

Lifesaving Awards



American Red Cross
Training Services

NOMINATE NOW

Inspiring Stories by Region

DMV Workers in the Nebraska and Southwest Iowa Region Recognized

Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) examiners Brad Dietlin and Matt Shields

helped save the life of fellow DMV tester Tom Lewiston.

Lewiston was on a drive test when he experienced cardiac arrest. The applicant smartly returned to the DMV office, where Dietlin and Shields rushed out to begin CPR. Lewiston later nominated his colleagues for the Certificate of Extraordinary Personal Action, saying, "Nominating Brad and Matt for this award was a great way to say thank you, and I would have died if not for their heroic acts." See the Facebook post [here](#).



Workplace Save for the Northern California Coastal Region

Lifesaving training can be used when it's least expected, particularly at work. On January 22, 2022, Rudy Garrido, Viola Dinkins and Sandra Deaver were outside their workplace when they spotted a woman in the throes

of a drug overdose. Dinkins and Garrido administered three doses of naloxone, to no avail. In the meantime, Deaver called 911. The operator directed the trio to administer another dose. When the victim remained unresponsive, Garrido started CPR and prepared to use the AED. Just as the AED began its initial assessment, the victim responded.

Paramedics arrived shortly thereafter to take over the scene. For their heroics in applying what they learned in Red Cross First Aid/CPR/AED training, the trio was awarded the Certificate of Merit. View the [Facebook post](#) and [news story](#) for details.



Utility Crew Trains in Morning, Performs CPR That Afternoon in Northern New England Region

Four Maine utility employees completed their

First Aid/CPR/AED training the morning of February 2, 2022. That afternoon they put it into action when they found a colleague facedown and unresponsive in a roadside snowbank. Cameron Bragg, Steve Sager, Scott Madore and Dan Morin immediately called 911, began CPR and went to get the AED from their truck. Versant Power line worker Steve Sager says, "I had just sat with that individual for more than three hours in the training that morning. Had [we] not had that training, [we] couldn't have done it." For their heroic actions, the Red Cross awarded the utility workers the Certificate of Extraordinary Personal Action. View the [Facebook post](#) for details.



Instructor Spotlight

Thomas Mitchell

Each month we highlight Instructors whose student(s) used their lifesaving training to save or sustain a life. This month we recognize Thomas Mitchell from the Northern California Coastal region, the Instructor of three students highlighted above (Rudy Garrido, Viola Dinkins and Sandra Deaver) who used their Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED training to save the life of a woman suffering a drug overdose outside of their workplace.



Lifesaving Awards Vault

From the vault of the Iowa City Press-Citizen (Iowa City, Iowa), August 24, 1978

Delbert Gehrke, assistant director of recreation services at the University of Iowa (UI), heard a loud crack of lightening and assumed a building by the running track had been hit. He and his colleague, Jim Cooley, quickly learned that the lightening had struck UI professor Bradley Loomer while he was jogging. After instructing others on the scene to get the athletic trainers and call 911, Gehrke and Cooley headed out to the track where they found the downed professor without a pulse or heartbeat. "The trainers [Holly Wilson, Scott White and John Streif] took over when they arrived," Gehrke explained, "and it was after they got started that I first felt a pulse in Loomer." For their efforts saving Loomer's life on July 20, 1978, the two employees and the three trainers received Lifesaving Awards from the Red Cross.

Two additional Iowa Citizens to receive life saving awards



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 see if you have a local hero in your area?

Take a look at our [map](#).

Get Inspired!

For more than a century, Red Cross First Aid/CPR/AED training has been the go-to program for thousands of businesses and training organizations. If you want to ensure that employees in your community have the confidence to take immediate action when moments matter, reach out to us at [redcross.org/training](https://www.redcross.org/training).