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AED's to be placed in Wayne County schools

Students, staff, and visitors at any school building in Wayne County, Iowa, are now a little more protected from the number-one killer of Americans---sudden cardiac arrest (SCA).

After Butch Gibbs of Humeston suffered SCA in his home on April 2, 2004, and was saved by his wife, Susie's, immediate start of CPR and the quick arrival of the Humeston First Responders with their AED, the couple began promoting the use of CPR and AEDs.

"There has to be a reason I survived," said Butch Gibbs, "and I believe that reason is to spread awareness of sudden cardiac arrest and the importance of knowing how to do CPR and

how to use an AED so that others may have the same chance I did."

Butch & Susie are no strangers to an AED. They are Co-Presidents of the group that helped save Butch's life---the Humeston First Responders. In addition, Susie is a Registered Nurse who works full-time in the Emergency Room of the Lucas County Health Center in Chariton, both are American Heart Association-certified CPR Instructors, and eight months earlier, both helped the Humeston First Responders save the life of another Humeston man. In 2005, the Gibbs's helped the Mormon Trail Community School, their local district, in obtaining grants to place three

AEDs in the school.

Following the deaths of a 13-year-old student and a 30-year-old teacher at separate schools in Iowa in January, 2006, the couple decided AEDs should be in every school in their county.

After receiving favorable reaction from administrators in the Lineville-Clio, Seymour, and Wayne Community school districts, they accepted donations from businesses and individuals, sold pizzas from an Iowa-based convenience store chain, demonstrated the AED at different town celebrations in the county, and obtained several grants from area and state organizations.

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AED donated to Urbandale school

The Sudden Cardiac Arrest Association successfully procured a dozen defibrillators for our affiliates through a generous donation from Defibtech.

We wrote to the SCAA and requested a defibrillator so that we could donate it in turn to Urbandale Middle School in honor of Ethan Middleton.

As you may recall, Ethan arrested while playing basketball at UMS on Dec. 5, 2006. Ethan was in the 7th grade and an avid sportsman. Today, Ethan is looking forward to entering High School, thanks to CPR and the use of an AED. Last night Mary and Ethan presented the defibril-

lator along with a dedication plaque to the Urbandale School Board.



After the presentation the president of the board informed us that the Urbandale School District has decided to purchase AEDs for all of their schools.

WHO-TV was present, as was the Des Moines Register. The WHO-TV coverage is on their website. There are a series of interviews as WHO-TV has partnered with Mercy Medical Center, Iowa Heart and us to kick off a yearlong campaign to raise the awareness of Sudden Cardiac Arrest. Our own Mary Tappe and Carol Woolheater are featured in their own interviews.

This is a proud moment for our group and just a small sample of what we will achieve in the future.

AED members presented with Awards

On June 6, 2008 three members of AED Access for All were presented with the awards from the American Heart Association.

Butch Gibbs, Susie Gibbs and Mary Tappe were honored at a lunch. They were presented with the 2008 Distinguished Volunteer Service Award. Bethany Synder, Grassroots Advocacy Director

American Heart Association, and Randy Yontz, Public Advocacy Director American Heart Association, presented the awards.

Also presented with the award was Kathy Kunath. Kathy is the chairperson of the State Advocacy Committee for which Butch, Susie, and Mary are volunteers.



give the Award of Excellence to each of them. "

Congratulations to all of the recipients. We are lucky to have such dedicated people in our group.



In a communication with the AHA's Randy Yontz said, "We greatly appreciate all that they do for the American Heart Association in attending events, doing CPR/AED demonstrations, sending action alerts and writing letters to the editor, to name a few, in support of the AHA priorities and goals. It was an honor to

Legislative beat

By Butch Gibbs



Governor Culver signs the bill

To get information on who your legislators are and how to contact them visit: <http://www.legis.state.ia.us/FindLeg/>

The recently-completed session of the Iowa Legislature passed two bills that should help advocates of CPR training and AED use.

A year ago, the Iowa Senate passed a bill exempting liability for laypersons using an AED but then the bill went no further.

