

BBN

Brevard Business News

Vol. 31 No. 33 August 19, 2013 \$1.00 A Weekly Space Coast Business Magazine printed in Brevard County, Florida since 1984

BBN BREVARD BUSINESS NEWS

Health Department program singled out as nationwide recipient of Dr. Neil Lowry Award presented by APSP

Brevard County Environmental Health Services was honored at the 2013 annual conference of the National Environmental Health Association for outstanding contributions of public-health officials to advancing safer and healthier use of recreational waters.

Environmental Health Services was the single nationwide program selected to receive the Dr. Neil Lowry Award presented by the Association of Pool and Spa Professionals.

Environmental Health Services provides awareness and education on drowning prevention at local health fair events.

The program recently partnered with Clear Channel Outdoor to display drowning-prevention awareness messaging throughout Brevard County and intends to partner with Swim Safe Forever to provide swim lesson scholarships to underprivileged children.

This partnership has been instrumental in reducing the number of drowning deaths in Brevard County. All services are coordinated by the Florida Department of Health in Brevard County and Swim Safe Forever.

Dr. Heidar Heshmati, director of the Florida Department of Health in Brevard County, said "we are proud to receive the Dr. Neil Lowry Award. The Florida Department of Health in Brevard County is the only organization in the United States to have received this 2013 award."

The award puts the Florida Department of Health in Brevard County into "special company, a select group of health departments that exemplify a forward-thinking, proactive attitude toward protecting and promoting the health of communities across the nation."

Proper supervision, safety barriers for pools and other bodies of water, and CPR training can mean the difference between life and death, he said. To obtain more information on drowning prevention, visit www.BrevardEH.com

and click on Public Swimming Pools and Bathing Places. For more information about the Dr. Neil Lowry Award and to view a list of other award winners, go to www.APSP.org.