Emergencies can happen anytime and anywhere without notice. Households, businesses and organizations should prepare for potential emergencies that can leave people without utilities, electricity or water, without access to a supermarket or local services, and even without response from police, fire or rescue for days.

National Preparedness Month (NPM) is an annual campaign to encourage Americans to take steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, schools, organizations, businesses and communities. While September is the month for recognizing national preparedness, everyone should make preparedness a part of their daily lives.

Preparing can start with these important steps:

- Be informed about emergencies that could happen in your area and identify sources of information that will be helpful before, during and after an emergency.
- Build an emergency supply kit.
- Work together and be ready.

Remember, families may not be together when an emergency happens, and you may not have access to cell phones, gas stations, grocery stores or some of the other things that you are used to having every day. Plan now and be ready.

To learn more about how you, your family, your business and your community can prepare for emergencies and get involved, please visit www.ready.gov.

United Way Food Drive

The MaineHealth United Way Food Drive has started and will continue until Wednesday, September 13. Drop off locations include Bramhall, all MMP practices and offices, Brighton, and more. See the MMC Intranet and eNews for all locations.

Most-needed foods include: canned tuna fish, 12-oz. cans of soup, vegetables, beans and chili, canned fruit, peanut butter, granola bars, brown rice, applesauce, whole grains, pasta, pasta sauce, nuts and seeds.
**Emily Carter, M.D.,** has joined Maine Medical Partners – Geriatric Medicine. Dr. Carter is Board certified in Family Medicine. She received her medical degree from University of Massachusetts Medical School. Dr. Carter completed her residency here at Maine Medical Center and her fellowship training at Baylor College of Medicine. Her clinical interests include polypharmacy, perioperative management and end of life care. In her spare time she enjoys music, exercising and taking in Maine's coastal views. She is developing an appreciation for culinary arts.

The Cardiothoracic Intensive Care Unit was the site of a ceremony steeped in Navy tradition on August 28. Tayler Eldridge, M.D., an anesthesia intern at Maine Medical Center, was sworn into service with the U.S. Navy Reserve.

The person who swore her in is himself a cardiac surgeon at MMC. Michael McGrath, M.D., is a Navy Reserve officer and current Commanding Officer of Operational Health Support Unit, Camp Lejune.

Dr. Eldridge spent four years in the U.S. Navy after graduating from medical school. She had tours as a Marine Corps flight surgeon and as the flight surgeon for the U.S. Naval Academy. She left active duty to start at MMC this July.

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**We All Scream For Ice Cream!**

As a thank you for all our employees do for patients, all employees are invited to an ice cream social on Thursday, September 7.

You can get your scoop at:
- **Bramhall Campus,** Impressions Café, 2:30 - 4 p.m. and 5 - 6:30 p.m. on 9/7; 12 a.m. - 1:30 a.m. on 9/8.
- **Scarborough Surgery Center,** 84 Campus Drive, 1:30 - 3 p.m.
- **MMCRI,** 81 Research Drive, 1:30 - 3 p.m.
- **Brighton,** 335 Brighton Avenue, 1:30 - 3 p.m.
- **Atrium,** 100 Campus Drive, Noon - 1:30 p.m.
- **CBO,** 301 C US Route 1, 1 - 2 p.m.

**A Special Swearing In**

Tayler Eldridge, M.D., is sworn in as a Navy Reserve officer by Michael McGrath, M.D.

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