
On the calendar: Another busy year

How can it already be March? I'm still delivering Christmas presents to friends I haven't been able to connect with since before the holidays. Of course, we are busy here with the legislative session. DSHS must analyze any bill that affects us and provide an estimate of the cost of implementation. Already, the Regulatory Division, including EMS, has been sent scores of bills to peruse. The regular session of the Legislature ends on May 30. The July/August issue of Texas EMS Magazine will carry a rundown of all the legislation that affects EMS and trauma systems. To look up what's happening with a particular bill, go to www.capitol.state.tx.us.

Calling all educators! Have a hankering to do a presentation at Texas EMS Conference? Better hurry. The Call for Presentations deadline is March 11. Texas EMS Conference happens November 20-23 in Austin. Preconference happens November 19 and 20th. Call or write if you have any questions. Conference will be here before we know it.

We debut a new kind of profile on the back page this issue: Blinn College. This is the first time we've had an educational program on the back page. If your service or education program is interested in being profiled, please write me at kelly.harrell@dshs.state.tx.us. We're also looking for more people to profile in EMS Experience. Speaking of the magazine, you may notice it's a little smaller than it has been. We are trying to save money any way we can, and cutting just four pages saved us some money.

Do you know of a great 'save' story? We'd like to highlight it in the May/June issue of Texas EMS Magazine. There's an ad on page 7 that details what we need, or you can always call or write me. We've got a couple of good stories this issue about calls; I'd like to do more of those in each issue as well.

If you go to our website, you'll notice it's different. We hope you can still find everything you once had, but you may have to re-save your bookmarks. This redesign is part of the agency's website project. We tried to save any pages that weren't outdated, but if you are looking for something and can't find it, drop us an email.

And finally, a word about Maxie Bishop. Maxie has the luck (or misfortune) to have an office located right in the middle of our team. Maxie's update on his health challenge is on page 17. He talks about his setbacks in the article. But I'm here to tell you how hard he is working on getting himself to better health. As he says, the road is not always smooth. But Maxie has gotten back on the healthy lifestyle wagon every time he's gotten off track and we're all proud of him.

FROM THIS SIDE



Kelly Harrell
Editor

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Kelly". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.