



Hoosier Responder

SEPTEMBER 2010

Volume 6, Issue IX

STUDY FINDS TOO FEW TRULY PREPARED

A 2009 national study conducted by the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Citizen Corps concluded that too few people have stocked disaster supplies and most supplies are incomplete. Some of the most essential supplies disaster kits were missing include a flashlight, first aid kit and a portable radio.

Throughout the month of September, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) will be partnering with state and local emergency management and public safety officials to encourage Hoosiers to take responsibility for boosting their personal levels of emergency preparedness.

State partners include: The American Red Cross of Greater Indianapolis, Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), Indiana National Guard (INNG), Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH), Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH), Indiana State Police (ISP), and the National Weather Service (NWS).

"The goal of preparedness month is to give Hoosiers an opportunity to take their

personal level of emergency preparedness a step further," says IDHS Executive Director Joe Wainscott. "If you've never put together a disaster kit, now is an ideal time to assemble one. If you do have a kit, inventory its contents and restock if necessary, create or update your emergency communication plan, or talk with family members about what to do in different kinds of emergencies. Whether you're extremely prepared or have never thought about disaster preparedness before, take at least one step this month to boost your level of readiness."

Details about how to prepare for all types of disasters and emergencies are available on the IDHS website at www.in.gov/dhs/getprepared.

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From the Director's Chair-Executive Director Joe Wainscott INDIANA PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE AND RECOVERY SYSTEM ADVANCES

This week, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) announced that regional commanders are in place to lead four out of the 10 Homeland Security emergency response task forces. Here's how this benefits Hoosiers.

The District Response Task Forces are being formed to support local emergency management agencies as all-hazards emergency response groups. They will be staffed with local firefighters, emergency medical services personnel, emergency managers, law enforcement personnel and other local emergency response professionals.

Members of each task force will be able to mobilize at the request of any county within the district, and if needed, IDHS could deploy them to assist communities in any region of the state. Together, they will form a statewide network of

mutual emergency support. Visit <http://www.in.gov/dhs/2797.htm> to see each task force's district.

Under the guidance of IDHS, the district concept streamlines the mutual aid process enabling the counties in each district to directly support each other, and in turn, the districts to support each other as well. It builds relationships among emergency responders and increases their knowledge of available resources and capabilities which promotes resource sharing.

The ten task forces are now in different stages of development, but all are expected to be fully formed and operational by spring of 2012. The commanders will be responsible for overseeing daily administrative operations, and recruiting resources to establish and expand the

capabilities of the task force they oversee.

Once fully formed, the commanders will also be expected to respond to mutual support requests within their district, and may also be required to oversee emergency response operations if support is required beyond their own district.

The commanders have voluntarily assumed these duties as an extension of their current roles as firefighters, medical services personnel, law enforcement, emergency response planners, and other public service personnel, and I am looking forward to working with these highly qualified new commanders. Commanders also have the option to appoint one, or more, deputy commanders to assist them.

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IDHS: Leadership for a Safe and Secure Indiana

Director's Article *[Continued from page 1](#)*

District 1: Commander Russell Shirley has a distinguished background in law enforcement with the city of Valparaiso, and has served on numerous safety and prevention committees to help improve his community.



District 4: Commander Richard Doyle served his country in the United States Marine Corps before becoming a member of the Lafayette Fire Department and founding the Tippecanoe County Fire Investigation Task Force and the Fire Prevention Show, as well as leading the Lafayette Fire Department Water Rescue Team.



District 6: Commander Shannon Henry's background in emergency medical service, fire fighting, and law enforcement has given him a great deal of experience as well as various awards, such as the



Albany Police Officer of the Year in 1994 and Albany Firefighter of the year in 1996 and 1999.

District 7:

Commander Melissa Buell began her career as a nurse in Indianapolis and, later, Vermillion County before becoming the Public Health Preparedness Coordinator for the Vermillion County Health Department as well as a district administrator for IDHS.



IDHS plans to consider the remaining six commander nominees well before the end of the year.

