



Press Release

New York Wing
Civil Air Patrol
Weschester County Airport
24 Loop Road, Bldg #1
White Plains, NY 10604-1218
www.nywcap.org
www.gocivilairpatrol.com

For Immediate Release: 3 April 2017
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New York Wing Safety Officer Responds Quickly to Overturned Plane

LaGrangeville, NY-- On Sunday, April 2nd 2017, when Lieutenant Colonel Lawrence Mattiello, CAP witnessed a Cessna Skyhawk II run off the east shoulder of Runway 17 at Sky Acres Airport in Union Vale, he had no idea what to expect, all he knew is he needed to help. After yelling to the guys that he was with in Matt Aviation Properties, Inc. hangar to call 911, Mattiello sprinted toward the small pond where the Cessna had stalled and overturned.

“ I feared they were upside down in the water, but really didn't know what to expect when I got there. I feared the worst. But as I got to the plane I could see the wing was above the water and they were exiting on the wing on the other side.” said Mattiello. Mattiello jumped onto the wing close to land side and continued to talk to the victims in an attempt to keep them calm and asses their injuries.

Mattiello directed the occupants of the crashed plane over the belly of the aircraft where he was waiting to assist them to land. The first out was obviously injured with a head wound. Mom was next so she could help attend to the boy. Next another teenage boy, this one in good shape. Dad, also uninjured asked for assistance retrieving the planes logbooks.

After everyone was safely out of the plane Mattiello removed the remaining personal effects and secured the cockpit. Fire-rescue arrived on the scene and Mattiello, a pilot himself reviewed the cockpit with the fire-rescue team.

Mattiello credits his quick action to training he received with the Civil Air Patrol. Mattiello is a pilot with the Civil Air Patrol as well as a mission safety officer. He is New York Wing's assistant safety officer. “ What struck me is how quick an accident can happen, and my reaction to help. Guess it as all the years of training at CAP! I again, didn't know what I was going to experience once I reached the plane, but was ready for it.” Lieutenant Colonel Larry Mattiello, Civil Air Patrol.

With 67 squadrons and over 2,300 youth and adult members, New York Wing, Civil Air Patrol continues to serve in “Missions for America”. In 2016 members of New York Wing were tasked with 11 search and



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rescue missions and 5 other state support missions. New York Wing flew more than 2,450 hours contributing over \$7.7 million dollars in volunteer man hours for NY State.

Civil Air Patrol, the longtime all-volunteer U.S. Air Force auxiliary, is the newest member of the Air Force's Total Force, which consists of regular Air Force, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve, along with Air Force retired military and civilian employees. CAP, in its Total Force role, operates a fleet of 550 aircraft and performs about 90 percent of continental U.S. inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center and is credited by the AFRCC with saving an average of 78 lives annually. Civil Air Patrol's 56,000 members nationwide also perform homeland security, disaster relief and drug interdiction missions at the request of federal, state and local agencies. Its members additionally play a leading role in aerospace education and serve as mentors to more than 24,000 young people currently participating in the CAP cadet program. Performing missions for America for the past 75 years, CAP received the Congressional Gold Medal in 2014 in honor of the heroic efforts of its World War II veterans. CAP also participates in Wreaths Across America, an initiative to remember, honor and teach about the sacrifices of U.S. military veterans. Visit www.capvolunteernow.com for more information.



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