



## CARNEGIE HERO FUND COMMISSION

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Established April 15, 1904, by Andrew Carnegie, the Carnegie Hero Fund was created to recognize outstanding acts of selfless heroism performed in the U.S. and Canada. The Commission awards the Carnegie Medal to those who risk their lives to an extraordinary degree while saving or attempting to save the lives of others. The single event that stimulated Mr. Carnegie to organize the Fund was the Harwick mine disaster near Pittsburgh in January 1904, which claimed 181 lives. The victims included an engineer and a miner who went into the stricken mine in a valiant attempt to rescue others.

The tragedy and the sacrifices so moved Mr. Carnegie that he promptly took action on his then-novel idea of honoring and helping “heroes of civilization.”

Writing in the Commission’s founding Deed of Trust (see pg. 5), he specified that each hero recognized, or their next of kin, receive a medal reciting their heroic deed. The Commission was empowered to make monetary grants; given to the heroes or the next of kin in cases of death, the grants include continuing support, scholarship assistance, and death benefits. More than \$40 million has been given to more than 10,000 awardees or their survivors.

Rescue acts brought to the Commission’s attention are carefully evaluated, and those that appear to have award potential are then investigated and reported to the Commission for decision.

The Commission is a private operating foundation, classed as a charitable organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code. Visit the Commission’s website for further information, including an in-depth history of the organization and summaries of recently awarded cases: [carnegiehero.org](http://carnegiehero.org).

## AND THE WORK WENT ON

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Andrew Carnegie would have been well acquainted with the “unprecedented” circumstances facing the Carnegie Hero Fund – and the entire world – in 2020. The first known cases of the 1918 Flu Pandemic were recorded in Kansas in March 1918. The third worldwide wave of the epidemic was just receding when Carnegie died in August 1919.

The 1919 Pandemic did even more damage than the one we face today, but I think our founder would be pleased to see that his Hero Fund has continued its work with minimal Covid-19 interruption while protecting its hard-working staff.

Perhaps it’s too early to say that we have succeeded in protecting our staff, since this pandemic isn’t over. Until it is, it remains our burden to protect each other every day. The biggest step in accomplishing all of this was the almost instant “virtualization” of the Hero Fund’s operations. Until the pandemic started, we had felt little need to adopt systems for remote work.

Nevertheless, Hero Fund staff members recognized the potential impact of the pandemic early on. With the help of an outside technology support vendor, remote work systems and file access was implemented in a matter of days. The staff picked up on the new system quickly, and the work went on.

The Hero Fund doesn’t have an official motto, but maybe it should be “...and the work went on,” as it has for 117 years. And through it all the Carnegie heroes go on as well, risking their lives for others amidst pandemics, world wars, depressions and everything else. They are the people who are there when we need them.

The Hero Fund publishes these reports periodically at Andrew Carnegie’s

direction to create a lasting memorial to the heroes and their acts. We hope that as you review these acts, you will feel how momentous each of these events was to both rescuer and victim. Our goal is to share these stories and the sense of their importance both with you and the wider world.

With deepest respect,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Laskow". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Mark Laskow  
Chair

## DEED OF TRUST

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TO THE HERO FUND COMMISSION

**GENTLEMEN:** We live in a heroic age. Not seldom are we thrilled by deeds of heroism where men or women are injured or lose their lives in attempting to preserve or rescue their fellows; such the heroes of civilization. The heroes of barbarism maimed or killed theirs.

I have long felt that the heroes and those dependent upon them should be freed from pecuniary cares resulting from their heroism, and, as a fund for this purpose, I have transferred to the Commission five million dollars of First Collateral Five Per Cent. Bonds of the United States Steel Corporation, the proceeds to be used as follows:

**FIRST.** To place those following peaceful vocations, who have been injured in heroic effort to save human life, in somewhat better positions pecuniarily than before, until again able to work. In the case of death, the widow and children, or other dependents, to be provided for until she remarries, and the children until they reach a self-supporting age. For exceptional children exceptional grants may be made for exceptional education. Grants of sums of money may also be made to heroes or heroines as the Commission thinks advisable—each case to be judged on its merits.

