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South Koreans Visit IN: Discuss Firefighting, Search & Rescue

Firefighters from Daegu, South Korea, visited IDHS on April 4, 2016, to give an update on their search and rescue program and meet with State Fire Marshal Jim Greeson to discuss firefighting operations in the U.S.

Although the main reason for the U.S. trip was to gain knowledge on firefighting, the South Korean firefighters also came to provide an update on their search and rescue K-9 teams. Several years ago, IDHS helped establish a K-9 search and rescue component for the South Korean national response team.

Twelve special-needs students from Jeffersonville High School took part in a five-week career explorations course at the Jeffersonville Fire Department to learn what it's like to be a real-life firefighter.

Students, under the guidance of Sgt. Justin Ames and others, learned how to do a routine check of the fire truck and try on equipment – even a 40-pound air pack. Over the course of the five weeks, they learned what it takes to keep the station clean and they even cooked and dined with firefighters to get a feel for the daily routine. For most, it was their first visit to a fire station.

Sgt. Ames was contacted by one of the teachers at the school to see if such a course could be arranged so that the students would have an opportunity to learn job shadowing and gain real-world experience. The students were accompanied by several college

students who hope to someday teach students with special needs.

Ames said the program has gained the attention of the mayor, the city council, the schools and local groups such as the NAACP. Ames said everyone is very appreciative of the way the fire department is impacting the community.

"I believe it is our duty as first responders to educate the community on what our job really is," said Sgt. Ames. "Our fire department has taken steps within the last few months to be more involved in all of our community. Reaching out to our schools has been just one of our many steps. This has been such a successful program so far."

For more information on how this program could work for other fire departments, contact Sgt. Ames at jfdpio408@gmail.com or call 812-285-6445. □

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“I was so happy to have a chance to learn in the U.S.” said Gyeonglim Kim, lieutenant in the Daegu Fire Department. “It was the first time the government sent anyone out of the country to learn search and rescue, and it was very special for me.”

Since establishing the first search and rescue component, IDHS employee Lillian Hardy has made eight trips to South Korea in an

ongoing effort to train more search and rescue teams. The dogs are trained as cadaver dogs and specialize in area search. On her most recent trip, Hardy trained the dogs in tracking.

The purpose of the Daegu firefighters’ trip was to compare the differences between firefighting in South Korea and the U.S. One of the major differences between the two

countries was that most firefighters in the U.S. are not solely firefighters, but also serve as EMS personnel.

The city of Daegu is the third largest city in South Korea with a population of 2.5 million people and covers 330 square miles, roughly the size of Marion County. There are 2,200 firefighters in the Daegu Fire Department. □

Tribal Collaboration Training in Munster

The IDHS District 1 Hospital Coalition recently hosted, at Community Hospital in Munster, Ind., a course titled, “Enhancing Tribal and State Collaborations to Build Sustainable Tribal Partnerships.”

The course is designed to equip participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to identify existing tribal justice challenges and strengthen partnerships to more effectively implement criminal justice initiatives in their organizations. It includes team building and increasing coordination and communication among federal, state, tribal and local governmental agencies. The course is part of Western Community Policing Institute Tribal Learning (WCPI).

“I was pleased to be able to bring this tribal course to our area,” said Gary McKay, Manager of Emergency Preparedness, Safety and Bioterrorism Prevention for Community Hospital in Munster. He is also co-chairperson/training officer IDHS District 1 Hospital Emergency Planning Committee. “The course consists of topics centered on tribal governance, issues and tribal threats, best practices and lessons learned.”

McKay said eight people participated in the course, and included the Red Cross, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, Enbridge Pipeline, EMS and municipal board members. Target audiences for this course also routinely include law enforcement, community and state correction, educational

institutions, courts and legal systems, tribal and non-tribal youth services and members of local government.

