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## 'High School 911' tells Post 53's story

Written by [Susan Shultz](#)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 2008

Post 53 has already been the subject of magazine articles and other media attention.

Its all-teen emergency response crew is special enough that one of its former members is making a documentary on it.

Tim Warren, whose mother Susan Warren has been the director for the last four years, is working on a film about Post 53, which he said has been the most influential experience of his life.

Tim Warren was a member of Post in the early '80s. He now lives on the West Coast and has been in the television business for 20 years.

"People ask me what my greatest experience has been and they expect me to tell them some anecdote about someone I worked with, but I always say Post 53," he said. "I launch into this story about a one of kind ambulance run by high school students, and they are always incredulous. It takes a while to explain it to them."

Warren said that what makes it even harder to explain is that there is nothing to compare it to.

"It is the only one of its kind in the world," he said.

Warren said that the film he's making will help him explain the experience to people.

"It is a way for me to give back to something that's really shaped who I am today," he said.

Post 53 is a such a "valuable experience" for young people, Warren said, even if they don't plan on going into the medical field.

"It gives you a set of life skills that are helpful no matter what you go into. Fifty percent go into the medical field. Obviously working with the Post is great to get into that arena, but it is not even about turning out good medical students, but about good people who can deal with stress, work with different people effectively, and coming together to achieve a common goal," he said.

Warren said that time management, as well as the rest of the skills learned while working for Post 53, were still useful 25 years later working as an executive producer on the successful television show "Extreme Home Makeover."

"The skills I learned in Post 53 are very applicable to what I do today, and all Post graduates feel the same way. The basic principles of Post are to learn and help you move forward in your life and your career," he said.

The documentary begins with the beginning of the school year and ends with June graduation. Warren expects the film's future to include theatrical distribution via the film festival circuit as well as home video distribution.

"It's been a lot of fun, but first and foremost its about the preservation of the Post," he said.

"I want it to be something that will empower young people across the country and around the world," he said.

Warren said the world is full of infinite possibilities and solutions, and said that adults



Meagan Keane films Sarah Karlan, left, Chris Calahan and Katherine Matson inside a Post 53 ambulance for "High School 911," a documentary that explores the lives of the all-teen emergency response crew. (Darien Times/Laureen Vellante photo)



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can see the value of mentoring young people and guiding them by learning more about Post 53.

Warren said that the film also explores the stereotypes about teenagers and examines the time commitment teens make to Post 53, which can be 40 to 60 hours a week.

He said that the reason Post 53 has been so successful where other programs may have failed is because it remains run by the kids.

Other aspects of the film include how members juggle family, school and other responsibilities, member training, patient treatment, dealing with life and death, and governing and disciplining their peers.

More information on the documentary, called High School 911, is available on Warren's Web site, [boomerangproductions.tv/hs911/hs911ShowInfo.html](http://boomerangproductions.tv/hs911/hs911ShowInfo.html).

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