The confirmation of the District Response Task Force Commanders serves as the capstone achievement in the structuring of a multi-faceted mutual aid concept that IDHS has been developing since 2005.

The crux of mutual aid agreements is resource sharing. When equipment and personnel in every region can be made available to the entire state, we can have a much stronger response than if each county must stand on its own.

The District Response Task Force network will help ensure that when disaster strikes, we will be ready to act as a team to support and collaborate with local, state and federal partners to meet the needs of Hoosiers.♦

Study Finds *[Continued from page 1](#)*

The study also found that one of the most common reasons people failed to prepare is that they relied too heavily on emergency responders.

"During a disaster, emergency services will be stressed and in high demand," said Wainscott. Hoosiers must take responsibility for themselves and their families and be prepared to take care of each other for at least for a few days."

In support of the nation-wide preparedness month campaign, Governor Daniels has declared September as preparedness month in Indiana.

All month, IDHS will be working to impress on everyone the importance of being prepared and the simple steps each individual and family can take to help keep them safe in all kinds of emergency situations. Visit <http://www.in.gov/dhs/3497.htm> for more information about preparedness month.

**FIRE SPOTLIGHT: City of New Albany (Floyd Co.)**

Those in the fire service show their commitment to serving the public by encouraging further training for firefighters.

One such battalion chief has served with his department for 26 years, while also being involved with the Indiana Burn Camp, which offers children who have been victims of burns a place to be a kid, rather than a burn victim.

Christopher Rainbolt of the City of New Albany Fire Department attained the Fire Training Achievement Award at the 2010 Indiana Emergency Response Conference. The award recognizes "an individual or division whose contributions to training and education of Indiana's fire service has made it more effective, safe, and more professional."

Rainbolt previously served as the deputy chief of the fire training bureau for the department, and he continues to promote and develop the training programs. Providing a good example, he has logged more than 200 hours of training

during the year 2010, with more than 80 of those as an instructor. He is currently the District 9 representative for the Indiana Fire Instructors Association.♦



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Districts Should Request Grant Workshop Dates

Grant proposal writing workshops will be held in each district through the end of the year, and districts should request the top three requested dates in priority order by September 20 to Randal Collins at Rcollins@dhs.in.gov. Each workshop will last four hours and include group discussions, brainstorming and interactive exercises.♦

Grant Workshop Dates (Choose three days)

September : 24, 27, 29, and 30

October : 5, 12, 14, and 15

November: 9, 10, 12, 15, 16, 19, 22, and 23

December: 1 and 2

EMA Spotlight: Scott County

In less than a year, David Murphy has shown commitment to emergency management as director of Scott County's Emergency Management Agency (EMA).

District 9 Coordinator Doug Cooke says that Murphy has turned the county agency into an example for others.

"Scott County scored extremely high on the EMA assessment, which qualified the county for additional grant funding," said Cooke. "He also revamped the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP), which needed an update."

Murphy has reorganized the agency and taken many hours of training to meet state mandates. He is also very active with the District 9 planning committee and serves as a member of the training and exercise committee for the district. He is the incident commander for the district's incident management assist team (IMAT).

His professional experience includes 10 years in fire service and 26 years in emergency medical services (EMS). Murphy served Central Florida and Indiana for 23 years as a

paramedic. At the EMA, he organized and started Scott County's first county-owned and operated ambulance service.

When he's not working with the county and district, Murphy enjoys spending quality time with his 15-year old son, Josh.



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EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HIGHER EDUCATION COLLABORATE IN INDIANAPOLIS

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) will sponsor the 2010 Emergency Management & Higher Education conference on October 7 and 8 in Indianapolis.

This conference is designed for professionals of public safety and higher education. The conference will feature topics from national experts on emergency/incident management, public safety, homeland security, large event planning, leadership, education and more.

This conference will have sessions that are relevant to and supportive of many different aspects occurring within the district initiative.

Follow this link to register online.
<https://www.eventmanagersystems.com/eventmanager/OnlineRegistration.asp?EventCode=BXN>

For more information, contact Randal Collins at rcollins@dhs.in.gov.