**SECOND.** No grant is to be continued unless it be soberly and properly used, and the recipients remain respectable, well-behaved members of the community, but the heroes and heroines are to be given a fair trial, no matter what their antecedents. Heroes deserve pardon and a fresh start.

**THIRD.** A medal shall be given to the hero, or widow, or next of kin, which shall recite the heroic deed it commemorates, that descendants may know and be proud of their descent. The medal shall be given for the heroic act, even if the doer be uninjured, and also a sum of money, should the Commission deem such gift desirable.

**FOURTH.** Many cities provide pensions for policemen, firemen, teachers, and others, and some may give rewards for acts of heroism. All these and other facts the Commission will take into account and act accordingly in making grants. Nothing could be further from my intention than to deaden or interfere with these most creditable provisions, doubly precious as showing public and municipal appreciation of faithful and heroic service. I ask from the Commission most careful guard against this danger. The medal can, of course, be offered in such cases. Whether something more can not judiciously be done, at the request of, or with the approval of, the city authorities, the Commission shall determine. I hope there can be.

**FIFTH.** The claims upon the Fund for some years can not exhaust it. After years, however, pensioners will become numerous. Should the Commission find, after allowing liberally for this, that a surplus will remain, it has power to make grants in case of accidents (preferably where a hero has appeared) to those injured. The action taken in the recent Harwick Mine accident, where Heroes Taylor and Lyle lost their lives, is an illustration. The community first raised a fund of forty thousand dollars, which was duplicated by me after waiting until the generosity of the community had full scope. Here again the Commission should be exceedingly careful, as in this case, not to deaden, but to stimulate employers or communities to do their part, for such action benefits givers themselves as well as recipients.

**SIXTH.** It seems probable that cities and employers on this continent will ultimately be placed under similar conditions to those of Britain, Germany, and other European States, and required to provide against accidents to employees. Therefore, the Commission, by a two-thirds vote, may devote any surplus that accrues beyond providing for heroes and their dependents (which provision must never be abandoned) to such other modes of benefiting those in want, chiefly caused through no fault of their own (such as drunkenness, laziness, crimes, etc.) but through exceptional circumstances, in such manner and to such extent as the Commission thinks advisable and likely to do more good than if such sums were given to those injured by accident, where the latter may be suitably provided for by law, or otherwise.

**SEVENTH.** The field embraced by the Fund is the United States of America, the Dominion of Canada, the Colony of Newfoundland, and the waters thereof. The sea is the scene of many heroic acts. No action more heroic than that

of doctors and nurses volunteering their services in the case of epidemics. Railroad employees are remarkable for heroism. All these and similar cases are embraced. Whenever heroism is displayed by man or woman in saving human life, the Fund applies.

**EIGHTH.** No personal liability will attach to members for any act of the Commission. The Commission has power to fill vacancies.

**NINTH.** The Commission has full power to sell, invest, or reinvest all funds; to employ all officials, including Secretary, traveling agents to visit and oversee beneficiaries, etc., and to fix their compensation. Members of the Commission shall be reimbursed all expenses incurred, including traveling expenses attending meetings. The President shall be granted such honoraria as the Commission thinks proper and as he can be prevailed upon to accept.

**TENTH.** An annual report, including a detailed statement of sums and medals granted and the reasons therefor, shall be made each year and published in at least one newspaper in the principal cities of the countries embraced by the Fund. A finely executed roll of the heroes and heroines shall be kept displayed in the office at Pittsburgh.



