

# Mobile center earns recognition

The Northern New Jersey Mobile Intensive Care Communications Center (MICCOM) at Hackensack University Medical Center (HUMC) was recently recognized as an Advanced Emergency Medical Dispatcher Certified Center by the National Academy of Emergency Medical Dispatch.

The medical center's MICCOM program is one of the first communications centers in New Jersey to achieve the designation, which is only bestowed on centers where every dispatcher has achieved advanced certification in emergency medical dispatch.

"This important milestone showcases the accomplishments of each and every member of the MICCOM team," said Rosemary Hunt, RN, of Demarest, administrative director of nursing at HUMC. "Every dispatcher had a critical role to play in enabling us to qualify for this level of recognition. They should all be commended for their commitment to providing such high quality services."

Advanced certification has important implications for those in need of emergency medical care. It

means that the emergency medical dispatcher has acquired a working knowledge of the newest, leading edge protocols that are currently in place to instruct 9-1-1 callers on ways to deal with a variety of healthcare situations. The performance of emergency callers can potentially mean life or death for a person suffering from a sudden illness or accident, in need of immediate care. Access to the latest information, explained by experienced dispatchers, enables care to begin before medical personnel arrive, which maximizes the patient's chances for a favorable outcome.

MICCOM, a program of HUMC, is responsible for advanced life support (paramedic) dispatch for eight area mobile intensive care unit (MICU) hospitals that comprise the Northern New Jersey MICU consortium, along with regional emergency medical communications support for the area EMS agencies. This includes emergency medical call screening and basic life support dispatching.



PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER TRENTO

## Water world

This week's Nor'easter drenched Northern New Jersey, wreaking havoc on all residents in the area. Locally, the Hackensack River overflowed, sending water onto the properties along its banks. Here, a vehicle trudges through the water near the Essex Street bus stop.

### FREE PROGRAMS

## Music events set at Johnson Library

The Johnson Public Library will host two Professional Music Teachers Guild-sponsored programs in May.

The Fabulous Landes Brothers will present "Synchronicity" at

10:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 2 in the library auditorium.

At 3 p.m. Saturday, May 5, the library will host a Young People's Recital in the auditorium.

Call at 201-670-6738.

## GAP

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Jersey, which established a commission to promote curriculum addressing African-American heritage and the history of slavery in America, Kafele remains dissatisfied with the response from most schools. In his opinion, "very few"

districts have implemented the intent of the bill in earnest.

Kafele said his experience has shown that a curriculum that addresses those subjects lays a foundation for learning in students that can make a profound difference. By giving students an understanding of themselves, they are able to learn with greater confidence.

"We want to move away from the traditional paradigm, step outside of the box," said Kafele.

"We're adding the part that's missing. We're teaching history holistically, as opposed to omitting parts and distorting it."

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