



THE HEMS DISPATCH



Welcome!

This month, we celebrated National EMS Week (May 19-25). Not only is this a time to honor all who work and have worked in EMS, from dispatchers to EMTs, paramedics to physicians, but it's also a time to recognize how far our industry has advanced and grown over the years.

This EMS Week's theme was "Honoring Our Past, Forging Our Future." Since 1894, Hennepin EMS has proudly delivered medical care and transportation to the residents and visitors of Minneapolis and the surrounding communities. While much has changed since our horse and buggy days, we've long recognized the strength and expertise that we bring to every response call as part of the Hennepin Healthcare System (HHS).

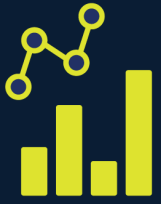
We're also laser-focused on the path ahead: evolving and innovating to ensure those in our community continue to receive a premier level of care. Just a few examples: our expanding capabilities with prehospital ultrasound, pioneering new initiatives to create a sustainable staffing model; investing in more than 1,000 hours of education per month; routinely implementing the new, proven-effective patient protocols; and so much more.

This month, we honor the past, and look optimistically toward the future. Thank you for your continued partnership to make it all possible.

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HEMS BY THE NUMBERS



As part of EMS week, Hennepin Healthcare prepares a **22-hour** barbecue to show appreciation to the crews both on and off shift. This year marked the fifth annual cookout, which took place over May 23 and May 24. Crews from HEMS, Allina, North Memorial, Minneapolis Police, Minneapolis Fire, Hennepin County Sheriff, HCMC and several other agencies all stopped by to enjoy the meal. The catering staff estimates they served over **2,000** people with **80** pounds of ribs, **75** pounds of salmon, **650** hamburgers, **480** pounds of hot dogs and **80** pounds of potato salad.



HEMS IN THE NEWS



Hennepin EMS is back on the water with the Hennepin County Sheriff's Department Water Patrol. Over Memorial Day weekend, Paramedic Brent Anderson spoke to **WCCO** about boating safety as he prepared for his shift on Lake Minnetonka.



The 5th Annual EMS Week Appreciation BBQ was featured on **KSTP 5** and **KSTC 45**.

EMS Week: Honoring our past, forging our future

This week marks the 50th anniversary of EMS Week, a time to celebrate the emergency professionals in our community. The theme this year is honoring our past, forging our future. Here at Hennepin Emergency Medical Services – the EMS provider for 13 suburban communities and Minneapolis – this is the foundation of all that we do.

We started out as a horse and buggy service in 1894. Today, Hennepin EMS is one of the top EMS organizations in the



MARTY SCHEERER
Guest
Columnist

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country, and our rigs are equipped with everything from ultrasound devices that can detect a pulmo-

nary embolism in seconds to state-of-the-art heart monitors.

Our professionals have also grown in their skills and expertise. As a fully staffed EMS service, we are a rarity, and our education department completes more than 1,000 hours of training per month. Our team of EMTs, paramedics and dispatchers are regularly called on to speak at conferences, teach classes, and share their insights in leading publications.

Being at the top of our

field is translating to real results for our communities. Recent Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest Survival rates with bystander assistance show ours are one of the best in the nation at 65%, compared to a national average of 36%.

Our heritage of innovation is rich, and we're not slowing down anytime soon. We're always looking for ways to improve our services and better serve our community.

One example is our Basic Life Support Program, which we launched last

summer. This program allows two EMTs to respond to low acuity (non-life-threatening) calls, instead of requiring paramedics to do so. It's an efficient way to ensure we're sending medical professionals appropriate for the level of care required by the patient – the right resource at the right time.

In addition to programs like this, we're pioneering new initiatives to create a sustainable staffing model; continuing to invest in top-of-the-line technologies to improve patient survival

rates; routinely training fellow first responders on the latest treatments and techniques; routinely implementing the new, proven-effective patient protocols; and so much more.

In our field, if you're not moving forward, you're moving backward, and here at Hennepin EMS, we refuse to sit still. As your EMS provider, you can expect us to continue delivering on our promise to provide the best-in-class service – just as we always have – for years to come.

Chief Scheerer's column was published in the **Sun newspapers** last week for EMS Week. In his column, he discusses where HEMS has been and some of the exciting programs we've implemented to make the future bright for EMS.

EMS Physicians Dr. Nick Simpson, MD and Dr. Tim Kummer, MD were also interviewed for a **Star Tribune** article discussing the move away from utilizing handcuffs when treating violent patients. All Hennepin EMS staff are currently participating in training to utilize alternative methods to deescalating situations and keeping crews safe.