NEW YORK, MARCH 12, 1904

WITNESS, LOUISE WHITFIELD CARNEGIE

## THE CARNEGIE MEDAL

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The Carnegie Medal is a bronze medallion measuring 3 inches in diameter. Andrew Carnegie’s profile in relief dominates the obverse of the medal. The reverse carries a background, in low relief, of the outline of the United States and Canada, and the seals of the two countries appear in high relief. That side of the medal centers on the cartouche, or inscription plate, which carries an embossed statement naming the rescuer, the rescued, and the place and date of the heroic act. The cartouche is adorned with laurel, ivy, oak, and thistle, respectively signifying glory, friendship, strength, and persistence – the attributes of a hero. A verse from the New Testament encircles the outer edge: “Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends” (John 15:13).

#### REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CARNEGIE MEDAL

- The rescuer must be a civilian who knowingly and voluntarily risks his or her own life to an extraordinary degree. Members of the armed services and children considered by the Commission too young to comprehend the risk involved are ineligible for consideration.
- The rescuer must have rescued or attempted the rescue of another person.
- The act of heroism must have occurred in the United States, Canada, or the waters thereof (12 nautical miles).
- The act must be brought to the attention of the Commission within two years of the date of its occurrence.
- The act of rescue must be one in which no full measure of responsibility exists between the rescuer and the rescued, which precludes those whose vocational duties require them to perform such acts, unless the rescues are clearly beyond the line of duty; and members of the immediate family, except in cases of outstanding heroism where the rescuer loses his or her life or is severely injured.
- There must be conclusive evidence to support the threat to the victim's life, the risk undertaken by the rescuer, the rescuer's degree of responsibility, and the act's occurrence.

#### AWARDS

- A medal is presented to the person who performed the act or, in case of death, to the widow, widower, or next of kin.
- When a rescuer loses his or her life in the performance of an act, contributions can be made toward the livelihood of the dependents. If the rescuer is disabled in the performance of the act, periodic contributions can be made to his or her livelihood. If the rescuer is not injured, a monetary grant can nevertheless be made, should the Commission deem such a gift desirable. Awardees and the dependents of posthumous and disabled awardees are eligible for scholarship assistance.
- The benefits to be paid and the manner of payment are determined by the Commission after consideration of the circumstances of each awardee. Continuing benefits are paid only if there is a clear need for such assistance and only if such benefits are soberly and properly used and the recipients remain respectable members of their communities.



HEROIC ACTS RECOGNIZED DURING 2019

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*The following 73 individuals were cited by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission in 2019 for having performed outstanding acts of heroism. In each case, a Carnegie Medal and a financial grant were awarded.*



MIR KHALED AHMAD  
*Vacaville, California*

**Mir Khaled Ahmad** died attempting to rescue Mir Zahed Ahmad from drowning, Kyburz, California, June 23, 2018. Mir Zahed, 9, on a recreational outing with family, fell from a rock outcropping into the American River and shouted for help. His father, Mir Khaled Ahmad, 41, store manager, who was with him on the outcropping, saw Mir Zahed fall and, despite swift currents and not knowing how to swim, jumped into the water to a point near Mir Zahed. Ahmad grasped Mir Zahed in a bear hug and lifted him above the water's surface. Ahmad submerged several times before he pushed Mir Zahed toward the outcropping and then submerged again. Another man responded and, using a long stick that Mir Zahed grasped, pulled Mir Zahed to the rock outcropping and up onto it. Mir Zahed was treated at the scene and also taken to the hospital to be monitored. He recovered. Ahmad was recovered more than 600 feet downstream. Emergency personnel attempted to resuscitate him, but Ahmad could not be revived. He had drowned. 90004-10125



