



Emergency Medical Services *Partners*

May 2014, Issue 48

uconnems.uhc.edu

A Community Cardiac Arrest Save

Mary Ellen Harper is the **Town of Farmington** Director of Fire and Rescue Services. In her position, she has worked tirelessly to build a safer community for the residents of her town.

Readers of this newsletter will note that numerous times over the last several years, people have collapsed in Farmington in cardiac arrest, and have been revived by bystander CPR and early defibrillation either through public access defibrillators or quick EMS response. Several times I have had the privilege of attending ceremonies at the Farmington Town Hall, organized by Mary Ellen, to honor rescuers both lay public and EMS for their life-saving actions. Being present at these functions has always been a favorite part of my job. It is the chance to see fathers and mothers, grandparents — vibrant members of the community — able to thank the men and women who were there to help them in their time of need. These ceremonies remind us of why we do what we do. And for those who have taken CPR classes or even worked in EMS who have not yet had a chance to participate in a cardiac arrest save, the ceremonies show us how we are not just individuals. We are members of a community who provide a protective blanket for our neighbors. We are there ready to act should misfortune befall another.



Ed Lescoe, Mary Ellen and Tom Harper: 1999

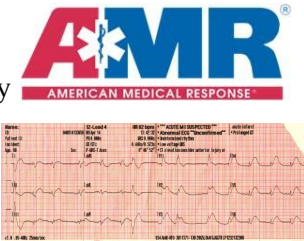
As many of you may know, on April 11 Mary Ellen's father, retired Bloomfield fire chief Edmund Lescoe, collapsed in the buffet line at the Farmington Gardens banquet facility. Mary Ellen's husband, Tom Harper, a former paramedic, who twenty years ago was my paramedic preceptor at L&M Ambulance in Hartford, started CPR on her Dad. The event they were attending was a retirement party for **Farmington Fire** Chief Tim Vibert. They were surrounded by friends and men and women who knew what to do in this situation. **Farmington Police** Chief Paul Melanson assisted with chest compressions. **UCONN Fire Department** paramedic Tony Ruggerio quickly retrieved a defibrillator and finding Mr. Lescoe in ventricular fibrillation, delivered a life-saving shock. Within minutes, Ed Lescoe not only had a pulse again, he was awake, among his family, personal and extended, and telling them all he was still hungry.

He went by ambulance to the **UCONN Health Center**, and after a short stay during which he received an internal defibrillator as well as state of the art care from our cardiology department, he was back home, doing great.

We at the Health Center wish Ed Lescoe the best of health and we thank him, his daughter Mary Ellen, and all of you who have devoted your lives to helping others, for your invaluable contributions in creating a community system that is in place for all of us and our families. Well done! - Peter Canning, EMS Coordinator

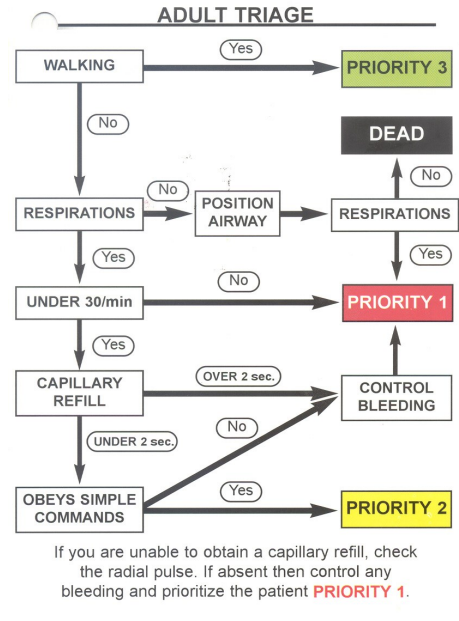
13 Minute Door-to-Balloon!

American Medical Response paramedics David Roper and Marisa Carriveau and EMT Sarah Clark responded in West Hartford for a 60-year-old man in a local store having chest pain. They found the man, pale, cool, clammy, and clutching his chest. They did an immediate 12-lead ECG in the store which revealed massive ST elevation across the anterior leads. Roper called in a STEMI ALERT with medical control to John Dempsey Hospital, where Dr. Richard Kamin activated the cath lab based on Roper's description of the 12-lead. The patient was met at the ambulance doors by the Dempsey cardiology team, who whisked the patient directly up to the cath lab still on the EMS stretcher, bypassing the ED. Using the radial artery approach, the cath team quickly threaded a wire into the patient's heart, and discovered a 100% occlusion of the Left Anterior Descending Artery (LAD). The occlusion was cleared and stented, restoring critical perfusion. The patient is doing great, recovering at home. 13-Minute Door-to-Balloon Time! 51-Minute First Medical Contact (EMS)-to-Balloon Time! Great job team!



SMART Triage

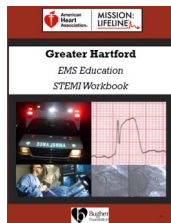
SMART triage is the official triage program in the state of Connecticut. All responders should regularly familiarize themselves with the SMART triage kits in their response vehicle. Be prepared.



Required STEMI CARE Course

By Dec 2014 all Paramedics in the North Central Connecticut region are required to complete a one hour STEMI Care course available on CTrain at:

<https://ct.train.org/DesktopShell.aspx>



The course is titled The North Central Connecticut EMS Regional STEMI Care Training Program. It includes review of a STEMI workbook and a 15-question open book exam. Paramedics are also being required to complete a full 12-lead ECG course by the end of 2015 to maintain medical control.

UCONN Health Center EMS Web Site

For news, educational information, CME schedule and past copies of our newsletter *Partners*, check out our web site at:

uconnems.uhc.edu

2014 Regional Paramedic Skill Sessions

June 11, 2014



Two Sessions

9:00 AM-11:00 AM
12:00 PM-2:00 PM

Hartford Hospital Newington Campus

Email Kathie Koenig at koenig@northcentralctems.org and include the following information: Full Name, Telephone Number, Current Certification Level, Sponsor Hospital. You will receive a confirmation email within 5 business days. This will be your only confirmation for the session. If you are unable to attend, please notify Kathie. We can then make your spot available to someone else.

CONTACT US:

Any questions or suggestions about EMS? Looking for patient follow-up?



Contact EMS Coordinator Peter Canning at canning@uchc.edu or call (860) 679-3485.