

RED ALERTS!



Keeping our valued Red Cross volunteers engaged and informed



ON THE HORIZON

- **International Youth Day,** Aug. 12. Visit un.org/en/events/youthday/.
- **World Humanitarian Day,** Aug. 19. Visit org/en/events/humanitarianday/.
- **National Women's Equality Day,** Aug. 26. Visit timeanddate.com.

MEET A LEADER



LAYLA JOHNSON,
Regional Situational Awareness Lead, Idaho Falls

I enjoy situational awareness because it helps paint a picture of what we are currently facing or may be facing in the near term.

It's hard to make effective decisions without understanding the big picture, whatever that may be. I produce a weekly report during flood and wildfire seasons based on forecast weather. A good week produces a boring report.

FUN FACT: I am a huge tax nerd. I actually enjoy reading tax code. Last winter I became an Enrolled Agent, which authorizes me to practice before the IRS with CPAs and tax attorneys.



Photo by Marcia Gnehm

Vic Paul, who recently turned 90, has volunteered as a transportation specialist for 28 years, helping deliver lifesaving blood products. He is also a Service to the Armed Forces volunteer.

Once donor, now a driver

For 35 years, Vic Paul was a loyal blood donor. Now the amazing 90-year-old delivers blood to Boise-area hospitals

After decades of donating blood to the Red Cross, Vic Paul now spends his time in a different chair, the driver's seat, as he delivers these lifesaving products to those who need it most. As a Red Cross volunteer transportation specialist, Vic drives blood from the donation center in Boise to Idaho hospitals. He's made these deliveries for 28 years — an amazing accomplishment made even more impressive by the fact Vic recently turned 90.

"I just grab onto every day I can now," he said.

At his doctor's suggestion, Vic stopped donat-

ing blood when he was in his late 70s after more than three decades — "I quit counting at 35 years" — and found another way to give back. He started by intermittently hauling donated blood products in Red Cross refrigerated vans, and those short runs eventually evolved into regular long-haul deliveries to and from places like La Grande, Ore.

Now his main routes are what he considers quick trips around Boise, Nampa and Caldwell.

Even before the Red Cross, Vic had lots of experience making important shipments. While with the U.S. Army, his duties included delivering tanks.

"I wasn't shipped overseas. ... But I did see time in the Mojave training soldiers to be tank drivers, and some of them had never even driven a car," Vic said.

In his professional life, he examined commer-

SEE DRIVER, PAGE 2

Recruit a friend for chance to win

Lewis and Clark County Disaster Action Team supervisor Melissa Nichols is the first winner in our Friends and Family Referral Program drawings, receiving a Red Cross jacket.

Nichols, of Helena, has made three volunteer referrals since the program was announced at the Training Institute in April.

The Friends and Family Referral Program encourages volunteers to recommend someone they know to become a Red Cross volunteer.

In order to do this, volunteers should log

into Volunteer Connection, hover over the MY NHQ tab and click on Friends and Family Referrals.

After you submit a referral, your contact will receive an email from Red Cross inviting them to begin an application.

For every referral you submit, your name is entered into a quarterly drawing to win a Red Cross jacket. Quarterly drawings will be held this October and in January April and July of 2020.

If you have questions about the program call 406-493-8778.





MILESTONES

DEBIE ROE,

25 years

JAMES NOLAN,

20 years

RICHARD SKINNER,

10 years

MELINDA BROWN,

5 years

BRET BUSACKER,

5 years

CRYSTAL GLUECKERT,

5 years

ROBERT HOY,

5 years

LAYLA JOHNSON,

5 years

DAMOND WATKINS,

5 years



14

Disaster responses in June. Families helped: 17.



13

Volunteers joined us in June.



5,533

Hours logged in June by our Idaho and Montana volunteers.

Lynn Tyler recognized

The Volunteer Services team is pleased to announce Lynn Tyler has been selected as the Volunteer Services' Volunteer of the Quarter.

The Volunteer Intake Processing Center Intake Lead, Lynn has been with the Red Cross since 2012 and has worn many hats during that time.

"She does an amazing job managing the screening of new volunteers with her fellow

screeners and ensuring volunteers make it through the application process in a timely manner," the Volunteer Services team writes. "Lynn is always up for a new challenge in our everchanging Red Cross world. Thanks for being such an amazing part of our team!"



Vic Paul said he enjoys his time with other Red Cross volunteers. "It's a great crew," he said.

Paul: Drivers needed

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cial insurance policies and graded insurance policies for municipalities. He retired at 62.

Vic is also a Red Cross Service to the Armed Forces volunteer and the Red Cross veterans affairs voluntary services representative at the VA hospital in Boise.

Vic said though he drives alone, his Red Cross work has connected him with a great group of volunteers, a group he hopes will continue to grow.

"We are always looking for office help or drivers," Vic said. "I try to speak with all the able and interested and tell them that the best

part of Red Cross volunteering is being part of the camaraderie. It's a great crew."

Transportation specialists needed

The Red Cross needs more people like Vic to deliver lifesaving blood. Though these positions are currently filled in Idaho, there are opportunities in Montana. Once blood drives have ended in Kalispell, Missoula, Helena and Bozeman, volunteers drive blood products to Great Falls for processing and distribution. Red Cross provides vehicles and reimburses drivers for one meal. Email IDMT.Recruiting@redcross.org or call 406-493-8778 to learn more.

— By writing team volunteer Amy Joyner

Stay updated on potential disasters

Each week the Red Cross of Idaho and Montana compiles a situational awareness report with information about potential disasters.

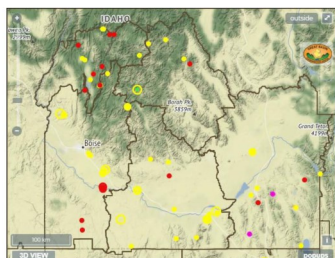
Information includes a look at the weekly regional fire risk, current fire activity in Montana and Idaho and a summer fire outlook for the whole country.

Please remember that weather

conditions, and these forecasts, can change rapidly.

These reports are posted at the end of each week at www.redcross.org/local/montana/about-us/our-work/situational-awareness-report.html and www.redcross.org/local/idaho/about-us/our-work/situational-awareness-report.html.

Current Idaho Fire Activity



Current as of distribution. Most recent fires have been caused by lightning from afternoon thunderstorms. Legend: New Fire <30 Hours, Ongoing Fire <10 Days, Prescribed Fire <10 Days.