



ULSTER COUNTY NEWS

ULSTER COUNTY NEWS INFORMATION
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Automatic External Defibrillators In County Office Building

When you enter the Ulster County Office Building at 244 Fair Street, you should notice a new addition hanging on the wall.

It is a Cardiac Science Automatic External Defibrillator in an alarmed box. The County Office Building has had a defibrillator for several years, but it was located in the Security Office on the first floor.

Now due to the efforts of Legislator Robert Parete and Officer George Hill from the Ulster County Sheriff's Office, there are now four (4) defibrillators in alarmed boxes in the County Office Building – one each on the 1st, 4th, 5th and 6th floors. Sheriff Paul VanBlarcum has fully endorsed the program, the Ulster County Criminal Justice Committee has taken responsibility for having updated defibrillators in all County Office Buildings. Officer George Hill and Sergeant Ed Torres are qualified instructors and are setting up CPR courses at various office buildings for the County employees.

At the present time there are 65 defibrillators in County Buildings, in Sheriff's patrol cars and the County Fire Coordinator vehicles. In 2004 the County received grants to purchase defibrillators and train County personnel. There was a further grant in 2005 for training. Effective January 1, 2007 all defibrillators needed to be upgraded to the new protocol – shock, two minutes of CPR, shock, two minutes of CPR, shock and continue CPR. Also, CPR has been changed to the new standard of 30 compressions (hard, fast and deep) two breaths, 30 compressions, etc. The new standards for CPR were mandated by New York State effective January 1, 2007.

“No one should ever have to die because someone else never learned CPR” is a the slogan of Simulaids Manufacturing – an Ulster County business. It is the slogan that the Ulster County Save a Life Saturday program uses and an excellent rule of thumb. Learning CPR and how to use a defibrillator saves lives – the County is committed to having defibrillators available for public access in an emergency in all of its buildings – they are usually with security at the security desk, but in many buildings they are hanging on the wall in a box.

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Contact the American Heart Association, the American Red Cross, the American Safety and Health Institute or the National Safety Council to sign up for a CPR course. Learn what to do in an emergency and how to recognize the signs and symptoms of a heart attack and what to do for someone in cardiac arrest. You will help someone you know and may save their life.

Ulster County is stepping up their public access defibrillation with newly upgraded defibrillators, new locations and courses in CPR for the employees. Officer George Hill, Sergeant Ed Torres, Legislator Robert Parete, Acting Commissioner of Buildings and Grounds Vic Work and Sheriff Paul Van Blarcum, *with the full support of the Ulster County Legislature and the County Administrators Office*, have been instrumental in this upgraded program. All the existing defibrillators had to be upgraded or replaced and all employees will be offered the opportunity to take the new CPR course.

It is time for the public to act and learn CPR for their own family and friends.

For course information, please contact a training center or:

American Heart Association Poughkeepsie (845) 485-4703

American Red Cross Kingston (845) 338-7200

American Safety and Health Institute New Paltz (845) 255-1222