

Media Release

For Immediate Release

Contact:

Steve Reinke, Director
Valley Communications Center
27519 108th Avenue Southeast
Kent, WA 98030
(253) 372-1300

9-1-1 Telecommunicator II Provides CPR Instructions to Man After Wife Collapses

(Kent, WA) On Monday, April 4th, 2011, Telecommunicator II Cathleen Robertson was honored for her life saving actions during a 9-1-1 call for help.

On February 1st, 2011, Robertson answered a 9-1-1 call from a man reporting his 46 year old wife was experiencing a medical emergency. After obtaining the address, she entered an incident in the system to dispatch the fire department and continued talking with the man. Robertson quickly determined a life threatening situation existed and told the husband CPR was necessary. When he said he had no training and didn't know how to do CPR, Robertson calmly told him she would help and talked him through the process. During the sequence, the husband reported his wife regained consciousness. Medic One transported the patient to the hospital awake and conscious.

It was later determined the patient had suffered a ruptured brain aneurism and a stroke, a combination that rarely ends positive. The neurosurgeon told the family the immediate application of CPR prevented brain damage and allowed her to survive and fully recover from a nearly always fatal brain injury.

The patient, her husband, and extended family requested to meet with Robertson to personally thank her, the staff at Valley Communications 9-1-1 Center and the King County Emergency Management Services for their professionalism and dedication to duty.

Robertson has over 21 years of service with Valley Communications Center.

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Photo cutline: 9-1-1 CPR survivor Sheila Zahajko (right) and husband Mike (left) thanks Telecommunicator II Robertson (center) with flowers.