



NEWS RELEASE - Photo Op

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***Hands-Only* CPR Saves Lives...Just Ask Jim Yukich
Firefighters to Host Reunion with Lifesavers; Golf Course to Receive Defibrillator**

On October 19th Jim Yukich had a sudden cardiac arrest while golfing at the King City Golf Course. He is alive today thanks to the actions of his step-son Seth Candeaux, Washington County 9-1-1 Dispatcher Tracy Fitzpatrick, and fellow golfer Art Townsend who provided *hands-only* CPR. TVF&R Captain Troy Spisla responded to the cardiac incident and states, “When our crew arrived, we found Seth on the phone conveying instructions from the 9-1-1 dispatcher and Art Townsend doing chest compressions on Jim who was unresponsive and not breathing.” The crew took over CPR, established an airway, shocked Jim’s heart, and administered advanced cardiac medications at which point they got a heart rhythm and pulse back. Jim was transported to Meridian Park Hospital and discharged the following week. Spisla added, “Jim is alive today thanks to the teamwork that took place that day: the quick call to 9-1-1, hands-only CPR initiated before our arrival, and the advanced cardiac care administered by our team of paramedics.”

The incident underscores recent acknowledgement by the American Heart Association that pressing deeply and quickly on a victim’s chest until paramedics arrive, works just as well as standard CPR for adults in sudden cardiac arrest. Hands-only CPR is easier to remember and eliminates a barrier for people opposed to mouth-to-mouth breathing. TVF&R hopes that as the community learns about hands-only CPR, more people will be willing to jump in and help if they see someone suddenly collapse.

Jim is not the only one to benefit from this incident. In the future, golfers at the King City Golf Course can feel comforted knowing there is a defibrillator on site in case of emergency. TVF&R plans to provide an AED—donated by an anonymous benefactor—to the golf course.

Media are invited to attend a special reunion between Jim, Seth, Art, and Captain Spisla and crew this week. The 9-1-1 tape will be played at the reunion and available to media following the event.

CPR Reunion

When: Wednesday, December 3 at 2 pm
Where: King City Fire Station (17135 SW Pacific Highway, Tigard)
Why: Recognition of Life-Saving Efforts

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