KALI ALLEN

*Broken Arrow, Oklahoma*

**Kali Allen** attempted to rescue Jeffrey K. McIlroy from drowning, Catoosa, Oklahoma, January 4, 2018. McIlroy, 55, was partially submerged in an opening in the middle of a frigid, iced-over pond when a woman saw him and alerted Allen, 38, a delivery driver who was parked nearby. Allen stepped onto the ice but returned to the bank after hearing cracking sounds. After obtaining a foam pool noodle, Allen stepped atop the ice again and slid his feet to move toward the hole. McIlroy submerged and Allen advanced, entered the water, and submerged to find McIlroy. Unable to locate him, Allen resurfaced and used the pool noodle to aid his floating because he could not climb out of the water. From the bank, responding firefighters tied multiple ropes together and tossed the extended line to Allen, who had attempted to break a path through the ice by punching it. Once Allen secured the line around his body, firefighters pulled Allen onto the ice and to the bank. A diver later located McIlroy; he had drowned. Allen received treatment at a hospital for hypothermia and experienced diminished motion in both hands for about one month. [89745-10071](#)



NICHOLAS ANDERSON

*San Francisco, California*

**Nicholas Anderson** saved five people from burning, Willits, California, May 26, 2017. A 7-year-old boy, 22-month old girl, 24-year-old man, 19-year-old woman, and 43-year-old woman were passengers in a truck that collided at night with a sport utility vehicle on a rural highway. As fire broke out at the front ends of both vehicles, the drivers were pinned in their seats. Among the motorists who stopped at the scene was Anderson, 45, operations manager. Anderson, with a man's help, pried open the truck's rear, driver's-side door. Anderson leaned inside, freed the 7-year-old boy from his seat, and removed him from the truck. Anderson then re-entered, removed the 22-month-old girl from her safety seat and withdrew from the truck holding the girl. After handing her off, Anderson passed the truck's rear and heard the 24-year-old man moaning from the enclosed bed. Anderson reached through the open, rear cap window, grasped the man, who was injured, and lowered him to the road. He then moved to the passenger side, where both

doors were open. Anderson leaned in at the rear, passenger-side door and guided the 19-year-old woman, who was also injured, out of the truck to safety. He then entered at the front, passenger door and helped the 43-year-old woman outside as flames were at the windshield. The fire rapidly spread and engulfed both vehicles; neither driver survived. All five of the removed passengers were hospitalized. Anderson was not injured. [89646-10070](#)



VAN L. ANDERSON

*Chattanooga, Tennessee*

**Van L. Anderson** rescued Hazel Baldschun from the effects of hazardous acid, Chattanooga, Tennessee, February 17, 2018. Hazel, 3, was trapped in the crushed wreckage of a pickup truck driven by her mother after a tractor-trailer tanker struck their pickup head-on on a mountainside highway and forced them over an embankment. The tanker, containing about 5,000 gallons of monochloroacetic acid, a toxic chemical, overturned and came to rest partly atop the pickup, the roof of which was destroyed in the collision. Anderson, 54, paving equipment operator who lived nearby and heard the crash, left his home and ran to the highway at the scene where he heard Hazel crying and saw fluid, which he believed was gasoline, escaping the tanker and flowing into the pickup truck. Ignoring a 911 dispatcher's relayed warning not to approach the wreckage, Anderson moved to the pickup and located Hazel in her seat as acid continued to leak from the damaged tanker near her. Anderson, standing on a rock outcrop adjacent the driver's side of the pickup, extended his upper torso down through the opening in the pickup's roof to unfasten Hazel from the car seat and lift her from the vehicle. Anderson carried Hazel away from the wreck to safety. Hazel suffered facial burns from the acid. Her mother died in the accident. [89793-10085](#)



MICHAEL DOUGLAS BARKHOUSE

*Walton, Nova Scotia*

**Michael Douglas Barkhouse** rescued a woman from an attacking dog, Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, June 17, 2017. In a kennel enclosed by a chain-link fence at an animal shelter, an adult husky dog attacked

and repeatedly bit a 42-year-old kennel attendant on the left arm and both legs. She screamed for help. As he drove past the kennel, Barkhouse, 44, construction worker, heard the attendant and pulled into the kennel's parking lot. He put on leather work gloves. After taking a wooden stake from his truck, Barkhouse approached the enclosure and forced open a latch that secured the kennel's outer gate. He entered a holding area, then opened a second door to enter the kennel, where the dog was biting the attendant's arm as she lay on the ground. Barkhouse yelled at the dog as he approached it from behind, but it continued its attack. Having discarded the stake, Barkhouse struck the dog with his feet and hands until it released the attendant. As the dog retreated, Barkhouse grasped the attendant's upper body, dragged her into the holding area, closed the kennel's inner gate, and tended to her. The attendant was hospitalized for treatment of numerous bites. Barkhouse's right hand was bruised. **90524-10107**



