



Alachua County Department of Fire/Rescue Services

Backdraft

A Monthly Newsletter

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CHILI COOKOFF

The Champion Defends His Title!

At the recent Fall Fest, Chief Ed Bailey defended his Best Chili Championship by easily defeating his competitors in the Fire & Brimstone Category. While veteran chef Bailey's scorching concoction (think 16oz. of jalapenos) trounced even his spiciest challenger, first timer Kristina Muzzey also gave everyone a run for their money in the kinder, gentler Sissy Sauce field — placing a solid second.

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A judge (left) tries one of Chief Bailey's competitors in the Fire & Brimstone category while Commissioner Pinkoson (below) checks out Chief Bailey's winning recipe.



Cheryl (left) & Fay (right) served bowls of chili to discriminating judges & hungry attendees alike.



Caring People Providing Quality Service

Sim Lab Provides Rare Hands-On Training

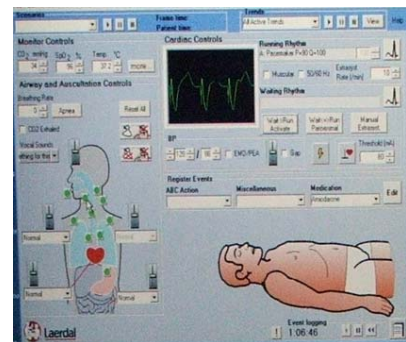
For an entire week, Alachua County Fire Rescue Paramedics and EMTs honed their skills in a state-of-the-art Mobile Simulation Lab. The lab, owned and operated by the nonprofit Emergency Medicine Learning and Resource Center, provided ACFR emergency personnel with numerous opportunities to practice their skills in a realistic emergency medicine environment.



The Mobile Simulation Lab, which uses anatomically correct patient mannequins, is set up to look and feel like the back of an ambulance. Built into a 45-foot motorcoach, the lab allows Paramedics and EMTs to practice emergency medical care in an environment that mimics their usual work spaces. Additionally, the patient mannequins are equipped with features such as a realistic airway system and an intravenous arm. The 'patient' can exhibit more than 2,500 cardiac rhythm variants and can produce heart and lung sounds, as well as coughing, moaning and voice sounds – all of which helps to create a near infinite variety of realistic emergency scenarios.

The Mobile Simulation Lab is the only one of its kind in the entire country and was specifically designed to

provide extensive sophisticated hands-on training to emergency medical care providers in Florida's 33 rural counties. Recognizing that continuing education is critical to providing consistently superb prehospital care, Tom Belcure at the Alachua County Health Department used grant funding to bring the Mobile Simulation Lab to Gainesville where ACFR Paramedics and EMTs received a rare and invaluable opportunity to train today for tomorrow's emergencies.



Mike Kelley's Retirement Party