Senate File 505 came back this year and passed the House and was sent back to the Senate with an amendment. The bill was then passed and sent to the Governor who signed it April 11.

SF505 names a list of persons and entities that are not liable for civil damages when acting in good-faith efforts in assisting a sudden cardiac arrest victim. Those not liable include persons or entities who render emergency care while using an AED; persons or entities who acquire

AEDs for public access; the owners or managers of premises where AEDs are located; persons who retrieve an AED for use in an emergency; persons who use, attempt to use, or fail to use an AED; and persons who provide instruction in use of the AED.

Senate File 2279---also known as the *Healthy Kids Act*--- includes the requirement that a student must go through CPR training before graduating from high school. During the House Education Subcommittee meeting on the bill, it was asked if a student could be barred from graduating if they did not *successfully* complete the training. The bill was then amended by the House Education Committee to require that the student must *complete* a CPR course---not necessarily successfully. The amendment also allows a student who completes the

course outside school to meet the requirement. The complete bill includes nutritional content standards for foods served in schools, requirements that licensed dieticians be retained by the school districts, a requirement that all students have at least 30 minutes of physical activity each school day, as well as the CPR requirement.

The final version of the bill passed both the House and Senate on the final day of the legislative session after it was amended into an appropriations bill. Gov. Chet Culver signed it into law on May 13 .

Iowa AED Access For All would like to thank all legislators in both chambers for supporting these bills and for the efforts of the American Heart Association in getting these issues passed.

AED's to be placed in Wayne County schools

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"A group of students at Seymour and Wayne Community called SHINE, who make grants possible for school-related projects in the two districts, awarded us one of the grants," said Susie Gibbs. "It was great to see the kids recognize the importance of an AED."

The nearly \$10,000.00 raised also made it possible for staff at each school to be trained in CPR and how to use an AED. Butch & Susie trained the staff at Lineville-Clio in May and the staffs at Seymour and Wayne the week before classes began in August. Mormon Trail, who has had

their AEDs two years, was re-certified the same week."

"The AEDs will not guarantee saving the life of a sudden cardiac arrest victim," commented Butch Gibbs, "but at least they will have a chance."

Following the school project, Butch & Susie decided their next effort would be to get AEDs for all the patrol cars of the Wayne County Sheriff's Office.

Following Butch's sudden cardiac arrest four years ago, Wayne County Emergency Manager Bill Yeager obtained money for three AEDs to put in three of the Sheriff's six cars and in the courthouse.

"The Rochester, Minnesota Police

have shown how important it is for patrol cars to carry AEDs," said Butch Gibbs. "A lot of the time, a deputy on routine patrol is nearer to an ambulance call than the ambulance."

A matching grant through the Iowa Department of Public Health EMS Bureau was applied for in April and on May 6, it was learned that a grant was awarded for four AEDs---three to go in patrol cars and one to be placed in the Sheriff's Office/County Jail where Butch is employed as a Dispatcher and Jailer.

Hopefully, the devices will be in place by the end of the summer.

The 2008 Survivors summit is coming soon!
October 11th, 2008
More information will be posted at www.aedaccessforall.org
as details become available.

Walker's Pulse Heart Walk

The Heart Walk was held in the city of Des Moines. There was a 1 mile and 3 mile walk.

To me it seemed there were 5,000 people there. It was a great help for people who have had Sudden cardiac arrest.

I jogged the mile and I was tired.

It was a great experience and a lot of fun. It was a good feeling to know that I was helping people just by having fun.

They held a lot of booths and a most had free stuff. It was kinda warm. My brother Cyote was there. He is a good runner.



Cyote & I ran the 1 mile. We were the 2nd & 3rd. When the walk was over there were free popsicles.

Meet the board—Continued

Carol Woolheater—Director



How long have you been a member of AED Access for All?
Advocate and member since 2006

What do you do when you are not helping education people on AED, CPR and SCA?
Work in the medical field trying to get people healthy. Knit hats for preemie babies, a special keepsake for the family. Travel.

Why is AED awareness a passion of yours?
SCA is unknown and more need to survive the first time.