#### REBECCA BLACKBURN

*Leduc, Alberta*

**Rebecka Blackburn** helped to save an unidentified man from drowning, Devon, Alberta, June 20, 2018. A man who had entered the cold, swift water of the North Saskatchewan River was carried downstream by its current and waved his arms in apparent distress. Blackburn, 18, college student, who was on the riverbank and observed the man struggling in the 500-foot-wide river, entered the water with another woman and swam toward him. Blackburn swam downstream at an angle toward the man and nearly reached him as he submerged. Blackburn dived beneath the water to retrieve him and, grasping his waist, brought him to the surface. She began to tow the man toward the riverbank but en route experienced fatigue and called out to the other woman to help her. The other woman joined Blackburn and the man, and they grasped hold of him. Blackburn and the woman, swimming on their backs, towed the man to shallow water, from which they all waded to shore. Blackburn was cold and sore after the rescue; she recovered. **89950-10100**



WILLIAM BOSTIC

*King of Prussia, Pennsylvania*

**William Bostic** helped to rescue Brian E. King from drowning, Wayne, Pennsylvania, June 12, 2018. King, 37, remained in the driver's seat of his car after it left the roadway, traveled down an embankment, and entered a lake. Upright, the car came to rest at a point about 80 feet from the bank and began to submerge in water at least 6 feet deep. Bostic, 49, business operator, was driving nearby and witnessed the accident. He drove to a point adjacent the lake, entered the water, and swam to the car. His 18-year-old son also swam to the vehicle. Approaching the car on its passenger side, Bostic and the son pulled open the front, passenger's door. Another man had responded to the vehicle and was holding King's head above the surface of the water, which was quickly filling the interior of the car. The man pushed King toward Bostic, who had entered the car, and Bostic pulled him out through the passenger door. The car shortly submerged. Bostic, his son, and others who responded helped tow King back to the bank and out of the water. King required hospitalization for injuries sustained in the accident. Bostic sustained cuts to his right hand. He recovered. [89915-10084](#)



KYLE BOWMAN

*Aberdeen, Maryland*

**Kyle Bowman** attempted to help rescue Daniel E. Samis from drowning, Bel Air, Maryland, August 31, 2018. During heavy rain in a rural area, Samis, 67, was stranded in his car on a flooded section of road where it crossed a stream. A motorist, Bowman, 31, tree trimmer, and his passenger, his girlfriend, saw Samis's car and stopped at the scene. Bowman backed his truck to the water's edge about 100 feet from Samis's car and got out. Intending to help Samis, Bowman waded toward his car with a rope that he had tied to the truck's rear, and the girlfriend, holding onto the rope, also waded toward Samis's car. Shortly, the girlfriend lost her footing and fell into the water. Bowman moved to her at the road's guide rail and helped her to her feet. They soon became separated, and the girlfriend was carried downstream by the current and away from the scene; she did not survive. Samis's car, with him inside, also was carried away downstream by the current. His body later was recovered from his car; he had drowned. Bowman safely exited the water. [90343-10118](#)



