



NEWS RELEASE

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(Heart Attack Survivor Reunion and Awards for Citizen Rescuers) – Photo Opportunity

Joe Halloran doesn't remember much about his brush with death. He recalls riding on a stationary bike at Bally Total Fitness in Raleigh Hills for half an hour and then waking up on an ambulance gurney en route to the hospital emergency department. The 57-year old school teacher says he's grateful for fellow athletic club members who knew CPR (Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation) and for the club's AED (Automatic External Defibrillator) and the staff who used it. He is alive today due to their actions.

"I remember I had been experiencing a pain in my arm and chest, but attributed that to a recent operation," Halloran said. "Now, I know it wasn't related."

"The key factors in surviving a sudden cardiac arrest are an immediate call to 9-1-1, early application of CPR, quick administration of an AED, and rapid access to advanced hospital care," said Battalion Chief Mark Stevens, Chief of TVF&R's Emergency Medical Services. "Those all occurred to provide a successful outcome for Mr. Halloran."

The chemistry teacher was released from OHSU Medical Center after receiving an implanted defibrillator to keep his heart beating in the future. He returned to the classroom at De La Salle North Catholic High in Portland on Monday, October 22nd, just 10-days after his close call.

On Monday, October 29, 2007, at 1:00 p.m. Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue will recognize the team effort of the Bally Total Fitness staff, including Joey Nobriga and Dafid Cifuni, along with club member Steve Bird, who helped saved Joseph Halloran's life. The event will include a reunion with the patient, the TVF&R firefighter/paramedics and Metro West Ambulance paramedics who provided Advanced Life Support care for Mr. Halloran. The event will be held at the Bally Total Fitness Sports Center, 8785 SW Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway, Beaverton, Oregon.

For more information on CPR and AEDs in the community, visit www.tvfr.com. Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue, in partnership with Lifeline Health & Safety, provides CPR, First Aid and Automatic External Defibrillator training to constituents and businesses within our fire district. For information on class schedules, call 503-243-2277 or visit www.cprlifeline.com.