



THE SENTINEL

Reporting on Preparedness



Public Health

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INK hosts 3rd annual Hall County preparedness fair

On September 27, 2015 INK, Interactive Network for Kids, hosted the 3rd annual Hall County Preparedness Fair to educate and encourage residents to get prepared for potential disasters. First responders from various organizations demonstrated resources that might be utilized in a variety of incidents.

The fair emphasizes the importance of personal and family preparedness. Interactive displays by local orga-

nizations provide valuable information and helpful tips for preparing families for disasters. This includes how to make an emergency plan, how to gather items for emergency kits and making sure that pets are considered in plans. Children received backpacks with preparedness items and as they visited each activity they were given additional items. One item that was a hit for the kids were whistle bracelets, though maybe not so popular with parents.



District 2 Public Health Emergency Preparedness demonstrated a trailer designed to help manage an incident and described how it might be used during a public health emergency. The trailer has generator power so it can be used at a remote location or during a power outage.

The Fire Safety House is a partnership between the Gainesville Fire Department, Gainesville City Schools, Hall County Fire Department, and Gainesville/Hall County Safe Kids Coalition. It is equipped with a kitchen, living room, bedroom, and control room, and is designed specifically for interactive fire safety & severe weather safety for all children ages 4 through 9.

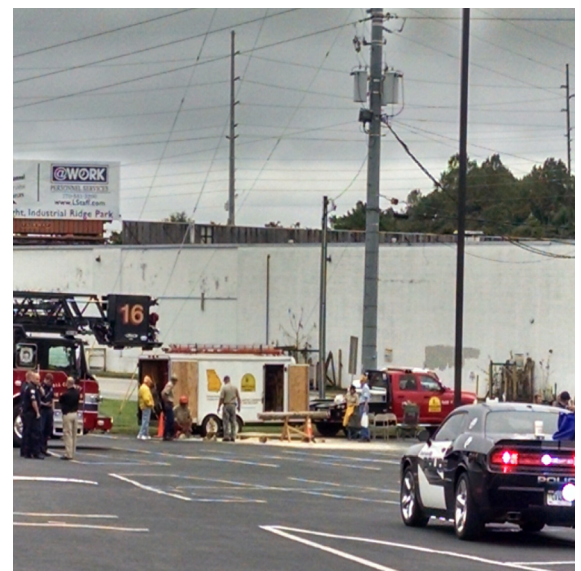




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Hall County and Gainesville Fire Departments displayed trucks and equipment used to fight fires, conduct ground search and rescue (GSAR), and perform marine rescue in area lakes. Gainesville Police demonstrated technology used in their patrol cars, and Northeast Georgia Medical Center showed how to use water for decontamination. A Georgia Baptist Convention Disaster Relief Team showed off their chainsaw skills. During a disaster, they can be found clearing debris from property and roads.





Several District 2 counties exercise drive-through flu shot clinics



Habersham County residents take advantage of the convenience of the drive through flu clinic held on October 19. This was the third year that the drive through option was offered.



Lumpkin County Health Department held two drive through flu shot clinics this year. The first was held on September 25 during a rainy day. They did catch a break on October 9 and had better weather.



Rabun County held their first drive through clinic at Clayton Baptist Church which is adjacent to the health department. This location worked well with the portico and established traffic pattern. The health department remained open during the drive through.



Several District 2 counties exercise drive-through flu shot clinics



Franklin County held their drive through clinic on October 21 at the Senior Center next door to the health department in Carnesville. UPS made a routine delivery but could have very well been making a stop to resupply vaccine if needed.



White County Public Safety added a wrinkle in their exercise to demonstrate how EMS and Law Enforcement would respond to a security situation at a Point of Dispensing. In this mock incident, a driver acts agitated and tries to break through a barrier. Then the driver pretends to run over a worker. EMS and law enforcement responded to the staged situation and explained steps they would take to resolve the situation and care for the "victim".



Several District 2 counties exercise drive-through flu shot clinics



White County expanded the tabletop exercise held June 25 and invited their partners to participate in the drive through exercise. Participants included public health, student nurses from Truett-McConnell College, city and county law enforcement, fire departments, EMA, EMS, CERT, MRC, media, and GEMA. Two lines were established: one for city and county employees and cash customers, and a second line for residents with insurance. The exercise included a resupply of vaccine delivered by FedEx because the health department was closed. The driver even went through for a flu shot.



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David N. Westfall, M.D., MPH, CPE
District Health Director

Mark Palen
Emergency Preparedness Director

Donna Sue Campbell
Healthcare Liaison

Brandin Gillman
Training Coordinator

Katie Jerwers
Ebola Response Planner,

Dave Palmer, Public Information Officer
Editor of The Sentinel