“The class was excellent,” said Thomas Bettenhausen, EMS and Emergency Management Coordinator of Community Hospital. “I have taken several of the WCPI classes in the past and they have all been worth every minute I spent with them. The class took real-life challenges and all of the activities focused on how these challenges might be made easier with assistance from other groups and resources. They brought many solutions to light and stressed how coalition-building can make an issue easier to manage. Great class and I highly recommend it!” □

Brown County Paramedic Honored by Commission

Brown County paramedic Robert Roudebush II was honored March 26, 2016, with an Honorary Paramedic Certification from the Emergency Medical Services Commission. After serving his community for 44 years, Roudebush retired from Columbus Regional Hospital EMS in January 2016.

Roudebush, who was originally a mechanic in a small community, joined the Trevlac Fire

Department in 1971 and started the first ambulance service in Brown County, filling a vital need for medical assistance. By 1982, he had formed the Brown County EMT Association, which provided the first rescue services in the county.

Continuing his education, Roudebush became certified as a first and second class firefighter, an advanced emergency medical technician, and finally a

paramedic in 1999. He spent the last 16 years of his career as a full-time paramedic in Brown County.

Roudebush continued to serve through medical issues, including a heart attack and while fighting cancer. Although he is officially retired, he intends to continue to volunteer with the local EMT association, continuing his dedication to the welfare of Brown County’s residents. □

Member of the 38th Military Police Company on the tower.



IDHS, Bargersville FD Assist ING with Rappel Course

Chip Sunier, an IDHS staff member at Camp Atterbury with Search and Rescue, assisted the Indiana National Guard in training 75 soldiers during a basic rappelling course on March 11. Sunier instructed the soldiers with the Indiana National Guard, 38th Military Police.

The one-day training session featured a drill conducted on a tower, where the objective was to get each participant to get over the edge of the top level. Each participant passed. A low-angle drill was also conducted.

The Bargersville Fire Department's certified rope rescue technicians provided additional assistance. The BFD technicians are also registered for technical rope rescue training, including rappelling. □



ABOVE: National Guard members participate in the low-angle drill.



LEFT: IDHS Staff Member Chip Sunier assists a National Guard member with a rappel line.

Firefighter-Themed Park Coming to Greenwood

Greenwood will soon have a new playground with a firefighter theme, located near Greenwood Fire Station 91. The playground was the idea of Greenwood Fire Chief James Sipes. The small playground, called a play pocket, will replicate fire engine equipment and feature Station 91 decals.

This playground is a collaboration of the Greenwood fire and parks departments and the Greenwood Rotary Club. The organizations have split the \$96,000 cost, with the fire department contributing

about \$50,000 to the design and construction, the parks department adding another \$30,000 and the rotary club paying the remaining \$20,000.

The play pocket will take about 10 weeks to build and should be ready for children to enjoy by early summer. It will be two stories high and have two slides.

“It’s actually going to be designed just like our fire engines,” Sipes said. “Same layout, same colors, same graphics. They’ll feel like



they’re actually playing the role of a Greenwood firefighter.” □

Indiana Civil Air Patrol, IDHS Reach Agreement

A recent agreement between the Indiana Wing Civil Air Patrol (CAP) and the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) will allow the organization to fly corporate missions for IDHS, significantly enhancing the resources available for response, public safety and emergency situations.

The CAP acts as a volunteer civilian auxiliary of the United States Air Force. It is an organization of private citizens equipped to respond to local and national emergencies. CAP is able to quickly organize large numbers of highly trained volunteers with ready access to up-to-date equipment to provide support to government agencies.

“Having the opportunity to work alongside Civil Air Patrol significantly supplements our ability to respond during search and rescue missions,” said David Kane, executive director of IDHS. “When partnering with CAP, a door is opened to a fantastic cache of resources. This is a partnership that IDHS does not take for granted, and I truly believe that our continued partnership with CAP will help to make a difference in the

lives of Hoosiers, as our search and rescue missions simply wouldn’t be the same without the contributions of CAP volunteers.”

