

Lifesaving Awards



American Red Cross
Training Services

NOMINATE NOW

Inspiring Stories by Region

Menards Employee Makes Parking Lot Save in the Wisconsin Region

Last year, Matt Rinehart helped save the life of a man who collapsed at a Menards store in Wisconsin. Matt was at the beginning of his shift when a customer suffered a cardiac arrest. Matt spotted the man on the parking lot pavement with his wife leaning over him. Approaching the two customers, Matt assessed the situation and jumped into action, performing CPR until the man regained consciousness and EMS arrived. The man was transported to the hospital and has since recovered. See the [photo album](#) from the Certificate of Merit awards ceremony and hear Matt's moving [acceptance speech](#) on the region's Facebook page.



L to R: Matt Rinehart accepts his Certificate of Merit from Kathryn Halvorsen, Executive Director of the American Red Cross of Wisconsin North Central Chapter

A Double Save at a Local Pool in the Central and South Texas Region

Last summer, Susan Ingraham, a swim coach and Water Safety Instructor®, was giving a swimming lesson at a community pool. Suddenly she noticed a 3-year-old girl submerged underwater. Without hesitation, Susan jumped into the pool, fully clothed, to save her. Within 10 minutes of that occurrence, Susan heard a 4-year-old boy cry for help. Susan jumped into the pool once again to rescue another child from drowning. For her heroic actions, Susan was honored with the Lifesaving Award for Professional Responders. View the photos and read the story on the region's [LinkedIn page](#).



L to R: Dr. Daniel P. Martinez, Executive Director, Greater San Antonio Chapter and Susan Ingraham

Drowning Boy Revived By Fellow Swimmer in the Idaho and Montana Region

Jorge Grajeda was enjoying a relaxing day with family and friends at the local pool in California when things suddenly took an alarming turn. A boy was face down in the water, not moving. Someone jumped in to get the boy while Jorge, who had recently retired from the Long Beach Police Department, ran over and immediately began administering CPR. Onlookers called 911, and as instructed by the dispatch operator, Jorge continued CPR. Just before paramedics arrived, the boy's pulse returned. After a brief stay at the hospital, the boy made a full recovery. In this [video](#) from the Los Angeles region (where the rescue happened), you'll hear first-hand how unresponsive young boy was saved. You can also read the full story with information on Jorge's Certificate of Extraordinary Personal Action award on the region's [news page](#) (where Jorge now lives).



Jorge Grajeda with his daughter and wife at the Lifesaving Awards presentation

Instructor Spotlight

Beth Kinslow

Each month we highlight an Instructor whose student(s) have used their lifesaving training to save or sustain a life. This month we recognize Beth Kinslow. She taught Basic Life Support to Matt Rinehart, whose story is featured first in this eNewsletter. In her heartfelt comments at the awards ceremony, Beth told the story of how Matt came into her office and said, "Because of you teaching me CPR, I saved a man's life." The [video](#) of Beth accepting her Instructor Award



demonstratively shows the importance of the work we do. We extend our thanks to Beth for providing the quality training that allowed her student to save a life.

Lifesaving Awards Vault

From the vault of the Memphis Press-Scimitar (Memphis, Tennessee), June 5, 1979

Red Cross Helper Cited For Lifesaving Activities

On this date in history, 14-year-old Murphy Hanley was eating lunch at a Red Cross camp cafeteria when he choked and stopped breathing. Michael Wamble, a Red Cross volunteer, stepped in and helped save Murphy's life. For his actions, Michael received the Lifesaving Award at the Memphis Chapter's annual recognition dinner. Michael, a five-year volunteer with the Red Cross, praised the organization upon receiving his award. "The Red Cross is fantastic," he said. "It gives me a warm feeling to know I help others."



Nominate.

Recognize.

Inspire.

Saving Lives Starts Here

If you or someone you know has used **skills** and **knowledge** learned in a Red Cross Training Services course to help save or sustain the life of another individual, visit [LifesavingAwards.org](https://www.redcross.org/lifesavingawards) to nominate them.

Want to know if you have a local hero in your area? Take a look at our [map](#).



Get Inspired!

Earlier in this eNewsletter, we shared the story of a woman who saved not one, but two, children from drowning. You can do your part to be water smart by discussing water safety with the entire family before heading out to the water this summer. That's why we're excited to share our free, updated Longfellow's WHALE Tales Water Safety for Children program. The lessons focus on important water safety behaviors in different environments such as pools, waterparks, oceans, lakes and rivers. It includes interactive, fun group activities with live-action videos.

- If you plan to teach a group this summer, take advantage of this engaging, no-cost program today. Go to [RedCross.org/WHALETales](https://www.RedCross.org/WHALETales) to learn more about the program and download the free digital program materials.
- Parents and caregivers can download the free WHALE Tales materials at [RedCross.org/watersafetyforkids](https://www.RedCross.org/watersafetyforkids).

We want everyone to have a safe and fun summer!