JULIE K. CALLAGHAN

*Chilliwack, British Columbia*

**Julie K. Callaghan** attempted to rescue Matthew Jarvis from being struck by a train, Chilliwack, British Columbia, May 26, 2018. Jarvis, 40, was in a motorized wheelchair attempting to cross a track at a railroad crossing when its rear wheels became caught in a gap in the pavement. Jarvis was unable to free the wheelchair as a freight train traveling at about 50 m.p.h. approached him on the track. The crossing's gates descended, warning lights flashed, and bells sounded. Callaghan, 44, vocational counselor, who had stopped her vehicle at the crossing, saw that Jarvis was stuck. She exited her vehicle, darted beneath the gate, then went to Jarvis, where she stood on one side of the wheelchair with her back to the train. Along with another woman, Callaghan grasped the wheelchair twice and unsuccessfully attempted to free it from the track. With the train bearing down, Callaghan looked over her shoulder and began to move from the track. Seconds later the train struck Callaghan's hand and Jarvis's wheelchair. Jarvis was killed. Callaghan sustained broken bones and other injuries to her hand, which required surgery, and lacerations and scrapes to her legs. [89898-10086](#)



RAUL CARRILLO

*Derby, Kansas*

**Raul Carrillo** rescued Kenny J. Cantrall from burning, El Dorado, Kansas, February 21, 2018. Cantrall, 55, was driving a tractor-trailer hauling 7,500 gallons of diesel fuel on an interstate highway when the truck struck a concrete barrier wall that divided the highway and overturned, coming to rest on its driver's side atop the wall. Its fuel tank ruptured upon impact and burst into flame while the overturned tanker leaked fuel onto the highway. Cantrall remained in the cab, his upper body pinned between the front seats and legs pinned beneath the steering column. Carrillo, 46, on-duty state trooper, was traveling in his police vehicle on the same highway in the opposite direction. Debris from the accident, which occurred in front of him, struck his vehicle. Carrillo quickly stopped nearby and responded to the tractor's wrecked cab where he heard Cantrall's screams for help. Despite flame spreading into the cab, Carrillo extended his upper body into an opening where the windshield

had been, grasped Cantrall's belt and pulled several times until his upper body came free. With Cantrell's legs still trapped beneath the steering column, Carrillo continued to pull on Cantrall's belt and was ultimately successful in freeing his legs. Carrillo backed away from the opening pulling Cantrall free of the burning cab, and they both fell to the pavement. With others, Carrillo aided Cantrall farther from the vehicle to safety moments before flame engulfed the cab. Cantrall suffered severe burns and serious injuries that he sustained in the accident. Carrillo suffered burns to his hands, and he recovered. 89809-10092



JAMES R. CARROLL

*Middletown, Connecticut*

**James R. Carroll** helped to save Shelton T. Smith from burning, Middletown, Connecticut, July 16, 2017. Smith, 38, was unconscious and seat-belted in a sedan after an accident on a highway at night. As the front of Smith's wrecked vehicle caught fire on the highway where it had come to rest, a power station electrician stopped his car, called 911, and moved to the burning sedan where he made initial unsuccessful efforts to enter Smith's car. The electrician retrieved a tire iron and returned to Smith's car. Carroll, 65, teacher's aide, who was driving on the same highway, stopped to help the electrician, who broke the rear, driver's-side window with the tire iron, opened the rear door, and crawled into the back seat. Unable to release Smith's seat belt from that position, the electrician exited the car. The electrician then broke the driver's window, and Carroll pulled open the driver's door. Carroll then held open the door as the electrician extended his upper body into the car in an unsuccessful effort to unlatch the seat belt. The electrician ultimately exited due to increasing flame inside the car. Carroll also extended his upper body across Smith and tried unsuccessfully to release the seat belt before retreating. Carroll then used a pocketknife to cut the belt at Smith's lap and shoulder. Carroll maneuvered behind Smith while pushing him forward, so he could grasp Smith beneath his right arm. The electrician grasped Smith beneath his left arm, and both men twisted Smith's torso toward the open car door and pulled. Smith's shoes caught beneath the dash, and the two men pulled harder, ultimately removing Smith from the vehicle. Carroll and the electrician then dragged Smith to safety near the rear of the car before a third bystander helped them carry Smith farther away. An arriving state trooper using a fire extinguisher attempted to extinguish the fire but was not successful and the car was shortly engulfed. Smith was treated

for minor crash injuries but was not burned. