Business Press* and two stories on the local NBC station, as well as stories on the CW and ABC TV stations.



NEW HIRES (JANUARY)

Dallas:

Rebecca Drekman , EMT-B
 Beau Kidd , EMT-B
 Israel Espinoza, EMT-B
 Rabih Dahdouh, EMT-B
 Jesus Esquivel, Mechanic
 David Fooladjoush, EMT-B
 Tristan Grimsley, EMT-B
 Edie Summerford, EMT-B
 Jaime Gujardo. Dispatcher

Arlington:

Clinton Wheelless, Paramedic
 Carl Adams, Paramedic
 Donald Proper , Paramedic

South Division:

Douglas Dean, Finance Manager

Tarrant: County

Christopher Stone, EMT-B



Star Gazing!

The **Stars of Life** Program offers a unique opportunity for AMR to bring national recognition to our outstanding employees and our company. Full-time paramedics, EMTs, communications center employees and other front-line staff who meet the selection criteria may be nominated as a Star of Life.

To review the selection criteria or to nominate a colleague, log on to <http://portal.emsc.net> and click on the Stars of Life icon to download the packet. Or, contact your operations supervisor, manager or HR representative for a printed nomination form. The deadline for nominations is **Wednesday, February 20**.

Happy Valentine's Day from AMR!



According to the Greeting Card Association, an estimated one billion valentine cards are sent each year, making Valentine's Day the second largest card-sending holiday of the year. (Christmas is still first, with an estimated 2.6 billion cards sent.). Other interesting facts:

- The majority of valentines (Approximately 85 percent) are purchased by women.
- In addition to the United States, Valentine's Day is celebrated in Canada, Mexico, the United Kingdom, France and Australia.
- Valentine greetings were popular as far back as the Middle Ages, but written Valentine's didn't begin to appear until after 1400
- Fifty percent of people purchase their card in the six days prior to Valentine's Day, making it the most procrastinated holiday. (source: Hallmark research)
- According to research, 65 percent of those who celebrate the holiday do it with greeting cards; the second most popular method is date night (44%), followed by candy (38%) and flowers (32%).
- The first commercial Valentine's Day greeting cards produced in the U.S. were created in the 1840s by Esther A. Howland.
- The oldest known Valentine card is on display at the British Museum.

Dates to Note



- **February 14** Valentine's Day
- **February 18** Embracing Diversity Day
(Offices Closed; corrected from last month)

KUDOS KORNER



Congratulations to Jaimie Lake of **Arlington** on her 3-year anniversary with AMR, and to Travis Crow, Christina Fuentes and Leilana Lopez on their 1-year anniversary.

Congratulations to Beverly Gonzales for six years of service in the **Dallas/Collin County** operation.

It helps having nine lives! **Wichita Falls** paramedic Wade Phillips, his partner Melody O'Neal and a student came across frightened a kitten in the road at a busy intersection. When they stopped to check it out, the feline ran and hid under a car stopped at a traffic light. He asked the woman to wait, and he crawled under the car to rescue the scared animal. After successfully extracting the kitten, he dropped it off at the local animal shelter. Later, after talking with his wife, they decided to adopt the kitten. So he returned to the Humane Society and picked up the new addition to their family. (Pictured above is Wade and Apollo)



Jeff McCollom, General Manager for **Dallas/Collin County**, received the William A. Sanger Spirit Award, which honors the vision of growing AMR from a good company to a great company. Any full time team member with business development responsibilities is eligible. Jeff was selected for many of his contributions, including selecting people based on their fit with AMR's core values and purpose and the development of a 100-day plan focused on culture change and customer retention. *Congrats, Jeff!*

Our **Dallas** operation was recognized divisionally and nationally for the most year over year growth in 2007, with an organic growth of 27 percent and a 40 percent growth with the Lifeguard acquisition. *Way to go, Big-D!*



Is there someone you want to acknowledge? An accomplishment you want to highlight? A team member who deserves a pat on the back?

This is the place!

Just let the editor know: (Bill.Prickett@emsc.net)



In the Spotlight...

