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Motorcoach Business Owner Received Mayor's 'Life Saving Award'

On July 24, Autumn Dipert Brown was dining with her family at the Trail Dust Restaurant when a nearby patron collapsed. Ms. Dipert Brown, who had received her CPR training from the American Red Cross, initiated CPR (including mouth to mouth ventilations). Arlington Fire Department and AMR medics arrived and successfully revived the patient utilizing an AED (automatic external defibrillator). He was transported by ambulance to a local hospital where he received treatment and survived.



The award was presented to Ms. Dipert Brown on September 14th by Arlington Mayor Robert Cluck at a ceremony in The Ballpark at Arlington prior to the Rangers game against Cleveland.

Autumn owns Dan Dipert Coaches and Tours, an Arlington based company, with her brother and father. Dan Dipert Coaches and Tours will be celebrating its 40th anniversary next year. Autumn was raised in Arlington, Texas and has a MBA in accounting and finance from Rice University.

CPR certification is important to Autumn and Dan Dipert Coaches and Tours. So much so that for the past 6 years the company has encouraged its employees to learn CPR by offering the American Red Cross CPR Certification and Basic First Aid Course to all employees and conducting the courses in their offices free of charge. Virtually all of the company's drivers and tour directors have completed the training. "We believe that providing the training to our employees is our responsibility to our passengers, our community, our friends and family. I can attest that you just never know when CPR can save someone's life. I'm very grateful to the Red Cross for making the training so affordable to all Americans and I feel honored that I was at the right place at the right time with the right knowledge and courage to assist in saving one man's life." Autumn said.

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Autumn and her company are known for a proactive approach to safety. In 2006, she was awarded the 'Safety Leader of the Year' award from the United Motorcoach Association, the industry's largest association, for her leadership in creating the first nationally available driver training program to the industry. Matt Daecher of Daecher Consulting, an industry safety expert, said "the success and expectations of a commitment to safety for any company begins with its leadership and their actions. Time and time again, Autumn Dipert Brown and Dan Dipert Tours have demonstrated safety leadership both in the bus industry and to their employees. It comes as no surprise to me that Autumn was prepared to jump into action and save a life – after all, this is typical behavior her company would encourage and expect from their drivers and staff."

"Autumn's selfless act of heroism comes as no surprise" said Victor Parra, President of the United Motorcoach Association. "As a member of the Board of Directors of the United Motorcoach Association, she always advocates for what's right and not what's convenient or politically expedient. She will speak out and address the tough issues regardless of what the majority thinks. She is truly an industry leader." Autumn has served on the Board of Directors of UMA since 2009 and has been the Human Resources instructor for Bus and Motorcoach Academy, an online training resource available through the College of Southern Maryland, since 2007.

"We believe that the best safety equipment available on a bus is the driver, so we spend a great deal of resources on recruiting and training all our drivers. As a result, we have become one of the safest motorcoach companies in America today," Autumn continued.

Autumn also serves on the Board of Directors of the Motorcoach Marketing Council, the Arlington Chamber of Commerce and has served on the Tarrant County Workforce Development Board and the Tarrant County College Hospitality & Culinary Arts Program Advisory Committee.

For more information regarding Autumn Dipert Brown, please contact Sarah Harris at 817.462.0075.

A photograph of Autumn Dipert Brown is available online at the following URL:
<http://dl.dropbox.com/u/10885958/%2B1452ad.jpg>.

For more information about Dan Dipert Companies, please visit:
www.dandipert.com.
