

**TO:** Mayor Robinson and City Council

**FROM:** Jeffrey L. McCormick, Chief of Police

**SUBJECT:** Recognition Awards

**DATE:** May 8, 2018

### **BACKGROUND**

One of the things I did after coming to Cannon Falls was the implementation of a recognition program within the Police Department to formalize the process of recognizing both department employees and those that provide assistance to the department. I am proud of the actions of the officers and citizens previously recognized and we are very pleased to again be coming before the City Council to recognize one officer and seventeen citizens for their actions in saving a life.

I have invited Officer Paul Larson and the persons listed below to the City Council meeting to receive this recognition.

Lt. Berg will be overseeing this on my behalf because I will not be at this City Council Meeting.

#### **Officer Paul Larson Lifesaving Award**

#### **Citizen Recognition Award:**

- **Jennifer Chappuis**
- **Janae Blakeslee**
- **Candace Thielen**
- **Chrissy Nelson**
- **Sheila Lawless**
- **Pam Wolf**
- **Katie Zuzek**
- **Phyllis Althoff**
- **Molly Wallerich**
- **Ross Peterson**
- **Corey Nemcek**
- **Lori Jackson**
- **Eileen McNurlin**
- **Sam Samuelson**
- **Beth Giese**
- **Angela Rechtzigel**
- **Cassidy Kohlnhofer**

On April 2, 2018 Peggy Jandris and other staff were in the RTI room at the Cannon Falls Elementary School talking when Peggy slumped over and fell to the ground. At 10:47:30 AM, the first of two 911 calls came in to Goodhue County Dispatch, advising of a teacher that had passed out and was not breathing. At 10:49:22 AM the Cannon Falls Ambulance was paged. Officer Paul Larson heard the page and responded to the school. At 10:50:09 AM Officer Larson was dispatched and arrived at the school at 10:52:01 AM.

The activation of the 911 system and the Code Blue Team was virtually simultaneous. Chrissy Nelson called 911 and then started chest compressions. Sue Samuelson began giving breathes, even before a breathing mask arrived. Cassidy Kohlnhofer cleared the area around Peggy of the tables and chairs so there was room for rescue efforts. The Code Blue Team had been created to respond to medical emergencies within the school and knew to bring the AED as part of their response.

When Officer Larson arrived he found that the school had activated their Code Blue Team and they were working to attach the AED. Officer Larson checked for a pulse and unable to find one, took over chest compressions. Once the AED was connected, it advised to shock and one shock was administered. While all of this was occurring, other school staff was making sure that the entrances had someone at them to direct the ambulance to the correct door, kept the hallway and area free of students because classes were continuing. The Ambulance arrived at 10:55:08 AM and shortly after that Peggy regained a pulse and started breathing on her own. She was able to open her eyes and track movement. She was then transported to the hospital by the Ambulance.

That day Peggy's life was saved by the actions of individuals who were working as a team with a single purpose to save a life...and they did.