



*Pictured from Left to right: John Haynes and
PA APCO President Judy Brackin*

DES Employee Earns Communications Director of the Year

John Haynes, Deputy Director of Emergency Services for 9-1-1 Operations, was recently recognized by the Pennsylvania Chapter of the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials, International (APCO) as Communications Center Director of the Year. This recognition was bestowed upon John at the Annual Spring Conference of PA APCO on March 26, 2007.

John has been the Deputy Director for 9-1-1 Operations for 10 years and has complete responsibility for the smooth, efficient, and reliable operation of the Chester County 9-1-1 system. John was awarded this honor because as a leader, he makes sure his team knows the mission; ensures he has provided them the tools to accomplish the mission; and finally he provides the oversight guidance to facilitate team success.

Congratulations John!

Emergency Management Update

The Emergency Management Division recently completed an audit of the 585 Mobile Data Computers (MDCs), docking stations and Vehicle Radio Modems (VRMs). More than 485 MDCs have been installed in police, fire vehicles and police base stations. More than 80 MDCs have been installed into EMS vehicles.

This latest technology has greatly enhanced our communications interoperability by providing and sharing electronic data quickly and accurately. More features are planned once the new microwave system is installed to our 800 Mhz communication backbone.

Tony Przychodzien and Dan Lerch just completed the highest level radiological training, Advanced Radiological Incident Operations (ARIO), offered by FEMA at Anniston, Alabama. This additional training will allow our Department to have the staffing depth to sustain protracted incident management and exercise activities.

By March 1 of every year facilities that use, store or manufacture hazardous chemicals as listed by US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are required to file a Tier Two form with their State Emergency Response Commission, the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and the Fire Department within their jurisdiction. This means that most fire companies in the county should have received Tier Two Chemical and Emergency Inventory Forms for the facilities within their response areas from those facilities that are required to file them. Facilities are required to file a Tier Two if they have chemicals on site during the previous calendar year in amounts greater than 10,000 pounds or an Extremely Hazardous Substance (EHS) in amounts greater than 500 pounds or the Threshold Planning Quantity which ever is less.

The Tier Two forms provide information about the facility including contact personnel, location and emergency phone numbers. Chemical storage container and location are also listed. This information can be useful for pre-planning and fire company training activities. The Hazardous Materials Coordinator receives and records the tier two forms submitted to the Chester County LEPC. These forms are used in developing the off site response plans for the facilities that have the EHS chemicals on site. Questions regarding Tier Two Forms can be directed to the Hazardous Materials Coordinator, Tom Glass, at 610-344-5000.

DES Employees Honored by PEMA



From Left to Right - Commissioner O'Donnell, Vicki Fasy, Dan Lerch, Commissioner Aichele and Judy Morris.

Vicki, Dan and Judy were recently awarded a citation from the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) for their dedication and commitment to the Disaster Recovery Center during the July 2006 flooding event.



You Are Invited To...

The Chester County EMS Council Inc. Awards Ceremony. Come out and show your support for all the deserving recipients!!

WHEN: May 9, 2007 @ 7:30 p.m



WHERE: Fame Fire Hall, Silsby Room, 200 East Rosedale Avenue, West Chester, PA

Please RSVP by May 7, 2007 to: Chrissy at cdepaolantonio@chesco.org or 610.344.5009.

DES

ADMINISTRATION OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON MAY 28, 2007 - MEMORIAL DAY



Deputy Director of ES for Technical Support (Full-time)

This Management position directs and supervises staff and oversees planning and project management for the Department of Emergency Services. Essential duties focus on the administration and maintenance of the Chester County Integrated Emergency Communications System including the 9-1-1 system, the 800 MHz radio system, Computer Aided Dispatch System, dispatch consoles, towers, shelters, the microwave radio system and the fire paging system. The successful candidate will have strong Contract and Project Management experience to assist in managing all technical components of the emergency service communications systems.

Telecommunicators (9-1-1 training) Part-time leading to full-time

This position is a paid training position leading to a full-time Telecommunicator I position. Training is conducted several times a year and the training is considered part-time. In the training you will develop proficiency in receiving and relaying 9-1-1 emergency service calls. This position is a pre-requisite for Telecommunicator I.