HEMS

IN THE COMMUNITY

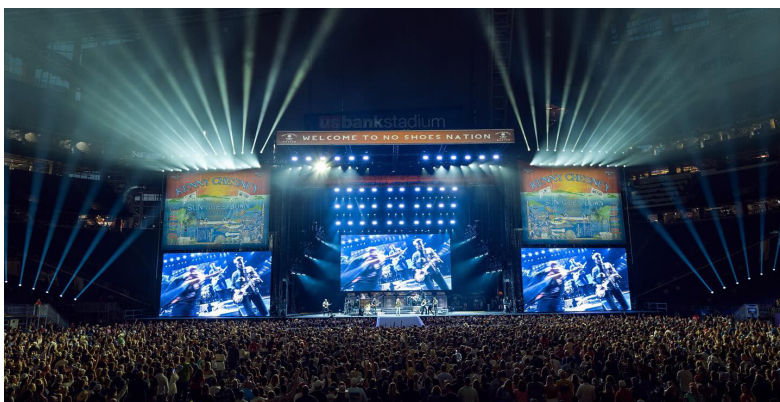


Photo credit: Facebook | Kenny Chesney

With the uptick in outdoor sports, events and festivals, we are entering our busy season! In May, we had a special event 28 out of 31 days this month, whether that be a Twins game, Timberwolves game, or Kenny Chesney concert, just to name a few. Joining the schedule now are the Minnesota Lynx, fundraiser 5Ks, fire department open houses and more!



On Saturday, May 18, Hennepin EMS Education participated in the return of a favorite event: the Teddy Bear Clinic at HHS. About 475 kids come through with their "teddy bears," accompanied by 425 adults. The HEMS team offered tours of our ambulances and hosted a CPR station.



HEMS leaders were out and about this month speaking at various meetings and conferences. EMS Physician Dr. Tim Kummer, MD, spoke at the Minneapolis Rotary sharing his perspectives and expertise related to Opioid Use Disorder. Hennepin EMS Chief Medical Director Dr. Nick Simpson, MD, spoke with Hennepin EMS Chief Martin Scheerer at the Tonka Bay City Council about patient care and call response time. Chief Scheerer also recently spoke in Deephaven and St. Anthony Village. And, Battalion Chief Tyler Lupkes (center in photo) was recently in Washington D.C. for the annual NFL Security Conference, where he spoke on EMS best practices. Chief Lupkes represents the NFC North on the Fire/EMS Committee, which develops best practices for fire, EMS, HAZMAT, and emergency preparedness at all 30 NFL stadiums.



HEMS COLLABORATION

The 8th annual EMS Pathways Academy started on March 25th. Pathways is a unique partnership between the Minneapolis Fire Department (MFD) and Hennepin EMS. Individuals can apply for a Pathways internship through the City of Minneapolis and, if hired, will receive an hourly wage while earning their EMT certification plus certification costs are covered by the program. We've had multiple Pathways graduates join the Hennepin EMS team since it started in 2016, including in our trainee program and our Communication Center!

This year's class is comprised of 20 individuals from diverse backgrounds. On Friday, May 24, we worked with the Minneapolis Fire Department to host a job fair for the students with 12 different fire, EMS and hospital agencies. Students had the chance to learn about the wide range of opportunities available to them after graduation.





HEMS INNOVATION



We are starting the process of adding nano-ceramic-coated window film to our ambulances and support vehicles in our fleet. This new tint will provide better UV protection for our teams while keeping the cab cooler in the summer months. It's a small change stemming from a staff suggestion that should make a great difference in the comfort of our crews and patients. Building and maintaining our top-of-the-line fleet continues to be a priority for HEMS.



HEMS SUCCESS STORIES

A HEMS crew recently responded to a fire department in our PSA to help a staff member suffering an allergic reaction. The fire chief sent over this special note in appreciation of our crew's response:



[Our staff member] was having an allergic reaction to food and was having trouble breathing, vomiting, and fainting along with a rash and throat swelling. She was very anxious and scared. [Medics] Pete and Dom were excellent arriving very quickly and assessed the situation, providing the meds quickly and managed the scene great. As you can imagine when you have to respond to one of your own everyone gets worked up but they were cool and collected. I certainly appreciated the excellent professional care and I know our team [...] was extremely pleased with the highest level of care [for our staff member].

