

St. Lucie County Fire District

News Release



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Citizens to be presented with Citizen Hero Award by the St. Lucie County Fire District

***Citizens carry elderly couple to safety after Hurricane Matthew;
Good Samaritan helps motorcyclist after accident***

St. Lucie County, FL – The St. Lucie County Fire Board will present Citizen Hero Awards to Cheryl Brittingham, James Hazen and John Bartley for saving the lives of other citizens. The presentation will be on Wednesday, October 19 at 3:00 pm, at the beginning for the Fire Board Meeting, held at the St. Lucie County Fire District Administration offices, 5160 NW Milner Drive, Port St. Lucie FL.

On the morning of October 7, after Hurricane Matthew, Cheryl Brittingham was walking in her neighborhood when she heard a neighbor's generator. She went to check on them, an elderly couple. She soon discovered their home was filled with exhaust fumes and the couple was

unresponsive. She and Jim Hazen, another neighbor, carried the elderly couple out of the home and called 911. Both survived because of the quick actions of Brittingham and Hazen.

John Bartley drove up on a motorcycle accident in the early evening hours of September 18. He applied a tourniquet to the leg of the motorcyclist, a 29-year-old male. Responding paramedics believe the man would have bled to death had it not been for Bartley's quick action.

Bartley will also be recognized by the Florida Highway Patrol during the ceremony.

“It is encouraging to know that there are residents in St. Lucie County that look out for one another, and in a time of need are there and ready to act,” said Fire Chief Buddy Emerson. “It is certainly an honor to present this award to these individuals.”

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