



Regional One Serving Area

By JIM HOLLAND
News Editor

If you look up in the sky of Cherokee County, chances are you'll view something that flies several times locally during each week.

The helicopter known as Regional One from Spartanburg Regional Medical Center has flown hundreds of times since it was founded in 2003 responding to Cherokee County Medical calls.

Regional One Director Jim Mobley says Regional One was dispatched to calls in Cherokee County approximately 70 times during 2009, about two calls a week. Mobley says they have already responded to Cherokee County several

times already this year when this story was written last Friday.

Regional One became functional on May 7, 2003. Mobley says the first flight made in the helicopter was to Cherokee County to the Goucher/White Plains area.

The calls are for a variety of reasons including automobile accidents and other trauma cases. Mobley says there are also a large number of calls for medical reasons such as heart attacks and strokes, among other causes.

Regional One has 20 personnel who are one call 24/7/365. When the unit flies, there is always a staff of three on board including the pilot, a nurse and a paramedic.

The helicopter can transport a patient faster from anywhere in the area than by ground when time many times is of the utmost importance.

Mobley was quick to point out that his agency has a great support system in Cherokee County including 911 personnel, EMS employees, police and firemen. "They make our jobs so much easier" in helping get Regional One to a scene, providing assistance until it arrives or setting up an area where the chopper can land "Those people are the true heroes," he insists. Regional One has one helicopter that is located in Spartanburg. However, if a

second unit is needed, it can be dispatched from Greenville if it is available.

Mobley is a resident of Cherokee County living on S.C. 18 near the Cherokee/Union County line.