

## Teacher, deputy pull woman from burning house

### Will Cleveland

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“We were just in the right place at the right time.” That was the statement delivered by two unassuming and humble community members Thursday.

Monroe County Sheriff’s Deputy Jayme Woodin and Spencerport teacher Jody Wyant both happened to be in the vicinity of a burning home on Webster Road in Parma at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Wyant, who was headed home with his wife and three young daughters, flagged down Woodin and the two of them joined forces to pull an unconscious woman in her 80s out of the home.

The woman is expected to survive because of the heroic actions of Woodin and Wyant, according to Monroe County Sheriff’s Capt. Doug Comanzo. The woman is in stable condition at Strong Memorial Hospital. Her name is not being released.

“Adrenaline gets you at that point,” Woodin said. “She felt like a feather to me. ... I wasn’t thinking before I ran in. I just ran in. That’s the job.”

Woodin and Wyant told the story of their actions Thursday at the Monroe County Sheriff’s Office substation in Spencerport.

Woodin, who has been a road deputy for 2 1/2 years, was patrolling in the area and was called to the scene after the home’s resident called in a structure fire.

“It was super covered, black smoke, couldn’t see anything,” Woodin said. “I got my flashlight out and shined it inside. You could see the victim lying on the staircase that led up into the house. We both went in and got her untangled from the staircase.”

Woodin grabbed the woman’s arms and Wyant took her legs. They got her outside and waited for firefighters and ambulance crews to arrive.

The woman, who lives with her two daughters, was the only person at home at the time of the fire. The cause is still under investigation, deputies said. Woodin said it appears to have started on the first floor of the home.

The Wyants were headed home after they picked up their two oldest daughters at Terry Taylor Elementary School in Spencerport. They were driving past, when Wyant saw smoke coming from the home.

“It was just billowing smoke,” he said. They turned around and parked in the driveway. Wyant said he approached the house initially and, “I heard what sounded like something coming from the garage.”

He opened the garage door, ran back to his wife in the vehicle, and told her to call 911. Woodin arrived within 40 seconds, Wyant said.

“I just thought it was the right thing to do,” Wyant said. “I was yelling and I walked in, and there she was.”

Firefighters from the Spencerport Fire District arrived and were able to put out the fire.

Wyant said he and his wife were carpooling Wednesday, because he had to coach a sectional soccer game later that night. Wyant, who is an assistant coach for the Spencerport girls soccer team, helped lead the Rangers to a 2-1 win over Wayne. Spencerport is eyeing its third straight sectional title.

“It just worked out that we were together that day, and it worked out well, I guess,” said Wyant, who teaches 10th and 11th grade social studies and American history.

Neither Woodin or Wyant has spoken to the woman or her family. They both said they didn’t fully grasp the gravity of their actions until later Wednesday.

“It felt good, it felt really good to potentially save someone’s life,” Wyant said. “... It was just fortuitous, I guess, that we were headed home together that day.”

He hopes this sets a good examples for his daughters, “If you see something that seems out of the norm, just investigate a little and don’t be afraid to get involved,” Wyant said.

Woodin’s husband, Brian, is also a deputy in the department. Like Wyant, she also has a young family.

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**Jody Wyant, second from right, with his wife, daughters and Deputy Jayme Woodin, right. Wyant and Woodin rescued a woman from a burning house on Wednesday.**

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