



Media Advisory

August 22, 2019

City Council to Honor Lifesaving Heroes

Plano City Council members will honor several City employees of the Sam Johnson Recreation Center who helped save a patron's life on July 25th.

Dr. Jiahuan Ding and his wife, Dr. Bingzhi Yang, were dancing at the center when he suffered a cardiac event. He collapsed on the floor bringing his wife to the floor on top of him. Recreation Coordinator Pam Perry was the first to respond. She assessed the situation, called for other staff to call 911 and bring the AED, and then promptly started CPR. Recreation Supervisor Raney Krev brought the AED and with the help of Karen Williams, a volunteer who was working in the kitchen, applied the pads. The AED machine instructed staff to administer a shock, which they did, and then continued with CPR. While this was all happening, Cindy Robinson, a recreation aide, calmly and efficiently cleared the room and pulled the partitions for privacy. Susan Barclay, a nurse from the Wellness Center, Pam with chest compressions. When EMS arrived, Dr. Ding was breathing again and awake. The paramedics then transported him to the hospital.

In October, 2013, Dr. Ding suffered a severe stroke that left him unable to walk or talk. He became determined to regain as much as his mobility as possible. A surprising part of his therapy began in 2014, when he and his wife started attending the weekly ballroom dances at the Senior Recreation Center. An article in Local Profile (October 11, 2018) said this about Drs. Ding and Yang: "Anyone watching this amazing couple glide across the floor as one unit, performing everything from rhythmic rumbas to fancy foxtrots to breathtaking waltzes, is instantly hypnotized by their grace and precision. This gifted couple has also used their newfound talent to regularly perform at memory and retirement centers, much to the delight of senior audiences."

Drs. Ding and Yang are now retired. They were instrumental in creating the Institute of Metabolic Disease at Baylor University Medical Center in 1995.

The Council will recognize the staff for their calm and coordinated text book perfect response. The meeting will begin at 7:00 P.M. in the Florence Shapiro Council Chambers at the Plano Municipal Center located at 1520 Avenue K.

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Media Contacts

Steve Stoler

Director

Media Relations

Ph. (972) 941-7321

Mo. (972) 345-1393

Stevest@plano.gov

About Plano

Plano, Texas, is the largest city in Collin County with a population of 284,070 as of January 2019. Incorporated in 1873, the city is located 20 miles north of Dallas. Niche and AreaVibes recently named Plano as one of the Best Cities to Live in America. Forbes designated Plano one of America's safest cities. The City offers a high quality of life that includes nationally recognized schools, award-winning parks, and sustainability initiatives and a wide variety of multi-cultural neighborhoods appealing to families, young singles and retirees. Plano is home to the headquarters or regional operations of major corporations such as Toyota, Liberty Mutual, JPMorgan Chase Boeing Global Services, Fannie Mae, FedEx Office, JC Penney, Rent-A-Center, Cinemark Holdings, Denbury Resources and Alliance Data Systems. Our dynamic community features excellent restaurants, vibrant shopping and entertainment venues, a lively historic downtown district and active local arts scene. Easy access to DART light rail and major highways makes Plano a convenient place to live, work and visit. To learn more about Plano, go to our website at plano.gov.