Hazmat Responder (Part-time)

The Hazardous Material Responder responds to releases or potential releases of hazardous materials for the purpose of controlling the release. The prospective employee will perform tasks related to hazardous material response wearing Self Contained Breathing Apparatus or Air Purified Respirators and Chemical Protective Clothing. Must demonstrate ability to select and operate monitoring and detection equipment as well as the ability to select appropriate chemical protective clothing. High School Diploma or General Education Degree (GED) is required. Trained and certified as a Hazardous Materials Technician based on OSHA 1910.120 (q) and experience in Fire Fighting, EMS, or other first response emergency services is desired but not required. Ability to work in stressful situations following strict safety and response procedures and guidelines is a must.

Please go to the County website: www.chesco.org click on Employment Opportunities for the application procedure.

America's Fire Heroes Line-of Duty Death Prevention Tour Schedule

	1000 hours	Opening Remarks by National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Representative
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	1005 hours	National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Representative Introduces Host Representatives
Hometown Event Date: May 1, 2007		<u>Officials Remarks</u>
Hometown Event Time: 1000 - 1300 hours	1006 hours	Elected officials Fire officials Association Representatives
Hometown Event Location: Lowes of NE Philadelphia (Store# 1848) 9701 East Roosevelt Blvd. Philadelphia, PA 19114	1016 hours	Survivor Untold Story: Nancy Rosario
Details: For more information about this event contact Katherine Hibbs at (609) 651-6932.	1036 hours	Sponsor Awards/Remarks
	1106 hours	Life Safety Initiatives Program Representative Remarks
	1130 hours	Conclusion
	1130 hours	Fire Department Apparatus Display and Safety Fair
	1300 hours	Bus Leaves for Next Destination

Pennsylvania One Call System, Inc.



PA SAFETY DAYS

PA Safety Days are almost here! We're bringing the industry to you in 2007 at three bigger venues: The Kimberton Fire Company grounds in Phoenixville, PA (outside Philadelphia), the Harrisburg Area Community College Fire School and the Cranberry Township Public Works facility.

Are you concerned with damage prevention? Safety Days are a no cost high quality way to learn about safety. Hands-on demonstrations will include locating, ground penetrating radar, vacuum excavation technology and a live trench rescue drill. There will also be up-to-the minute education classes on 8-1-1, 9-1-1, and an overview of current state and federal legislation that affects every single excavator in Pennsylvania.

Lots of exhibitors! Come spend the day with us. Test your skills with a backhoe rodeo or attend a live trench rescue drill. Don't miss out on the goodies, the door prizes, or the complimentary lunch.

Attendees On-Line Registration - www.paonecall.org
Attendance is limited to adults 18-years of age or older.

Dates and Locations - 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
May 10 - Kimberton Fire Company, 61 Fire House Lane, Phoenixville, PA 19460

Summer Grilling Tips

With the warmer weather approaching, outdoor cooking will increase. Charcoal and gas fueled grills cause almost 1,000 structure fires a year and an additional 3,500 related outside fires. Gas grills have a higher fire risk than charcoal grills. Leaks and breaks in the gas cylinder or hose are the leading causes and account for nearly half of the gas grill fires. Combustibles too close to heat and unattended cooking are the two leading causes for charcoal grill home structure fires. Half of all gas grill and charcoal grill home structure fires start on an exterior balcony or unenclosed porch. It is important to remember to grill outside and well away from your home.

- Gas and charcoal BBQ grills must be used outdoors. If used indoors, or in any enclosed spaces, such as tents or garages, they pose fire hazard and possible asphyxiation and Carbon Monoxide poisoning.



- Keep the grill well away from siding, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.

- Keep children and pets away from grilling area as well as traffic areas.

- Remove all grease buildup.

Charcoal Grills

- Purchase the proper starter fluid and store the container out of reach of children and away from heat sources.
- Never add charcoal starter fluid when the coals have already been ignited. Never use any flammable or combustible liquid other than Charcoal lighter fluid.

Gas Grills

Check the gas cylinder hose for leaks before using it for the first time each year. A light soap and water solution applied to the hose will quickly reveal escaping propane

by releasing bubbles. (This must be done while the tank is on). If you determine your grill has a gas leak, by smell or the presence of bubbles during the test and there is no flame:

- Turn off the gas tank and grill
- If the leak stops, get the grill serviced by a professional before using it again.
- If the leak does not stop, call “9-1-1”.
- If you smell gas while cooking, immediately get away from the grill and call “9-1-1”. Do not attempt to move the grill.
- All gas cylinders manufactured after April 2002 must have overfill protection devices (OPD). Their triangular shaped hand wheel identifies these.

- Use only UL listed equipment.

- Never store propane gas cylinders in buildings or garages. If you store a gas grill inside at any time, disconnect the cylinder and leave it outside.

