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WESTWORTH VILLAGE MAN ALIVE TODAY THANKS TO LOCAL HEROES

MedStar to present Community Hero Awards to three lifesavers who took their CPR training to heart.

Dallas / Fort Worth, TX — July 12, 2010 — 58-year old Monty Suttle has entrusted his heart to his girlfriend, Robin Fertig in more ways than one. When Fertig found Suttle not breathing after he collapsed while mowing the yard of his Westworth Village home, she dialed 9-1-1 and followed CPR instructions provided by the MedStar Call Taker. Her quick-thinking helped save his life.

Fertig continued CPR until two officers from the Westworth Village Police Department arrived on the scene. Officers Jeramey Miller and J.D. Lee were then able to take over CPR until the MedStar EMS unit arrived minutes later. The MedStar EMS team used a defibrillator to establish a heartbeat and the Advanced Practice Paramedic utilized a new hypothermia protocol to rapidly cool Suttle's body temperature during transport to a Fort Worth hospital where he was treated and released after a few days.

According to the American Heart Association (AHA), effective bystander CPR, provided immediately after cardiac arrest, can double a victim's chance of survival. Having been an avid volunteer and fundraiser for the AHA Heart Walk for several years, Suttle was aware of this fact. Now, he is also living proof, thanks to the heart-smart actions of those who came to his rescue.

"Administering early and uninterrupted chest compressions is essential in cases of cardiac arrest," says Dr. Jeff Beeson, Medical Director for MedStar EMS, the ambulance service provider for Westworth Village. "By using CPR, Ms. Fertig and Officers Miller and Lee saved the patient's life and prevented brain damage that can occur when the brain is deprived of oxygen."

In recognition of their quick actions and lifesaving use of CPR, MedStar will present Robin Fertig and Officers Miller and Lee with Community Hero Awards at the Westworth Village City Council meeting on July 13.

Presentation of MedStar Community Hero Awards

Westworth Village City Council Meeting

7:00 pm on Tuesday, July 13, 2010

City Hall – 311 Burton Hill Road, Westworth Village

Media interviews available with award recipients, patient and MedStar staff involved with this call

About the MedStar Community Hero Award

This award recognizes individuals who have contributed to the well-being of our community through their support of emergency medical services and courageously rendering aid in an emergency situation by providing timely, accurate and life-sustaining assistance to emergency medical crews. Nominated by MedStar Paramedics, Emergency Medical Technicians and Emergency Medical Dispatchers, Community Hero Awards are bestowed on an ongoing basis.

MedStar is the exclusive emergency and non-emergency ambulance service provider to 15 Tarrant County cities including Blue Mound, Burleson, Edgecliff Village, Forest Hill, Fort Worth, Haltom City, Haslet, Lakeside, Lake Worth, River Oaks, Saginaw, Samson Park, Westover Hills, Westworth Village, and White Settlement. Established in 1986, MedStar provides advanced life support ambulance service to 421 square miles and more than 860,000 residents in Tarrant County. MedStar responds to about 100,000 emergency calls a year with a fleet of 47 ambulances.

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