



Woodbury Upgrades to BLS 12 Lead

Last month, Woodbury Ambulance Association took an innovative leap forward with the addition ECG technology to their BLS units.

Both of Woodbury’s ambulances are now equipped with Physio Lifepack 15’s. The units are outfitted with all of the features, including; 12 Lead ECG, pulse oximetry, AED function as well as transmission ability. All personnel have been trained on the use of the monitors as well as the state protocols for its indications.

Connecticut OEMS regulations allow for BLS 12 Lead ECG acquisition, but few agencies have made the leap to purchase the technology due to the cost. “We are very fortunate in Woodbury. We purchased the equipment through the donations of our community”, explained Bob Slivinski. Slivinski is a full time Paramedic in Waterbury who lives in Woodbury and volunteers on the ambulance. He helped develop the program for WAA.

“The program has gone phenomenally well so far. We have already had a few abnormal ECG’s that we were able to transmit to the hospital for early notification”, Slivinski explained. Dr. Carlos Holden, Waterbury ED’s Medical Director praised Woodbury for their innovation. “I am all for it”, said Holden. “Woodbury is the first BLS service in our area to do this, I applaud their work to improve patient care in our community.”



Woodbury Ambulance Association EMT Candice Griffin shows off one of two LifePack 15 monitors recently placed in service. Woodbury is the first service in the area to upgrade to ECG acquisition at the BLS level.

Southbury Granted 24/7 ALS PSA

Southbury Ambulance Association took on additional territory and ALS coverage this month. -old contract with Trinity (formerly Campion Ambulance).

Last year, the organization upgraded from the BLS level, to Paramedic level ALS on a part-time basis. “It was a trial period for us”, explained SAA President GERALYN HOYT. Over the past several months, SAA covered calls with on board Paramedics about half of the time. The remaining hours were covered by Medics from Waterbury under a decades



“We proved the concept and made the application for ALS PSA (Primary Service Area) full time”, said Hoyt.

OEMS approved SAA’s application and granted them the PSA for full time ALS coverage for the town. Included in the ALS licensure is the PSA for ALS at Heritage Village. BLS coverage for the Village remains with Heritage Village Ambulance Association.

4-Legged Friend for First Responders



Naugatuck Police Officer Danielle Durette and her partner Indy are available to members of the First Responder and Healthcare community to assist in stress relief and comfort. Indy is a two year old black lab who was trained and donated to NPD to assist responders as well as victims of crime and trauma.

Durette and Indy have attended several CISD sessions as well as visited with health providers during the COVID 19 pandemic. "Many people find Indy comforting and can sometimes ease stress, which he is trained to do", explained Durette. "We are available for our brothers and sisters in the emergency services whenever you need us".

Both Indy and Durette can be reached by calling Naugatuck Police at 203.729.5221.

Failla to Lead Trauma Program

Waterbury Hospital is pleased to announce that Dayna Failla has taken on the role of Trauma Program Coordinator effective in July. Failla is no stranger to the hospital. She had been the Stroke Program coordinator for the past few years. Failla replaces Monika Nelson who left the hospital to manage the trauma program at Hartford. "I am thrilled at the opportunity", said Failla. "I have always been passionate about trauma. Monika's shoes will be hard to fill, but I am up to the challenge".

Heroes Lounge Taking Shape

Effective July 14th, the lounge in the ED, which was historically used solely by EMS staff and has gone through a recent upgrade, will be open to all ED and EMS staff to use. The new **Heroes Lounge** is a temporary joint space while our ED is under new construction. "While the lounge will be shared, we hope that improvements to this temporary space, including complimentary drinks, snacks, and ice cream will help give you some much deserved respite", said Waterbury Hospital COO Trish Gentil.



AMR Paramedic Kurt Steiger enjoys a Dove ice cream bar on a hot summer day while visiting the Heroes Lounge at Waterbury ED.

We welcome you to come in and grab a drink or snack and say hello to your fellow ED colleagues. We are excited to have a new refrigerator as well as a new soda dispensing machine which will be available for your use later this month. Please note that no personal food items are allowed to be stored in the refrigerator and no food or drinks are allowed to be brought into the clinical areas.

Thank you and enjoy!

HV Officers Rescue Fire Victims

On Monday, July 13 at approximately 10:00AM, Heritage Village Public Safety and Southbury Fire Department were dispatched to a report of smoke at a condo unit. Less than a minute after being notified, Public Safety



Manager Seth Poston and Officer Jay Fusco were on scene. They noticed heavy smoke and active fire coming from a unit. Both officers were able to escort two residents to safety. They also learned there was a couple in the adjoining unit that were still in their home. After attempting to get an answer at the door, Poston climbed through a window to find the residents asleep in bed, while their unit was filling with smoke. Both residents were escorted to safety. Shortly after, the Southbury FD arrived on scene. The fire was under control within an hour.