The Indiana Wing Civil Air Patrol, based in Terre Haute, consists of 29 squadrons and approximately 1,100 volunteer youth and adult members throughout Indiana. The Indiana Wing operates 11 aircraft, 15 vehicles, two communication trailers and a state-wide radio network and is the steward to more than \$3 million worth of Air Force-provided assets. Both cadet and adult members additionally participate in local community service projects, which range from sand bag assistance to flight line marshalling at air shows.

The Civil Air Patrol was established in 1941, allowing more than 150,000 volunteers with a love for aviation to put their planes and flying skills to use in defense of their country and perform critical wartime missions. During World War II, the Civil Air Patrol logged more than 500,000 flying hours, sank two enemy submarines and saved hundreds of crash victims. In 1946 the Civil Air Patrol was incorporated as a benevolent, nonprofit organization. On May

26, 1948, Congress passed Public Law 557 permanently establishing Civil Air Patrol as the auxiliary of the new U.S. Air Force.

Growing from its World War II experience, the Civil Air Patrol has continued to save lives and alleviate human suffering through emergency services and operational missions. Volunteer members fly disaster-relief officials to remote locations and provide manpower and leadership to local, state and national disaster-relief organizations. CAP flies humanitarian missions, usually in support of the Red Cross — transporting time-sensitive medical materials, including blood and human tissue, in situations where other means of transportation are not available.

The organization, however, is perhaps best known for its search and rescue efforts. CAP flies more than 85 percent of all federal inland search and rescue missions directed by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center in Florida. Between 75-100 people nationwide are saved each year by CAP members. □

Tipton County Completes Placement of 62 AEDs

Two years ago, Tipton 911/Communications Director and Emergency Management Director Chuck Bell started on a mission. His goal was to acquire, through grants, enough money for a large number of automated external defibrillators (AEDs) to distribute throughout the county.

Tipton County is fairly rural and it is commonplace, Bell said, for law enforcement to show up at a scene five to 10 minutes before medical personnel can get there. And, he said, the county relies heavily on volunteers. Originally, his dream was to equip every county law enforcement vehicle in Tipton County with an AED and provide anyone who could possibly touch the device the proper training. His goal has now been achieved and more.

“A little over a year was spent researching grants for this massive project; it took a total of one year to purchase the first 40 AEDs and another six months for a second round of 22. This project was started from a conversation with Tipton County Deputy Evan Smith and was heavily supported by Tipton County Sheriff Tony Frawley and Tipton City Police Chief Tom Clark. I also had the support of several elected officials during this time who saw the importance of those first responders having every lifesaving tool and skill at their disposal.”

Bell said each unit costs about \$1,000, so getting the money for 62 AEDs was no small feat. Bell was able to place one AED in each county law enforcement vehicle, one in each public works and

highway vehicle, three in the county jail, one in the city building, one for EMA mobile command and one in the 4-H building, parks department and one for the 4-H fairgrounds itself.

“Researching grants, writing and submitting them, winning some and losing some is time-consuming and emotionally draining,” Bell said. “I’m pleased to be able to say that I did not give up on this project and the support received made a huge impact on getting this project done on the level that it has been.” □

Navy Cadets Participate in Vehicle Rescue Exercise

In January, members of the U.S. Naval Sea Cadets participated in a training session involving underwater vehicle rescue at Camp Atterbury. This was done as a part of regular search and rescue training sessions.

During the training session, participants were shown how to effectively respond to a situation where a vehicle sinks into water. One of the key points covered during the training involved getting out of the vehicle and climbing onto the roof. This method of response helps to prevent the victim from drowning in a submerged vehicle, while also giving the victim a chance to get above the water, depending on the depth.

“Knowing how to respond in a situation like this can definitely help save lives,” said Chip Sunier, the Search and Rescue Emergency Preparedness Coordinator with the



Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS). “This is less about whether or not the victim can swim, and more about dealing with the depth of the water they find themselves in. In many cases, getting on the roof and simply standing up will get them above the water’s surface.”

