

Unsung HEROES

X News | the Oakland press+the Macomb Daily sunday, February 26, 2017

UNSUNG HEROES | FIRST RESPONDERS

The Role of an EMT

MTs, or emergency medical technicians, play an important role as first responders to emergency situations. They are well trained and should be respected public figures in your community. It is important to understand the hectic work life of an EMT.

EMTs are applauded for their calm composure during extremely stressful situations. No matter the emergency, your local EMTs are prepared for any emergency event. They are first responders to scenes of vehicle accidents, home and industrial accidents, medical emergencies or any other situation that requires emergency service.

AVERAGE DAY

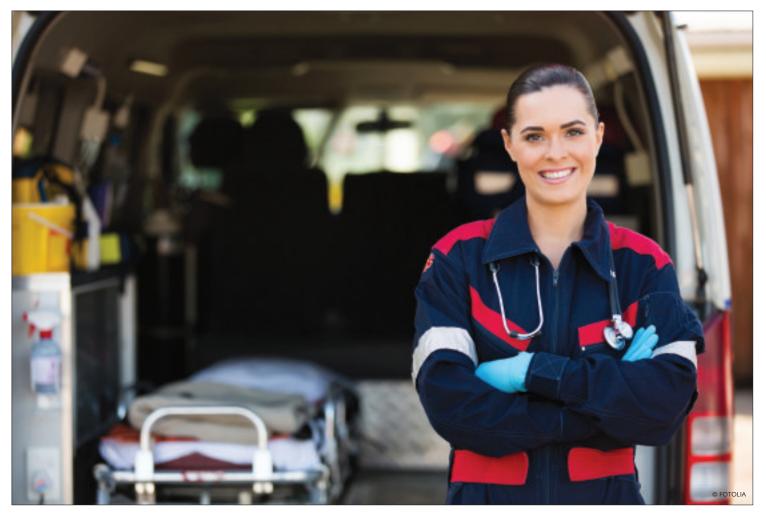
Though the length of the average shift performed by an EMT may differ depending on department, many EMTs work shifts from eight hours to two entire days. Luckily for you and your EMTs, they are allowed scheduled nap hours during these long shifts to remain sharp in administering emergency service.

EMTs also are responsible for communicating with local hospital staff to prepare for incoming patients. They deliver clear and concise information on the treatment they have already administered to a patient and explain the situation of the emergency event.

They also are responsible for keeping accurate records that explain the incident. These records may be called on for legal or medical reasons.

INCREDIBLE SET OF SKILLS

Take a minute to think of



times you or people you know have had to dial 911. The reasons may be extremely different each time, but your EMTs were still able to sufficiently administer emergency care.

This is due to the strenuous testing and training that is required of EMTs. Here are

just a few skills required by EMTs, per the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians:

- cardiac arrest manage-
- patient assessment for trauma and medical; and
 - oxygen administration.

THANK AN EMT

Your local EMTs do everything in their power to provide the best possible ending to an emergency. Take time to pass along your appreciation of their hard work and dedication.

Write a letter of acknowl-

edgment to your local emergency response department explaining your gratitude to the EMTs who assisted you. These letters let your local EMTs know that the long hours and stressful conditions are making a positive difference to those around them.

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UNSUNG HEROES | EDUCATORS

Appreciating Teachers

Teachers offer your children love, comfort and life lessons that go way beyond arithmetic equations. These qualities offered by your local teachers should be admired and rewarded. Your child likely considers school their second home as teachers allow you to take a sigh of relief knowing that your children are in good hands.

Most teachers get into the profession due to their desire to create successful futures for today's youth. The bond between student and teacher is an entity that is created by trust and patience by both parties.

TEACHING BEYOND THE BOOKS

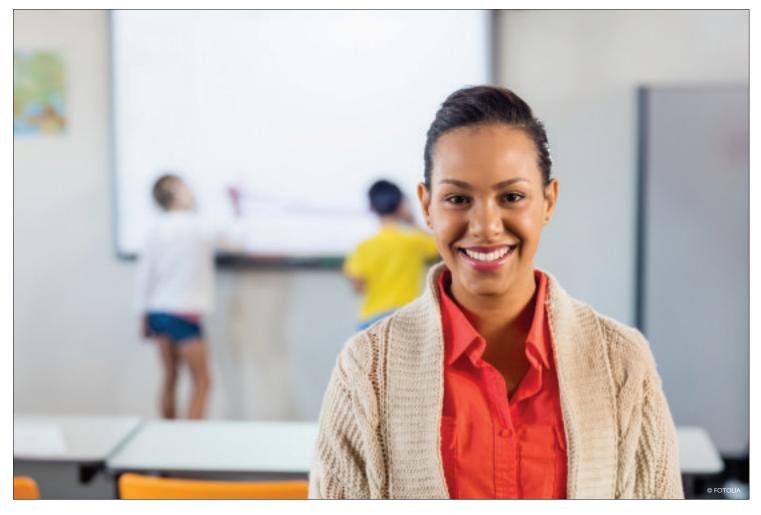
Dedicated teachers provide accurate information for the classes they teach. They are expected to teach your children the curriculum required to do well in high school and enter the working world or college classes. Lesson plans go beyond what is written in textbooks.

