

Priority One Report



A Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 3 - Issue 1

Happy New Year!!

First newsletter of 2013 brings a new design and a new author.

2012 Calls

ALS Crews responded to more than 12,000 calls in 2012.

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CPR Blitz

The 4th annual CPR Blitz will take place February 9th.



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ICE APP

Tools to help us reach your emergency contact in a time of need.



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Texting & Driving

Texting while driving, not just a teen problem anymore. Read about how you can be safe.



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New Employees

See new employees that joined us in 2012.

Page 4

Happy New Year!

Welcome to Advanced Life System's first newsletter of 2013! And with the new year comes a new author of ALS's newsletter; employee A.J. Fandrich takes over this year from Cole Gravel. Thank you, Cole, for putting out the newsletter these last few years.



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2012 Calls

2012 was a busy one here at ALS, with our call volume increasing 5.3% over 2011. In 2011 ALS ran 12,085 calls, whereas ALS ran 12,729 in 2012, not including wheelchair transports. Here's to a busy 2013!

SAVE @ LIFE

THE GREAT CPR BLITZ 2013

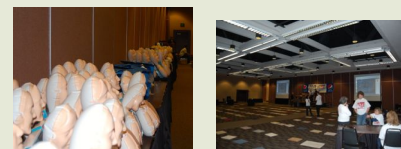
The 4th Annual Save A Life The Great CPR Blitz is coming up on Saturday, February 9th, 2013 at the Yakima Convention Center. Classes are free and open to the public, and will be taught in English (9:00AM and 10:00AM) and Spanish (11:00AM). Spread the word and encourage members of the community to sign up to learn CPR!



The American Heart Association would like everyone from middle school age and older to be a part of this event.

Taken from the event's website: Did you know that more than 80% of heart attacks occur in the home?...Last year over 600 individuals from throughout the Yakima Valley came together to learn valuable life saving lessons...[i]n 2013, our goal is to teach another 1,000 members of our community the new, hands-only CPR as well as how to use an AED. We will also provide education on responding to situations involving stroke and choking[sic] in both adults and infants. We ask that participants[sic] share this knowledge with others.

Advanced Life Systems has participated in the CPR Blitz each year since its inception and plans to send employees this year as well. If interested in participating as an ALS employee at this event, please contact Peter; for general information about this year's CPR Blitz, please call Save A Life at (509) 574-5990 or visit www.savealifeyakima.org





Ice App

Most of us probably have an emergency contact number stored in our cell phones under “ICE” so that police or medical personnel will be able to contact a relative or friend in case of emergency. Increasingly, however, those carrying smart phones are keeping the home screens locked, making it difficult for authorities to access this important information in these situations. One option for those with smart phones is Acadian Ambulance’s new Acadian I.C.E. app, available for iPhone and Android users.

Once installed, the app creates a banner on the lock screen with the user’s provided ICE information, allowing emergency personnel access to the user’s emergency contact information without granting full access to the phone.

The app has additional features, as described on Acadian’s website:

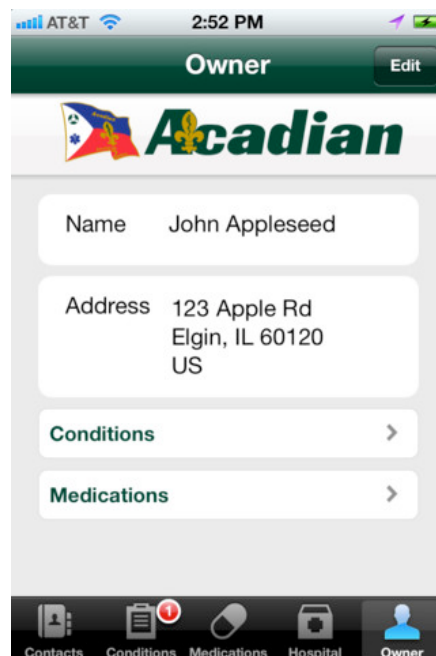
The I.C.E. app also allows users to securely store information regarding current medications, medication allergies, and health conditions. This information, accessible only after the



phone has been unlocked by the user or the emergency contact, can ensure medical personnel are informed of any special needs or conditions. In addition to emergency situations, the I.C.E. app can also help if the phone is lost since the contact number can be used to return the phone. (<http://acadianambulance.com/site.php?pageID=316&newsID=335>)

For more information about the Acadian I.C.E. app, go to www.acadianice.com

Remember that it’s important for all of us to keep an ICE contact stored in our phones just in case, so spread the word about apps like this one, and be sure you and those close to you have a current ICE contact in your phone(s)!



Safe Texting Campaign

A new push from the Safe Texting Campaign reminds the public that motor vehicle accidents caused by distracted driving is not just the result of teens talking and texting on their cell phones, but their parents as well. The campaign promotes the idea of parents setting the example for their teen drivers by signing the Safe Texting Pledge – promising not to text while driving – and downloading one of three versions of the new Safe Texting app. These apps use cell towers and GPS to determine driving speed and lock the user’s phone, preventing texting. Please visit safetextingcampaign.com for details on these free apps and more information about the pitfalls of distracted driving.



2012's New Hires: Medics

ALS was fortunate to hire many new employees in 2012! Here are the four paramedics, and a little bit of trivia you might not know about them:

Ian Barrett



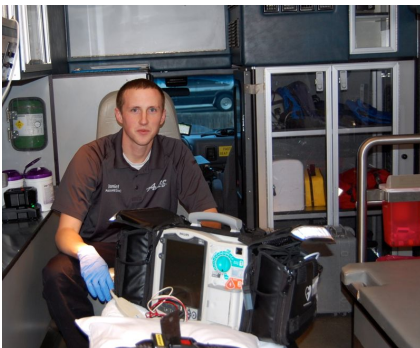
Ian became a Wilderness First Responder while in college at San Diego State University, before becoming a ski patroller at Snoqualmie Pass in 2008. Ian says working ski patrol made him realize he wanted to make EMS a career, so that sent him to TriMed Ambulance in Kent in 2009 then on to the Tacoma Community College paramedic program in 2011. He was hired here at ALS when he graduated in June, 2012. Thank you, Ian!

Alex Hanby



Alex became an EMT in 2007 and began working for AMR and Kittitas Valley Fire Rescue before attending paramedic school. He graduated from the Central Washington University paramedic program with a Bachelors of Science in 2011 before coming to work for ALS. Thank you, Alex!

Daniel Taylor



Daniel got his EMT certification during high school in 2006 through the fire science program at Cowlitz 2 Fire & Rescue. Daniel completed his paramedic certification in February, 2012, before being hired by ALS. Thank you, Daniel!

Devin McWhirter



Devin got his EMT certification in 2009 at Aero Methow Search and Rescue in Twisp, WA, before working at TriMed Ambulance in Burien for two years. Devin then attended Tacoma Community College, where he graduated in July, 2012 as a Paramedic. Thank you, Devin!