INDIANA'S COMMUNITY RESPONSE TEAMS HELP HOOSIERS

More than 2,000 Indiana citizens have been trained to serve on a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) since Indiana's initial program was established in 2003.

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) provides training and support to the 500 certified CERT instructors for Indiana's programs. Using the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) 21-hour CERT curriculum, the program trains ordinary citizens in emergency response skills, including search and rescue, medical care and response to fire hazards.

"Immediate care gives order to chaos, until first responders arrive," said Citizen Corps Program Manager Alan Scott.

The program aims to provide citizens with the ability to help their neighbors and family during an emergency. CERT teams provide support to professional public safety personnel by assisting victims and organizing spontaneous volunteers at a disaster site until additional help arrives. Teams around Indiana have responded to events such as car

accidents, floods, tornadoes and severe ice storms.

IDHS makes grant funding available for CERT training conducted through county emergency management agencies.



CERT members practice use of stabilization equipment (cribbing), which is used during extrication operations, at a train-the-trainer class at Camp Atterbury. Cribbing equipment is often made of multiple pieces of wood laid on the side and crossed.

The Indiana CERT program requires at least 21 hours of training for certification, but counties may provide additional training which varies from county to county.

"Indiana has the highest standard for instructors in the nation," Scott said. "We want to make sure we have qualified instructors."

Indiana CERT instructors who teach CERT disaster medical care units are required to be a certified emergency medical technician (EMT), paramedic or emergency physician. Fire safety and search and rescue units are taught by certified firefighters. Professional EMA staff teach the CERT organization and management unit. The disaster psychology unit is taught by individuals with field experience in disaster mental health.

"CERT training is taught in such a way that anyone in the neighborhood can understand and be able to help during an emergency," Scott said.

Fifty-four Indiana CERT teams are listed on the national CERT website: (www.citizencorps.gov/cert). For more information, contact Alan Scott at ascott@dhs.in.gov.

MASSACHUSETTS EMT TRAINING FRAUD BREACHES PUBLIC TRUST

A recent investigation showed that 200 Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) in Massachusetts falsified records to appear as if they had attended mandatory training courses.

Most of those involved will lose their professional licenses for at least nine months as well as face potential criminal charges. The state public health commissioner of Massachusetts, John Auerbach, investigated the allegations and found that agreements between

EMTs and course instructors had been made to give credit for training without actually attending the courses. Every two years, EMTs in Massachusetts are required to attend 24 to 36 hours of classes in order to renew their EMT licenses.

The 200 individuals believed to have faked documents are a small percentage of the 23,000 licensed EMTs and paramedics in the state.

"The situation in Massachusetts involving fraudulent submission

of training records to the state is disturbing and serves as a reminder to all Emergency Medical Services (EMS) professionals that we serve in a field that relies heavily on public trust. That trust is shaken in Massachusetts," said Indiana's EMS Director Rick Archer.

"We in EMS have a responsibility to our state, our profession and, most importantly, to the people we serve, to maintain the highest ethical standards. I hope that we never have such a situation here in Indiana."•



EMS SPOTLIGHT: Harrison County

Harrison County Hospital EMS has provided its community with emergency medical service since 1977, serving nearly 37,000 residents and more than 485 square miles.

Director Gary Kleeman was named the 2010 EMS Instructor of the Year at the Indiana Emergency Response Conference (IERC) in Indianapolis.

Staff includes 33 full time and 30 part time (as needed) staff members. The service has continual training and also provides training to the nine volunteer fire departments in the county, free of charge.

"They can take anything from a CPR class to a paramedic class for only the cost of the book. This pays them back for helping us day in and day out, and enhances medical first response all around our large rural county," said Kleeman. "Many of our county volunteer fire personnel now work around the area as paid EMS personnel or paid fire personnel as a result of training they received at Harrison County Hospital EMS."

Harrison County Hospital EMS obtained grants and coordinated two Critical Care

Emergency Medical Transport Program (CCEMTP) classes, which allowed for the provision of 12 free spots within the program; six of which were given to members of three other rural EMS providers.

