



TO: FRUITA CITY COUNCIL AND MAYOR

FROM: MARC MANCUSO, PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR

LOWER VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT FIRE CHIEF FRANK CAVALIERE

COLORADO MESA UNIVERSITY VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE AFFAIRS BRIGITTE SUNDERMANN

DATE: JANUARY 16, 2024

AGENDA TEXT: Recognition of four individuals whose actions saved the life of a patron at the Fruita Community Center.

PURPOSE

There are countless stories of ordinary people who do extraordinary things to save the life of an individual in times of crisis. The City of Fruita would like to recognize four individuals whose quick thinking and actions saved the life of one of our patrons at the Fruita Community Center.

At approximately 5:35 PM on December 18th, a patron approached the front desk and asked us to call 911 because another patron had collapsed on the east basketball court while playing a pickup game with friends. Hannah Bihr, Program Supervisor, and Susan Bissonette, Aquatics Coordinator, were behind the front desk when receiving this information and ran to the scene where they were met by three members of the Aquatics Lifeguarding staff, Jeremy Heer, Trevor Heer, and Leyton Pinedo. Hannah called 911, while Susan and the three other lifeguards began rendering care. On arrival the patron was unconscious and not breathing. Leyton and Susan checked for a pulse and determined that he did not have a pulse and immediately began CPR and rescue breathing. Susan turned the AED on and attached the pads, Jeremy and Trevor began rescue breathing, and Leyton began chest compressions. The AED delivered a shock, they continued CPR for about two minutes, the AED shocked again, and staff continued with CPR. EMS arrived on scene at 5:41 PM, at which time they found a pulse and took over care. The patient was then transported to St. Mary's Hospital.

Doctors explained to the family that without these actions and quick response, this individual would not be with us today. They performed lifesaving measures that saved this individual's life reviving him before EMS arrived on scene. Their selfless actions and quick response exemplify how individuals can rise to the occasion and make a profound difference in critical situations. Their selfless actions, quick response, and courage have not gone unnoticed, and their actions serve as an inspiration to us all.

In this moment of crisis, the Fruita Community Center Staff were able to quickly act with their training, care, concern, teamwork, and professionalism to save the life of Jace Hinton. We are deeply honored to have these individuals in attendance tonight so they may be recognized for their heroic actions.

Colorado Mesa University President, John Marshall, has recorded a short video message to recognize the heroic efforts that took place on December 18. Colorado Mesa Vice President of Community College Affairs, Brigitte Sundermann, will be presenting the Where We Become Mavericks Courage Award to the Colorado Mesa Student who received EMT skills and training while attending Colorado Mesa University.