



CITY OF KIRKLAND

Fire & Building Department · 123 Fifth Avenue, Kirkland, WA 98033
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MEMORANDUM

To: Kurt Triplett, City Manager
From: J. Kevin Nalder, Director of Fire & Building Department
Date: January 23, 2014
Subject: Citizen Hero Award

RECOMMENDATION:

Present the City of Kirkland Citizen Hero Award to ten City of Kirkland residents for their selfless and courageous actions which resulted in saving the lives of two Kirkland residents.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:

Cardiac Arrest

On November 16, 2013, ten year old Nizhoni Newman dialed 911 and reported to dispatcher Megan Hestir that her father was unresponsive on the family couch. The dispatcher proceeded to talk Nizhoni and her six year old brother, Ayateway Newman, through moving their father off the couch and onto the floor. Megan instructed Nizhoni how to initiate and perform Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) on her father. Nizhoni continued CPR, with Megan's calm assistance, while Kirkland Firefighter/EMT's were responding to the Newman home. Ayateway unlocked the entry door and guided the EMTs to Nizhoni and the patient and father, Turkak Newman.

Turkak Newman survived a cardiac arrest thanks to the heroic acts of Nizhoni Newman, Ayateway Newman and Megan Hestir. For their selfless and courageous acts, in order to save the life of another, Mayor Amy Walen and Fire Chief Kevin Nalder, on behalf of the City of Kirkland, will be honored to present these three individuals with the City of Kirkland Citizen Hero Award. Turkak Newman will be in attendance to witness his children Nizhoni and Ayateway and dispatcher Megan Hestir receive commendation for saving his life.

Fire Rescue

On December 28, 2013, Andrea Dodge, a college student, was home sick and heard cries for help outside of her home. Andrea immediately notified her mother, Deborah Dodge. They looked out the window to see their neighbor's house on fire. Andrea went to get her father, David Dodge, for help and then called 911. Deborah carried a ladder to the neighbor's house while David attempted entry through the front door of the burning house without success. David then raised the ladder to a window, with a false balcony, where a trapped occupant was crying for help. At this time, two off-duty Kirkland Police Officers who live in the area, Kimberly Smith and Patrick Baxter, arrived on the scene. Kimberly assisted David moving the trapped

occupant out of the window onto the false balcony. Patrick was joined by neighbors Brent Adkins and Leo Pakkala, who together moved the trapped occupant down the ladder and away from the burning house.

The rescue was completed prior to the first fire department unit arriving 4.5 minutes after the 911 call was received.

A life was saved due to the bravery and quick actions of Andrea Dodge, Deborah Dodge, David Dodge, Patrick Baxter, Kimberly Smith, Brent Adkins and Leo Pakkala. For their selfless and courageous acts, in order to save the life of another, Mayor Amy Walen and Fire Chief Kevin Nalder, on behalf of the City of Kirkland, will be honored to present these seven individuals with the City of Kirkland Citizen Hero Award.

The trapped occupant will be in attendance, with her daughter, to witness these seven City of Kirkland neighbors receiving commendation for saving her life.