

## **Maggie Seibert-Courage**

On June 1, 2010, Maggie Seibert, 20, demonstrated a very courageous act. Seibert, a Camp Summit Counselor and a student at Metropolitan Community College-Maple Woods, was on a geological trip for her college class visiting Old Faithful. After she watched the geyser, the weather turned stormy. Seibert ran to get out of the rain and heard thunder followed by screaming.

Another visitor to the park, Chuck Idell, 57, from Florida, had been struck by lightning. The lightning bolt struck Idell in the foot, knocking him to the ground, unconscious. Well's brother-in-law, who had also been struck by lightning and could hardly move, began to give him compressions with one hand. Seibert dropped everything and her training as an LSPR camp counselor kicked in. She performed three sets of 17 heart compressions with two breaths in between while a vacationing off-duty police officer from California helped Seibert count the compressions.

When Seibert saw Idell's eyes open, and he regained consciousness, she started crying. She remained with Chuck talking to him and keeping him awake until help came.

The Sunday after the lightning strike, Idell and his family contacted Seibert to say thank you and sent flowers to his "angel." Idell, recovering in Leesburg, had a concussion, a ruptured ear drum and he's a bit unsteady on his feet. But he's alive and is expected to make a full recovery.

Seibert was presented with the American Heart Association Heartsaver Hero Award and honored by the Lee's Summit Parks and Recreation Board and Metropolitan Community College Board of Trustees. Because of Seibert's courageous act Lee's Summit Parks and Recreation is proud to nominate Maggie Seibert for the character trait award for Courage.