

IAM Members Rescue Fire Victim

Local 2462 members Gene Reed and Kim Kandel were honored by the City of Scranton, PA, for their “unselfish act of courage” when their quick thinking saved a woman from her burning home.

Reed and Kandel were driving a city lift truck early July 16 when they saw a house on fire and a woman on the roof trying to escape the flames. Reed instantly drove the truck onto the front yard and hopped into the bucket.

Kandel took the controls and lifted Reed to the roof where he pulled Kathleen Farley to safety. Still trapped inside, however, was Farley’s 11-year old son, David Bradshaw. Within seconds, firefighters arrived and rushed David out of the



City of Scranton Dept. of Public Works employees Kim Kandel and Gene Reed of Local 2462 stand by the lift truck they used to save a fire victim.

burning house.

Reed and Kandel received a prolonged ovation at the special ceremony honoring them and the firefighters. While appreciative of the recognition, both were concerned for young David, who is still recovering from

second and third degree burns. “Our thoughts and prayers are with Ms. Farley and her little boy,” said Kandel.

“I believe we were meant to be there,” reasoned Reed. “Kim and I were the right people at the right place at the right time.”

Custom Bike Built for Charity

An IAM-made, custom-painted, Pro-Street, one-of-a-kind motorcycle has been rolling through towns across America raising funds for the IAM-sponsored charity Guide Dogs of America (GDA). The bike, which has been seen by thousands of IAM members and the general public alike at bike shows and other events, will be raffled off at

GDA’s annual banquet on November 17, 2007.

Local 700 member Ron Wendt and his brother Chuck Wendt of Local 1746, both of Rowe Machine in Wallingford, CT, performed most of the work building the bike. For information about the custom bike and the raffle to benefit GDA, go to www.iamawbikebuild.com.



GDA Rep Steve Cohan, left, gets help from District 75 DBR Steve Pridgen and Local 449 member Tim Tolle as they spiff up the IAM-made motorcycle that is on tour to raise money for the IAM-sponsored charity Guide Dogs of America.

Local 2202 Member Gives Gift of Life to Fellow Worker

For four years, Local 2202 member Hetty Gaeb of Seattle, WA, was on the kidney transplant waiting list. On dialysis three days a week, Hetty still came to work at Alaska Airlines reservations cheerful and ready to go, but her health was seriously declining.

Fellow agent Carolyn Jenkins was deeply moved by Gaeb's struggle and started researching organ donation. After talking it over with her family, Jenkins decided to

donate one of her kidneys to Gaeb.

"Words can't express what I feel for Carolyn," said Gaeb after the successful transplant surgery. "Besides giving me this fabulous second chance at life, she's also become a life-long friend."

Gaeb and Jenkins hope their story will encourage others to donate. "You don't have to be a complete match to donate, like it used to be, and it feels so good to give," said Jenkins.



Alaska Airlines reservations agent Carolyn Jenkins, left, donated one of her kidneys to fellow agent Hetty Gaeb, right.

More than 97,000 people in the U.S. are waiting for an organ transplant. To learn more about organ transplantation and donation, go to United Network for Organ Sharing at www.unos.org.

Wimpy's Legacy Lives on in Housing for Seniors

Visionary leader and former IAM International President William W. "Wimpy" Winpisinger (1924-1997) fought hard for working men and women.

His legacy continues with a new housing facility in Cleveland, OH. The Winpisinger Apartments is a joint effort by the IAM, the City of Cleveland, state and federal agencies and Ohio's Elderly Housing Development and Operations Corporation that will provide 42 senior housing units, making a secure retirement possible after a lifetime of work.

"There are now two extraordinary facilities that bear Wimpy's name," IAM President Tom Buffenbarger

told the crowd at the opening ceremony. "The IAM Education and Technology Center in Maryland and now these apartments for seniors here in Cleveland. Both are fitting tributes for

a man whose life was dedicated to improving education and making the lives of working men and women better both on the job and after they retire."



Photo by Geoff Butler

With the IAM's help, a Cleveland-area building was transformed into affordable housing for seniors and named after the IAM's legendary president, William W. Winpisinger.