The Harrison County Hospital EMS was the only service to win first place in all three categories of the Governor's Cup Ambulance Service Provider Competition in 2006, a former part of the IERC. The Public Injury Prevention program has won many state and national awards, as well as a national runner-up award. •

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FORT WAYNE FIRE DEPARTMENT SHOWCASES NEW TRAINING CENTER

The Fort Wayne Fire Department recently unveiled its new Command Training Center (CTC) at the Public Safety Academy of Northeast Indiana.

Most of the funding for the center was provided by grants through the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) and the Metropolitan Medical Response System of Fort Wayne. The Indiana Command Training Center is a state-of-the-art training facility that allows command staff in charge of incidents to manage a wide range of emergency scenarios from a motor vehicle accident to a three alarm fire.

The CTC simulates realistic conditions for fire company officers to be trained and tested in incident command. The program will provide training that will produce incident commanders who make better decisions, which will help reduce the mistakes that could potentially cause injury, death, and unnecessary fire loss.

During this training, participants will be put into their assigned roles and simulate an emergency communication with each other. After the simulation, participants will gather in a classroom to analyze their performance and identify any mistakes that could be improved upon.

Fort Wayne Fire Department Chief of Training, Michael Miller, hopes this facility will help improve emergency response for all departments in the area by ensuring everyone is provided with the same training. •



INDIANA HOMELAND SECURITY SUPPORTS STATE FAIR

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) educated food vendors, provided information to the public and inspected amusement rides at the Indiana State Fair.

All food vendors and food samplers operating at the 2010 Indiana State Fair attended a mandatory training seminar conducted by a representative from the State Fire Marshal's Office, a division of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS).

In partnership with the Indiana State Department of Health, the two-hour sessions informed the vendors and samplers of Indiana's health and safety codes in order to provide safe product to the fair's visitors. IDHS also inspected all amusement rides at the fair to ensure rides were safe for the public.

"The State Fire Marshal's Office was pleased to offer support of the Indiana State Fair," said State Fire Marshal Jim Greeson. "We believe the information we provided to vendors helped provide a safer state fair."

IDHS stationed a booth at the fair to inform visitors of disaster and emergency preparedness. Fact sheets and other information were provided to those who stopped by. Prizes were given out to participants who answered questions correctly regarding public safety and disaster preparedness.

IDHS also offered citizens the chance to win a disaster preparedness kit which included a

battery-operated radio, first aid kit, tools and other items recommended to prepare for an emergency. Winners will be notified through the contact information provided.

IDHS inspectors evaluated 25 amusement rides for annual inspection, 10 rides for periodic inspection and several compliance checks. Inspectors maintained a presence on the grounds throughout the state fair.

To see more photos from the fair, visit IDHS's Facebook page.*



IDHS inspected all amusement rides at the Indiana State Fair. Inspectors ensure all rides adhere to safety code and violations are corrected before the ride is operational. They also inspected reported incidents during the fair.



Grain Bin Safety Training Offered to First Responders

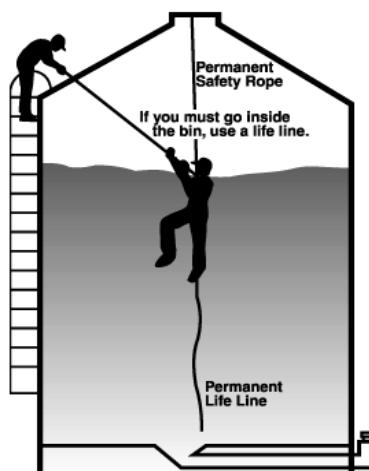
Purdue University safety specialists will offer training in grain bin safety to provide fire service, rescue service, EMS personnel, grain elevator employees and farm operators with a better understanding of strategies for preventing and responding to grain-related entrapment, including partial and full engulfment.