From the very beginning of a child's academic life, they are exposed to lessons that can make an impact for years to come. Some of these lessons are as basic as learning to share and other social skills.

As they get older, a teacher can assist in teaching children how to handle conflicts with others and how to be a responsible adult. These lessons can make an impression that lasts long after graduation.

DEDICATION BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

A teacher's work day doesn't end when students leave for the day. Most nights include



grading and critiquing assignments. The grading process requires extreme attention as the grades can change a child's academic path.

Teachers understand the responsibility they have as role

models to their students even after the final bell rings. Whether it be on social media or in public places, they carry themselves as reputable and respectful members of the community.

ASSISTING TEACHERS

Teachers commonly pay out-of-pocket expenses to purchase useful tools to make a lesson plan more meaningful. This is especially true as teachers in many states across the country continue to battle budgeting shortfalls.

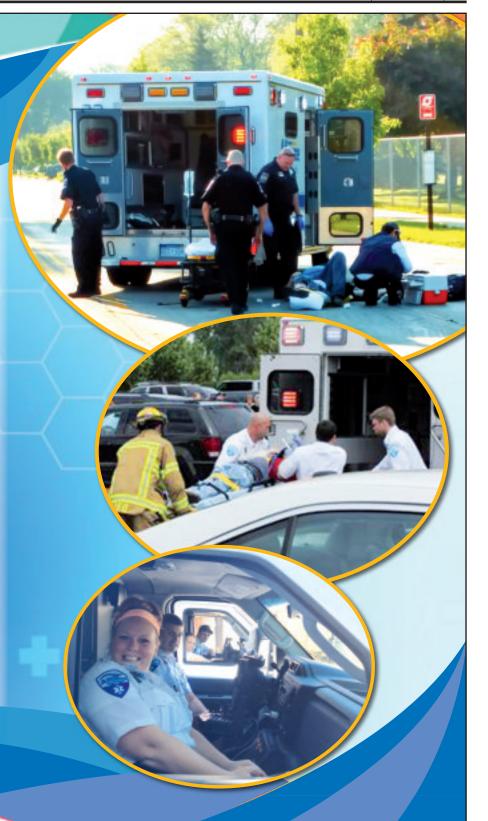
Consider a fundraising project with other parents to raise money for your child's teacher's expenses that are not covered by the school.



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Respect For Police

Teaching your children to trust and respect the police officers that keep their communities safe is extremely important. From a young age, show your children that they can call on officers in time of need and that they should always be shown respect.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF POLICE PRESENCE

Children are like sponges. They absorb knowledge by watching the behaviors of the people they trust. They then expel this knowledge by mimicking this behavior themselves.

With your child present, make a point to greet officers you pass by in a friendly and enthusiastic manner. Encourage your child to say hello and to thank the officer for his hard work.

Pointing out police vehicles on the road is another way to show children that the police are working for them. Tell them police are on the road to keep them safe. Showing excitement toward the eye-catching lights exhibited by police vehicles can create a memorable impression on your children.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF POLICE-SPONSORED EVENTS

Many police departments across the country sponsor events to excite children about the jobs they do. Check with your local police department for events in your community. A couple of events that are can make a big impact on a child are:

- Shop with a Cop: This event is usually held around Christmastime. Police officers take children on a shopping spree to purchase gifts for them and their families. Spots are limited and based on need, so even if your child is not one to do the shopping, make sure they know about the generosity of their local police.
- Police car demonstrations: Local organizations often host events where



police, fire and EMT vehicles are put on display. Giving your child the opportunity to see the complex workings of a police vehicle can create a sense of wonder that can be compared to their favorite superhero's gadgets. Look for such events in your community.

KID-FRIENDLY RESOURCES

In 1980, McGruff the Crime Dog made his debut and told the country to "Take A Bite Out of Crime." If you're unfamiliar with McGruff, he is an animated, crime-fighting dog created by the National Crime Prevention Council to gently educate children about crime.

McGruff has been a trusted resource used by parents for decades. Today, it is easier than ever to introduce your child to these incredible learning tools. Help your child navigate to www.mcgruff. org. There they will learn important lessons on questionable behaviors and how to turn to police for help.

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