

City of Lewiston Press Release

Members of the Media: Below please find a press release noting that the **Lewiston Firefighters Association has donated an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) to the Lewiston Public Library**. Any media coverage that you could render to help “**get the word out**” would be greatly appreciated. Thanks, Dottie

PRESS RELEASE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LEWISTON: **The Lewiston Firefighters Association (LFA) is proud to announce that they have donated an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) to the Lewiston Public Library, 200 Lisbon Street.** The use of an AED can be very helpful in increasing a person’s survivability from a sudden heart-related condition through quick emergency medical assistance. Library staff has received training, and the AED is located on the first floor of the Library.

Library Director Rick Speer is very appreciative of the donation, *“As the Library is a busy community building, we are fortunate to have the presence of such a valuable piece of medical equipment that will be a tremendous aid in a heart-related emergency.”*

LFA President Rick Cailler notes, *“Critically ill and injured patients benefit most from the timely delivery of appropriate medical care. If lives are to be saved or impairment prevented, individuals with serious injuries or acute cardiac problems must receive appropriate medical treatment as quickly as possible. The ‘Golden Hour’ describes the precious time period in which to locate and treat a critically injured trauma patient to minimize death and permanent disability. The American Heart Association, in its response time guidelines for victims of cardiac arrest, notes that the highest hospital discharge rates have been achieved in patients in whom CPR was initiated within four minutes of arrest and advanced cardiac life support administered within eight minutes.”*

Funds to provide the AED came from the LFA’s Community Benefit Fund which was developed in the mid-1990s as an avenue for the Association to give back to the community. Over the years, it has sponsored nearly \$50,000 of financial aid to area communities. Efforts have been wide ranging from sponsorships of sports teams, project graduations, and annual Christmas giving programs in cooperation with Hope Haven Gospel Mission and the Salvation Army. LFA has also partnered with the Lewiston Youth Advisory Council, Androscoggin Hospice, and other entities. ###