With consideration to Indiana's vast rural demographic, the class will be most beneficial for first responders with limited agricultural or grain handling experience. Purdue University researchers reported 38 grain entrapments in 2009. Grain entrapments generally occur in part because of poor safety and health practices according to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

This course will cover the primary causes of grain-related entrapments, grain storage design and operation, state of the art rescue strategies, and first-responder injury prevention. Demonstrations and hands on experiences will be provided.

The lead instructor, Steve Wettschurack, is a certified farm accident rescue instructor. He has received positive reinforcement from Governor Mitch Daniels to continue training efforts in the state.

Previous classes have included paid and volunteer rescue personnel from 87 fire departments and three EMS departments. One participant was eager to return to



Responders should assist in a grain bin rescue only with a safety rope or lifeline to prevent double entrapment.

(Graphic used with permission from North Dakota State University.)

share the knowledge of response to farm accidents.

"I can't wait to go back to the station and try to explain what it feels like to be in a grain bin filled with grain. No PowerPoint will ever teach you that."

Two upcoming training opportunities will be held at Purdue Agronomy Farm on September 15 and September 17, 2010. A fee of \$65 will be required with registration, which will include lunch and refreshments. Class sizes will be limited and early registration is recommended. All registration will close two weeks prior to each class.

To register or for more information contact: Steve Wettschurack at 765.714.4557 or swettsch@purdue.edu. •

STATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER PROGRAMS RECEIVE INTERNATIONAL INTEREST

Entities across the state, country and various countries have expressed interest in the daily activities of the Indiana Emergency Operations Center (EOC), operated by the Indiana Department of Homeland Security's (IDHS).

Indiana's WebEOC, a web-accessible program used since 2008 by local agencies across the state to monitor incidents during an emergency, has been central in this interest.

"We have had a lot of inquiries about WebEOC. We've gotten a lot of good feedback from other agencies," said Shane Booker, response



director at IDHS. "Most states use WebEOC as an information collector. What we have done is very different. Counties have access to the system to manage an incident at a local level, and counties can review incident-related mission and tasks at the state EOC."

IDHS staff incorporated WebEOC, previously used only for disasters, into daily operations. The Indiana WebEOC successfully manages the access of thousands of users.

This has interested many other governmental and non-governmental organizations in the states of Florida, Missouri, Kentucky, Washington, North Carolina, Massachusetts, Tennessee, Alabama, Alaska and Iowa. Response staff have also consulted with representatives from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, United Airlines, Vancouver Olympics, U.S. Army Command in Africa and the U.S. Coast Guard.

Information regarding the EOC's daily operations has been shared with organizations as far away as the country of New Zealand.

Peter May, an application developer at IDHS, programmed an automated battle rhythm on WebEOC to keep better track of the operational schedule for the EOC.

Another major point of interest relates to Indiana's integration of technology, including response vehicles and a system of redundancy.

Indiana's WebEOC uses a system of redundancy to connect to satellites in other geographic locations to allow the state system to function even if Indianapolis lost capabilities.

In addition, the International Association of Emergency Managers highlighted Indiana's EOC at its annual conference.*

GOVERNOR RECOGNIZES SIX IDHS EMPLOYEES

Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels recently recognized emergency planner R.O. Stanley for 50 years of service with the state of Indiana.

Stanley and five other Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) staff members achieved recognition for longevity of service at a statehouse ceremony. Other IDHS employees who have served the state of Indiana for more than 35 years include Bob LaGrange, Steve Schulz, Dean Toor, Jim Skaggs and Gerald Kelley.

Of the six, Stanley has served the longest period of time with the state. After serving in the U.S. Marine Corps and with the Indiana State Police as a trooper for 27 years, Stanley was hired by Jackson County as the Civil Defense Director in 1986. After a year, a position opened at the Indiana Department of Civil Defense, which is now the Indiana Department of Homeland Security.

After taking the position with the State Emergency Management Agency (now IDHS), he developed the *State of Indiana Population Allocation Plan* to give citizens a plan in case of a nuclear attack, a requirement of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Also, while in that position, he assumed the role of Earthquake Program Manager working in conjunction with the Central United States Earthquake Consortium.

