

Lifesaving Awards



American Red Cross
Training Services

NOMINATE NOW

Inspiring Stories by Region

High School Student Steps Up in Life-or-Death Emergency in the Louisiana Region

While working at a New Orleans-area golf course, 16-year-old Hudson Mobley noticed a crowd gathering. He then saw a man collapse from cardiac arrest. Without hesitation, Hudson jumped from his golf cart, confirmed 911 had been called and that someone was going to get the AED. Immediately, he began chest compressions. When the AED arrived, he used the skills he learned in his Lifeguarding with CPR/AED for Professional Rescuers and First Aid program to deliver lifesaving shocks. His response bridged the critical gap before emergency crews could step in. Hudson's story is a reminder that emergencies can happen anywhere and being prepared can mean the difference between life and loss. The Certificate of Merit ceremony, organized by his school mates as a pep rally, was an unforgettable moment that is documented on the region's [Facebook page](#).



L to R: Hudson Mobley and Red Cross Chief Executive Officer Dr. Kenneth St. Charles

Teen's CPR Training Leads to Life-Changing Bond in the Tennessee Region

In February, Katelyn Williams' quick thinking and CPR training helped save a life, and it changed hers forever. While working as a lifeguard at the Sumner County YMCA, she responded to a call for help and found Billy Austin unresponsive in the locker room. Katelyn, aided by two nurses who happened to be working out that day, performed CPR for 10 minutes until EMS arrived. Days later, he and Katelyn met in the hospital, forming an instant bond. Since then, they've stayed close. Billy plans to adopt Katelyn, who lost her father when she was 10. For her heroic actions, Katelyn received the Red Cross Lifesaving Award for Professional Responders. Inspired by the experience, she plans to become an Emergency Department nurse. The details of her compelling story are captured on the [region's blog](#). This very moving [video](#) is a reminder of the life-changing impact of training and compassion.



L to R: Billy Austin and Katelyn Williams

A Lunchroom Hero Saves Student from Choking in the Northern New England Region

In a cafeteria filled with applause, 6th-grade teacher John Pelletier was honored with the Certificate for Extraordinary Personal Action for saving a student's life. While on lunch duty, he noticed a student choking. Her classmates were doing back blows but they weren't working. Without hesitation, he performed abdominal thrusts, dislodging the obstruction and saving her life. As her grateful parents looked on, Pelletier humbly accepted the award, saying the real reward was knowing she was safe. "Everyone should get their Red Cross certification," he urged. His quick thinking and training turned an ordinary day into a pivotal moment. His story, which is recapped on the region's [Facebook page](#) and a [local news story](#), is a powerful reminder of the importance of lifesaving training.



L to R: Matthew Holabird, Jessica Holabird, Harper Holabird, John Pelletier

Instructor Spotlight

Roy Gentzler

Each month we highlight an Instructor whose student(s) have used their Red Cross lifesaving training to save or sustain a life. This month we recognize Roy Gentzler, who trained two students whose remarkable save is captured below. Firefighter Derek Dunn, trained in Red Cross CPR/AED with Administering Emergency Oxygen, delivered a life-saving shock after fellow responders police officer Michael Jordan (trained in Red Cross CPR/AED for Professional Rescuers and Responding to Emergencies) and fire fighters Matthew Miller Jr. and Frank Quintin III jumped into action. The child had no pulse and wasn't breathing. Through their teamwork, training and courage, signs of life returned while paramedics transported him to the hospital.

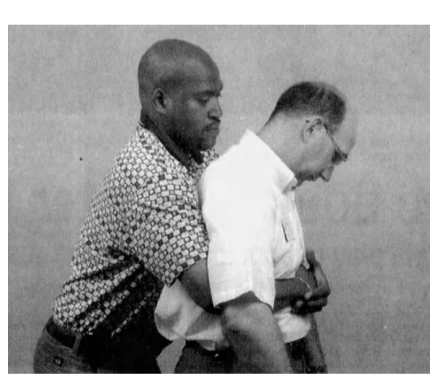


Michael and Derek received Lifesaving Awards for Professional Responders, while Matthew and Frank were honored with Certificates of Extraordinary Personal Action. See all the photos on the region's [Facebook page](#). We extend our thanks to Roy for providing the quality training that allowed his students to take action when it matters most.

Lifesaving Awards Vault

From the vault of the Goldsboro News-Argus (Goldsboro, NC), June 15, 1999

On this date in history, Swindell Coley saved the life of a 35-year-old male patient. Swindell had given the man a piece of fig cake when the man started choking. Swindell conducted a finger sweep of the man's mouth and began abdominal thrusts. The man came around and was helped to his chair, where it was determined that he didn't require further care. Swindell said that when he saw the man choking, his Red Cross training came right back to him. In this picture, Swindell demonstrates the abdominal thrust on Keith Beaudry of the Red Cross.



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](#) to nominate them.

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



Get Inspired!

Be ready for the unexpected this summer by equipping yourself with a well-stocked first aid kit. Whether you're heading to the beach, hiking trails or taking a long road trip, having a [first aid kit](#) and [tourniquets](#) in your car can make all the difference in a crisis. From treating minor cuts and burns to managing more serious injuries such as life-threatening bleeding, these tools can save lives.