Other agencies represented included the Indiana Department of Natural Resources and the Greenfield Fire Department. □

International Conference to Feature 7 Hoosier Speakers

From April 18-23, a gathering of worldwide fire professionals will once again be held in Indianapolis.

The Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC), one of the world's largest fire training-based conferences, will take place in the Indiana Convention Center and Lucas Oil Stadium. Seven speakers from Indiana will be featured, including:

- Brian Kazmierzak of Penn Township Fire Department in South Bend.
- John Shafer of Greencastle Fire Department.
- Pedro Caceres of Wayne Township Fire Department in Indianapolis.
- Eric Dreiman of Indianapolis Fire Department.
- Tobias Frost of Lafayette Fire Department.
- Benjamin Peetz of Napoleon Volunteer Fire Department.
- Steve White of Fishers Fire Department.

Classes will cover a range of topics from principles of modern fire attack to large truck extrication. For more information on FDIC, the schedule or registration information, visit www.fdic.com.

According to their website, 2016 is the 89th FDIC conference. In 2015, 31,000 attended the conference. This included more than 1,200 attendees from 55 countries that traveled to attend. The conference highlights the role of firefighters and gives attendees the cutting-edge training only offered at FDIC. □

Spring PrepareAthon! Coming Soon!

The spring date for America's PrepareAthon! is coming up soon on April 30. The PrepareAthon! is a grassroots campaign for action to get better prepare people for emergencies that could strike their communities. This is accomplished by conducting hazard-specific group discussions, drills and exercises. Throughout the year, America's PrepareAthon! helps

communities and individuals across the country practice preparedness actions before a disaster or emergency strikes.

The campaign offers 10 actions that can help communities and individuals across the country to practice preparedness. Local emergency management agencies and other organizations can

register preparedness activities on the PrepareAthon! page at <https://community.fema.gov/>. Planning, education and promotion resources are also available online.

Organizations that participate in the spring PrepareAthon! are encouraged to send photos from the events to pio@dhs.in.gov. □

IDHS to Co-Host Search & Rescue Conference

IDHS and Gateway Search Dogs, Inc. will co-host a search and rescue conference at Camp Atterbury in Edinburg, Indiana, from April 29-May 1, 2016.

Classes will include area search, land human remains detection, trailing, disaster area search, disaster human remains detection and basic rope techniques.

IDHS's Chip Sunier, technical rescue section chief, will teach the basic rope class at the conference. For more information, email csunier@dhs.in.gov. □

USACE to Host 2 More Flood Fight Courses

The first of three Flood Fight courses facilitated by the United States Army Corps of Engineers was held March 9 at the Harrison County Government Center in Corydon. About 40 participants attended the one-day event and included people from both local and state agencies. Emergency Management Liaison for USACE Donald Walker was the primary instructor. The course includes topics such as: precipitation and forecasting; assessing flood

conditions; levee failure types, evacuations and rescue; and sandbagging methods.

Below is information and registration contacts for the remaining two Flood Fight sessions:

Northern Indiana
Tuesday, May 17, 2016
Honeywell Center
275 W. Market Street
Wabash, IN 46992

9:00am — 4:00pm Eastern
POC: Rick Dolsen /
rdolsen@dhs.in.gov

Central Indiana
Friday, July 8, 2016
Putnam County Emergency Ops Center (EOC)
1600 W. CR 225 South
Greencastle, IN 46135
9:00am — 4:00pm Eastern
POC: Jerry Sears /
jsears@dhs.in.gov □

Mission

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security will provide statewide leadership, exemplary customer service, and subject matter expertise for the enhancement of public and private partnerships and the assurance of local, state and federal collaboration to continually develop Indiana's public safety capabilities for the wellbeing and protection of our citizens, property and economy.

Contact

The Hoosier Responder is a publication of The Indiana Department of Homeland Security. Please direct any questions or comments to the IDHS Public Information Office at (317) 234-6713 or pio@dhs.in.gov.

Indiana Department of Homeland Security
302 West Washington Street
Indiana Government Center South
Room E208
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 232-3980 or (800) 669-7362

