

Algonquin Middle Schoolers save the life of Clinton Township man

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Legend Washington, left, Anthony Allen and Daniel Bomar, seventh-graders at Chippewa Valley Schools Algonquin Middle School pose for a group photo, following their action on Tuesday that saved a Clinton Township man's life. GINA JOSEPH – THE MACOMB DAILY

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Daniel Bomar, Legend Washington and Anthony Allen were on their way to the cafeteria at Algonquin Middle School Friday when they were stopped by several students congratulating them once again on being heroes.

It's been like this all week.

High-fives, hugs, public and parental praise and even a certificate from the National Association of School Resource Officers have been presented to the boys in recognition of their efforts in saving a Clinton Township man's life.

"We were riding our bikes when we saw him," Washington said, recalling how things happened Tuesday afternoon.

The man was not visible to anyone driving down the street, being he was lying face down behind his car in the driveway. So, it's just by chance that the boys spotted him on their way to a nearby park.

They tried to wake the unconscious man by calling out to him, “sir, sir,” but he was unresponsive. Once they turned him on his back, they saw that he had hit his head and was bleeding. He also appeared to have a broken nose. Washington called 911 immediately and Allen ran to the man’s home to alert his family of the situation. The man’s wife was in the house and when she came outside, it was her screams that brought additional help from a nearby neighbor.

“That’s when the police came,” Washington said. “They were there like in a minute. I called at 3:13 p.m. They came so fast.”

The first officer on the scene observed that the man did not have a pulse and was able to administer CPR until the ambulance arrived. The subject was then transported to McLaren Macomb hospital for further treatment of what was suspected to be a cardiac emergency.

“It’s amazing that they recognized the situation and were able to get assistance for this individual in a timely manner,” said Clinton Township Police Sgt. Joshua Lundin, who was among the first officers to arrived on the scene.

“What impressed me most was the way these kids went out of their way for a stranger and assisted at the scene,” Lundin said. “That man has a pulse right now because of their proactive activity.”

John Cooke concurred.

“They went above and beyond what was expected. We’re so proud of them,” said Cooke, who is a Clinton Township police detective and school resource officer. “It’s not only good representation for the school but for the community as a whole.”

It all seems pretty surreal to the boys.

“My grandmother was shocked,” Allen said, but in a good way. “She was happy we did it.”



Sapphire Stokes, center, gives Daniel Bomar a fist pump in recognition of the hero status bestowed upon him and Anthony Allen, second left, and Legend Washington. GINA JOSEPH – THE MACOMB DAILY

Looking back now Bomar thought about how lucky it was that they decided to play basketball in the park at that time.

“What if we weren’t riding our bikes that day? There were some other people on the sidewalk but they turned around and went the other way,” said Bomar, whose parents Isaiah Bomar and Carolin Mann-Bomar were among the guests invited to a school assembly honoring the three boys.

Also cheering their courageous efforts were Allen’s parents, Wendy and Anthony Allen Sr., Legend’s parents, Jake Jermaine and Pamela Parker, and school principal Joe Connolly.

“I’m happy they did the right thing in a timely manner. It sounds like they didn’t hesitate to help,” Connolly said. “So often in the news and in the community we hear about the bad things that teens do and rarely about the good things. It’s nice that they’re getting the recognition they deserve.”

Since the incident happened the boys have stopped by the house to check on the man’s wife, and while his name has not been released, Legend knows he was the same man who came to his aid when his bicycle broke.

“The chain popped off and he helped me fix it,” Legend said, with a big smile.