Keith Edmonds, Operations Supervisor, Fayetteville, Arkansas

Keith started with AMR Arkansas in June of 2007, but has been an EMS for 23 years.



Keith currently serves as Vice President of the Arkansas EMT Association, Marion County Fire Chief Coordinator, President of the Marion County Fire Chief's Association, a member of the Arkansas EMS Legislative committee, national EMS Legislative Committee, National Volunteer Fire Council member and Fire Chief of the Bruno Fire Department. He has been past recipient of the 2003 Arkansas EMT of the Year, 2004 Arkansas Fire Fighter of the Year, 2004 National EMT of the Year, 2007 Arkansas Delegate to the Stars of Life and the 2006 Bruno Fire Fighter of the Year.

Keith is an instructor in all of the AHA courses along with specialty courses in advanced auto extrication, school bus extrication, tour bus extrication, tractor trailer extrication, farm medic instructor, first responder instructor and an adjunct instructor for the Arkansas fire academy.

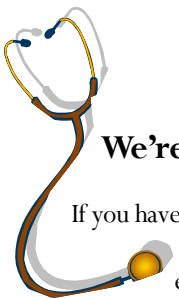
In his "spare time," Keith works on the family farm, raising beef cattle with over 500 head of cattle. Keith and his wife, Leslie have two children--a son, Evan and a daughter, Ally.

New feature! Hope you enjoyed our new "spotlight" article. We wanted to individually introduce some of our team members. If you have someone in your operation you would like to include, just let the editor know.

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We're listening to YOU!

If you have questions, corrections or if you have something you want to add to our monthly update, just let the editor know.

Deadline for February issue: All announcements and copy should be in by end of business, **February 22.**

Diversity

As we observe **Embracing Diversity Day** this month, wrap your mind around some quotes from a "diverse" group of people:

You can only protect your liberties in this world by protecting the other man's freedom. You can only be free if I am free. **Clarence Darrow** (Lawyer and reformer)

We can at least try to understand our own motives, passions, and prejudices, so as to be conscious of what we are doing when we [appeal] to those of others. This is very difficult, because our own prejudice and emotional bias always seems to us so rational. **T.S. Eliot** (Poet and playwright)

If we are to achieve a richer culture, rich in contrasting values, we must recognize the whole gamut of human potentialities, and so weave a less arbitrary social fabric, one in which each diverse human gift will find a fitting place. **Margaret Mead** (Anthropologist)

Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. **Martin Luther King, Jr.** (Clergyman and civil rights leader)

The plague of racism is insidious, entering into our minds as smoothly and quietly and invisibly as floating airborne microbes enter into our bodies to find lifelong purchase in our bloodstreams. **Maya Angelou** (Writer)

It is natural anywhere that people like their own kind, but it is not necessarily natural that their fondness for their own kind should lead them to the subjection of whole groups of other people not like them. **Pearl S. Buck** (Novelist)

Men are born equal but they are also born different. **Erich Fromm** (German-born U.S. psychoanalyst)

Mankind will endure when the world appreciates the logic of diversity. **Indira Gandhi** (Indian politician)

Normal is in the eye of the beholder. **Whoopi Goldberg** (Actor)

The surest way to corrupt a youth is to instruct him to hold in higher esteem those who think alike than those who think differently. **Friedrich Nietzsche** (German philosopher)

We must remember that any oppression, any injustice, any hatred, is a wedge designed to attack our civilization. **Franklin D. Roosevelt** (U.S. President)

It's not easy being green. **Kermit the Frog** (Actor, singer, Muppet)

My humanity is bound up in yours, for we can only be human together. **Bishop Desmond Tutu** (South African activist and religious leader)

Just imagine how boring life would be if we were all the same. My idea of a perfect world is one in which we really appreciated each other's differences: Short, tall; Democrat, Republican; black, white; gay, straight--a world in which all of us are equal, but definitely not the same. **Barbara Streisand** (Singer and actor)

The glory of creation is in its infinite diversity...and in the way our differences combine to create meaning and beauty. **Commander Spock**, (Vulcan Starship Officer)

Man prefers to believe what he prefers to be true. **Francis Bacon**, (English philosopher and scientist)