

MEDIA OPPORTUNITY Aug 11th 2014

NEWS from BONITA SPRINGS FIRE-RESCUE

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This was featured by the following media outlet, follow link to view:

The News Press- <http://www.news-press.com/story/news/local/bonita-springs/2014/08/12/hands-cpr-key-saving-lives/13935253/>

RESCUERS TO RECEIVE PHOENIX AWARDS on Aug 11th

Bonita Springs' firefighters will be recognized on August 11th at 5:00 p.m. at Fire Station Four, 27701 Bonita Grande Drive, with the District's most prestigious honor – The Phoenix Award.

Two crews of firefighters will be honored for saving the lives of Bonita Springs' residents.

The first award goes to firefighters on Rescue 21 who responded to the aid of a 77 year-old man, who collapsed while playing a tennis match at the Pelican Landing tennis courts on May 26, 2014. Lieutenant David Brewer and Firefighter Paramedic Thomas Harrison arrived on scene, to find the patient being administered hands-only CPR by bystanders, who had witnessed the collapse. The patient did not have a pulse. One of the bystanders was a doctor and due to the quality CPR in progress, the bystanders continued CPR as the heart monitor and defibrillator pads were attached by firefighters. Firefighters and LCEMS then took over CPR and administered shock to the patient's heart. The patient appeared to go into asystole after defibrillation, which indicates that the heart does not have any electrical activity. Epinephrine was administered, and an IGEL breathing tube was also utilized. CPR was continued and the heart rhythm was now in V-Fib, showing some irregular electrical activity. A second shock to the heart was delivered; the patient appeared again to go into asystole. However, the patient exhibited signs of ROSC, Resumption of Sustained Cardiac Activity; his blood pressure had stabilized, and he began to gag on the breathing tube. Firefighters could verify that patient could protect his own airway, and the breathing tube was removed. Supportive care was

continued en route to the hospital, and firefighters reported that the patient was answering questions for the ER physician upon arrival.

The Bonita Springs Fire District has extended a heartfelt invitation for the award presentation to the patient and his family with the hope of reuniting the firefighters and patient again. The crew of firefighters awaiting their reunion includes: Lieutenant David Brewer and Firefighter Paramedic Thomas Harrison

The second award goes to firefighters on Engine 24 who responded to the aid of an 81 year-old man, who had suffered a cardiac arrest in his home on June 23, 2014. It was established that the patient had an extensive cardiac history. The crew, Acting Lieutenant Jesse Cottrell, Firefighter Paramedic Jonathan Whitlock, and Firefighter Paramedic Brian Hornberger were directed by the patient's spouse to the back bedroom where they found bystander CPR being administered. The firefighters checked and found a slight pulse on the unresponsive patient and applied the defibrillator pads. The patient was attached to the heart monitor and was given a small dosage of electrical shock, which acted as a pacemaker for the heart. This treatment allowed the patient to regain consciousness- he was alert, awake and oriented while being loaded into the ambulance. Firefighter Paramedic Brian Hornberger rode in to the hospital in order to assist LCEMS, if needed. Halfway to the hospital, the patient became unresponsive; he had no pulse and was not breathing. CPR was quickly started and continued until care could be transferred to the hospital staff.

The Bonita Springs Fire District has extended a heartfelt invitation for the award presentation to the patient and their family with the hope of reuniting the firefighters and patient again. The crew of firefighters awaiting their reunion includes: Acting Lieutenant Jesse Cottrell, Firefighter Paramedic Jonathan Whitlock, and Firefighter Paramedic Brian Hornberger

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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