Describe a memorable moment from one of our events.
People realizing that CPR does save lives.

If you could have a super power what would it be?
Invisibility. I like to be behind the scenes.

Mary Tappe—Chairman



How long have you been a member of AED Access for All?
Advocate and member Since the very beginning, the idea, the thought. This started in MN at the first SCA Summit that I attended with Butch and Susie.

What do you when you are not helping education people on AED, CPR and SCA?
Working, worshipping, eating (a little too much eating!)

Why is AED awareness a passion of yours?
It's not a secret, I wouldn't be here but for an AED! I don't know why I was one of the lucky 5% - but since I was saved, it is imperative that others have the opportunity to be saved as well. And the research that I did showed me that the price point is under \$2000, AND there is NO reason for us not to have AEDs everywhere we work, play and prayer!

Describe a memorable moment from one of our events.
I have to say, it was last summer at the State Fair. I saw Walker go off and start talking to a male adult. My "mom" radar was set off because I didn't know this guy, so I kept my eye on him. After a few minutes the "guy" came over to me, he turned out to be a reporter for the Des Moines Register. He had asked Walker why he learned CPR and Walker said something to the effect that it was because his friend Mary had been saved by CPR and he wanted to be sure to be able to help if someone needed it. It literally brought tears to my eyes!

If you could have a super power what would it be?
A super power? Hmmm... Maybe to be able to place common sense and integrity in people of power - could that be a super power? HAHA! How cool would that be?

Susie Gibbs—Director

How long have you been a member of AED Access for All?

I have been a member since the group started.

What do you when you are not helping education people on AED, CPR and SCA?

I work full time in the Emergency Room at the Lucas Co. Health Center and am Co-President of the Humeston First Responders but what takes most of my time is taking care of Butch.

Why is AED awareness a passion of yours?

Without an AED available Butch would not be alive today. I believed he lived for a reason and I think this is it.

Describe a memorable moment from one of our events.

When Senator Danielson presented us with the AED Resolution and when we found out that the CPR for students passed in the Healthy Kids Act.

If you could have a super power what would it be?

I would wipe out SCA.



John Laktash—Vice Chairman

How long have you been a member of AED Access for All?

I have been a member of AED access for all since it's inception, I am the Vice Chairman

What do you when you are not helping education people on AED, CPR and SCA?

When I'm not educating people on the benefits and use of CPR/AED use I work for Action Print in West Des Moines for the last 18 years, I also own a Part time catering Business called the The Meat Wagon, I do smoked meats and everything from Scratch.

Describe a memorable moment from one of our events.

My most memorable moment has to be our First Annual Summit held here in Des Moines, The new people that I had a pleasure to meet and all of my old friends who took care of me when I was in the hospital at Mercy, it was most rewarding and I was proud of our planning and attendance that afternoon, it proved to me that we as a group not only are doing something positive for the community but that we have made an impression on our health care providers that we are alive and giving back to benefit our fortune of being on this earth.

If you could have a super power what would it be?

Super Power: I believe I already have one, that is this group, we are powerful enough to surge through no's, I don't knows and never's to become a well respected group who is sending a message across this state and beyond that AED's and CPR are two of the most important tools anyone could ever have knowledge of to be able to save people like us.



Where to find us...

We meet on the last Tuesday of every month at the Iowa Heart Hospital at Mercy. Please check out our website for more details.

www.aedaccessforall.org



AED ACCESS FOR ALL

AED Access for All

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We will promote the placement, education and use of AED's in order to increase the survival rate of SCA in Iowa.

Putting AED's in our schools

AED Access For All has set our goal for 2008 to ensure AEDs are placed in all of Iowa's schools. We are working with the American Heart Association and other groups to get legislation passed to require all schools to have AEDs. Regardless of the legislation, we will also be working directly with schools to help them raise the funds to purchase AEDs and train their staffs. We are collecting data on which schools need AEDs, which schools already have AEDs, and ensuring that the AEDs are placed in an accessible place for anyone to use.

Please visit our website to learn more and make a donation:

www.aedaccessforall.org