

MEDEXPRESSIONS

News and Information from MEDEXPRESS COMPANIES

MEDEXPRESS AMBULANCE SERVICE OPENS SUB-STATION IN PORT BARRE

On September 1, 2010, rural communities on the eastern side of St. Landry Parish began having access to paramedic level ambulance service much quicker with the opening of the fourth substation in St. Landry Parish by MedExpress Ambulance Service. The ambulance is stationed on US Hwy 190 near Saizon St. in Port Barre.

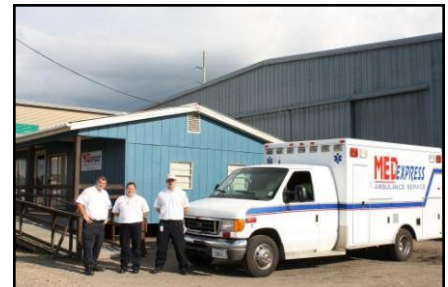
"The opening of this station completes one of the objectives Med Express has for EMS in St. Landry Parish," stated Mark Majors, President and CEO of MedExpress Ambulance Service. "Our goal was to make paramedic level care available to every community possible in the parish within 15 minutes or less. The cities of Eunice and Opelousas have excellent response times for emergencies, but we want to make an impact on the rural parts of the parish as well."

Although Cankton and Melville are the only two towns that are just outside this goal, MedExpress is investing in the quality of pre-hospital care for these citizens as well.

"In addition to training and supplies already provided to the Fire Departments of these two areas, we have purchased Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) to donate to these communities and will provide the training for these lifesaving devices as well," said Majors, a paramedic who lives in Melville.



(Cankton Fire Dept receiving an AED
From MedExpress)
Jason Menard, Shane Bellard, Fire Chief Ervin
Menard, Gregg Cormier, & Shane Menard



RODNEY RYDER

Director of Marketing & Corporate Development

MEDTRANS

I would like to thank God for blessing us with the renewal of the Pinecrest contract. The crew and I would also like to thank Mr. Mark for the purchase of two additional vans for the Medtrans fleet. We really do appreciate it. I am looking forward to getting the other vans so we can continue performing our jobs to the highest standard. I really appreciate my crew. Keep up the good work!

MARVIN PRICE

MedTrans Supervisor Rapides Parish



MedTrans Crew

Marvin Price, Jennifer Layssard, Sandra Lowery, Marlene Woods and Neil Goins

FORT POLK

Freedom Fest July 3, 2010, was a huge success. Our medics were paired up with military medics from the 152 unit. Tracy Lawrence was the headliner, and although there were temperatures in excess of 96 degrees, we only had one transport! Thanks to everyone that worked and did such an awesome job. We all had a great time. The night ended with the largest firework display in Fort Polk history.

The youth recreation service on post invited Reese Perry and me to speak at their swimming program and give tours of the ambulance. We spoke on topics of calling 911 and staying safe. The kids loved it! They also really enjoyed walking through the ambulance as we handed out MedExpress coloring books and cups. They invited us to return later in the day for the teen class, and we were more than happy to return with great response.

Fort Polk has exercised their option to extend our contract into next year. For that we are grateful.

BRANDI JAMES

Ft Polk PFS

SAFETY

We've had a few busy months this quarter with our annual updates. I would like to extend a special thanks to all employees for attending the updates. Para Transit updates went very well. We are pleased with the content and information covered. I would also like to thank all the Paramedics that assisted with TB testing and Shannon Demers for getting unit 15's medic bags 10-8. The new power stretchers are here, and they will be assigned to individual units. The stretcher height is adjusted to each unit and should not be moved to another unit. This is a safety issue, since the height of the stretcher directly affects the safety catch hook at the back of the unit. Thanks for your cooperation.

KARL LARSON

Risk Management

CORPORATE ADMINISTRATOR

Thank you all for welcoming me to the MedExpress team. Although I have only been in this position since March, I have learned so much from everyone around me. I appreciate all the support and am always open to suggestions. I would like to thank you all for attending our Annual Update-it was a complete success. We are looking forward to next year! I promise you all my complete time and dedication to making MedExpress the best place to work. Although there will be changes in the future, we will soon see the light at the end of the tunnel. Keep up the good work, and thank you all for your hard work and dedication to MedExpress!

BRITTANY LEE TRAHAN
Corporate Administrator

ALLIGATORS AND ANTELOPES: Critter Challenges in EMS

Just as the committed mailman, so goes the EMT-through rain, through sleet or snow or critters. Critters?! That's right, along with everything else that makes this calling unique, you have to deal with the unpredictable behavior of animals. You can well believe that this little fact is conveniently left out of the textbooks and classrooms. Otherwise, our already small profession may be smaller still. With a lot of time spent riding on an ambulance and every call dropping us in the personal space of strangers, animals are just part of the scenery of our workplace.

In the years that MedExpress has operated, we have had to replace windshields that hoot owls smashed and buzzards crashed through. The maintenance shop guys have plucked countless chickadees, jays and doves from the grills and radiators. One crew picked up a sparrow in the siren that immediately took the dominance out of the wheelen and made it a wimpy little horn.

We have replaced a tire after a crew hit an eight foot alligator. We had an ambulance that was almost unusable for days after a skunk got mixed in the undercarriage. There have been snakes in the substation, birds in the Melville office air-conditioning system, a mouse in MedComm that caused an evacuation, and a baby armadillo that somehow got in the billing department and left a generous gift of poop before he left. There has also been a feral hog near Georgetown that was pulverized at 70 mph, and I am happy to report that two of the three deer that have been killed ended up in the spare tire compartment and were duly drawn and quartered to later join the crews for dinner.

I was bitten by two terrorist Chihuahuas less than a month ago while I was trying to do medic magic on their COPD dyspneic mistress. Little jerks! I have had crews attacked by roosters, geese, cats and parrots. They have been chased by cows and goats and bitten by horses. I think the only pets that you don't have to keep an eye on are goldfish, but use your own judgment just in case.

This past week, MedExpress Ambulance Service received the distinction of being more versatile than any service in the country regarding weeding out dumb animals. Mark Wellington in Utah nailed an antelope while responding to an electrocution, thus disabling the ambulance and destroying the antelope.

Although our lot in society is typically to help, restore, revive and insert folks in the healthcare system, the occasional chore of taking another stupid critter out is okay. And no, I have no lingering bitterness to the two little mutts that bit me.

MARK MAJORS
CEO

A LEGACY OF INNOVATION
IN EMS!

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MAINTENANCE UPDATE

Thanks to everyone for your support in our efforts to bring Med Express units up to a level of operational standards. I know it's been somewhat difficult at times, but through a collective effort from all departments, we have made some accomplishments.

With your continued dedication in helping to overcome obstacles, I believe the units will be in such a condition that we at the shop can and will be in a positive position to do what is beneficial to the success of MedExpress Ambulance Service and the people we serve.

As long as we are all moving forward, we can only go forward. Working together, we can accomplish much. As I look at an ant mound and all that is in it, I understand how the collective system works with greater insight. Then, there's the mule. "A mule can't kick when it's pulling, and it can't pull when it's kicking."
NEITHER CAN ANY OF US.

TROUBLE ARNOLD
Maintenance Supervisor

GRANT PARISH

Please help me welcome some new employees to MedExpress: John Rachal, Chad Youngblood, and Lisa Johnson.

We are delighted to have them aboard. All is well in Grant Parish. Some new things are on the horizon. A critical care access program is in developmental stages. This specialized unit will service the rural areas of Central Louisiana.

KYLE WILLIAMS
Grant PFS