In 2008, Stanley took the position of Emergency Warning Program Manager, which involves developing necessary plans and rules that enforce the employment of the Senate Bill 334, Severe Weather Warning Sirens.

In 2000, while working with the Indiana Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP) as the Exercise and Training Officer (ETO), Stanley increased the number of personnel trained in CSEPP response from 21 to 150 in three counties and constructed the first database in National CSEPP.

For more details about each employee recognized, visit <http://www.in.gov/dhs/files/govrec.pdf>.



Governor Mitch Daniels congratulates Gerald Kelley for 40 years of service with the state .



Pictured with Gov. Mitch Daniels and recognized for more than 35 years of service are (from left): Bob LaGrange, Steve Schulz and Jim Skaggs.



Executive Director Joe Wainscott congratulates employee R.O. Stanley for reaching 50 years of state service.

STATE LEADS NATION IN USE OF HAZARD PREVENTION SOFTWARE

A national conference brought together first responders, local government officials, planners, and mapping specialists from across the U.S. to share expertise in the development and use of disaster modeling software.

With participation from the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS), Indianapolis hosted the National FEMA HAZUS-MH (Multi-Hazard) Users Conference on August 23-25. Three hundred forty one representatives from nearly all 50 states, Puerto Rico, India and Canada registered for the conference.

"Indiana has taken significant advantage of the HAZUS-MH tool. 89 of our 92 counties have used the software for multi-hazard mitigation in

effort to create settings, scenarios and plans to help predict potential threats to our citizens and livelihoods," says IDHS Executive Director Joe Wainscott. "

Kevin Mickey, an expert in FEMA's HAZUS-MH application from the Polis Center in Indianapolis, spoke at several conference sessions. He defined the program as user-driven and emphasized Indiana's prominent use of HAZUS-MH.

"Indiana uses some of the best mapping data in the nation," Mickey said. "Indiana has been proactive in using HAZUS-MH through mitigation plans and prolific local training."

HAZUS-MH is a program created by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) that uses mapping data to predict potential damage from natural disasters including floods, earthquakes and hurricanes (in coastal areas).

The program analyzes the impact of hazards including physical infrastructure damage to essential facilities (hospitals, fire and police stations, emergency operation centers and schools), economic impacts such as cost to rebuild and loss of jobs, and social impact such as shelter requirements for displaced households. IDHS uses HAZUS-MH in developing state and county mitigation plans for earthquake and flood hazards.

CHANGES TO CHILD LABOR LAWS AFFECT MINORS IN PUBLIC SAFETY

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) reminds fire departments, emergency management, CERT program managers and other public safety employers that the United States Department of Labor (U.S. DOL) has recently updated definitions of Prohibited and Hazardous Occupations for teen workers.

"These new laws affect any place where someone under 18 works," said Rick Ruble of the Indiana Department of Labor.

The updated laws prohibit anyone under the age of 18 from extinguishing fires or fighting forest fires.

Minors of this age may participate in forest fire prevention if not in support of efforts to extinguish a forest fire. Tasks could include clearing fire trails or roads, construction, maintenance or patrolling of fire lines, maintaining of firefighting equipment, and acting as a fire lookout or fire patrol person.

This restriction may affect reserves, explorers or cadets on fire departments and other areas of public safety.

Child labor laws already in place restrict minors from performing certain duties that may be performed in a public safety capacity.

For example, the law prohibits anyone under 15 years old from operating, cleaning, oiling or repairing power-driven machinery, operating a motor vehicle, working as a vehicle helper, construction/demolition/repair, and using ladders or other similar equipment.

16-year olds are prohibited from operating a motor vehicle, unless wheels do not touch public roads. There are also certain driving restrictions for 17-year olds.

For more information, view the Indiana Bureau of Child Labor's webpage "Prohibited and Hazardous Occupations" at www.in.gov/dol/2741.htm.

Look for a preparedness tip every day this month on twitter!



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The Hoosier Responder is a publication of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security.
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