

MEDIA OPPORTUNITY May 12th NEWS from BONITA SPRINGS FIRE-RESCUE



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<http://www.news-press.com/story/news/local/bonita-springs/2014/05/12/bonita-fire-district-present-phoenix-award/9009559/>

BYSTANDERS TO RECEIVE PHOENIX AWARD MAY 12, 2014

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) member and VillageWalk resident, Ray Youmans and his brother in law, Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) Paul Ross will be recognized on May 12th at 5:00 p.m. at Fire Station Four, 27701 Bonita Grande Drive, with the District's most prestigious honor – The Phoenix Award.

According to witnesses, a 68 year old man was next to his vehicle when he suddenly collapsed and fell to the ground in the Bonita Grande Publix parking lot on April 21st. Bystanders, Ray Youmans and Paul Ross ran to his aid. Both knew they needed to act fast and assess the patient. They noted that the patient had a moderate head wound from the fall- the patient's eyes were wide open; he had a blank stare; his tongue was turning blue, and he was completely unresponsive. They quickly began chest compressions after they did not find a pulse. After a very short time, the patient became conscious again just as firefighters on Engine 24 arrived on scene. According to Lieutenant Armand Calzadilla, the patient appeared awake, alert and oriented and was not in distress. The patient did not remember the incident, but did feel dizzy. Firefighters did treat him for a laceration to the back of his head before he was transported to the hospital.

These bystander's quick actions ultimately saved a life! Mr. Ray Youmans was trained in emergency response through CERT and CPR at the Bonita Springs Fire Control & Rescue District.

The Bonita Springs Fire District has extended a heartfelt invitation to the patient and his family to attend the ceremony on May 12th.

In order to recognize the dedication and skill of emergency responders, Bonita Springs Fire-Rescue adopted the Phoenix Award after implementing advanced life support services in March of 1999. The Phoenix is recognized as a symbol of excellence and also a mythical bird, said to rise again from its ashes.

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