

COMMUNITY NEWS

Southbury Receives HEARTSafe Designation From State DPH

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SOUTHBURY — Southbury has become one of 68 towns and cities across the state to have earned a three-year HEARTSafe designation.

The state Department of Public Health started the HEARTSafe Communities Program in the spring of 2006 to foster community environments that improve the survival odds of those suffering sudden cardiac events, such as cardiac arrests or heart attacks.

A HEARTSafe community promotes and supports the American Heart Association's cardiopulmonary resuscitation training in the community; provides public access to defibrillation through strategic placement of automated external defibrillators for use by trained community members; and boasts trained and equipped first responders and early advanced care.

It has been proven that educating the public to recognize cardiac events saves lives by providing prompt emergency response and care, starting with informed and trained bystanders and continuing through first responders to advanced pre-hospital emergency care.

Southbury has demonstrated its commitment to ensuring that its residents and visitors receive the early lifesaving response proven to increase the chances of survival for heart attack victims.

This commitment is further strengthened by its plans to continue providing community CPR training programs and working to expand the availability of AEDs in public locations.

Southbury will receive 10 HEARTSafe Community road signs to signify this designation.



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Southbury has earned a three-year HEARTSafe designation for its efforts to increase the survival odds of those suffering cardiac events through community training and early advanced care. First responders within the community include (front, from left) Melanie Belec, volunteer, Southbury Ambulance Association; Shayna Cieply, SAA recruitment and retention officer; Burt Cieply, SAA vice president; Gerilyn Hoyt, SAA president/chief; George Goodwin, chief of service EMT-D, CPR instructor, Heritage Village Ambulance Association; Bonnie Slater, ERM and CPR certified, HVAA; Sheila Christensen, EMT-D and CPR instructor, HVAA; Loretta Priest, CPR instructor, HVAA; Linda Sparrow, crew member, CPR certified, HVAA; Chris Flint, crew member, CPR certified, HVAA; (back) Dr. Peter Jacoby, medical director, St. Mary's Hospital; and Ron Conti, crew member, CPR certified, HVAA.

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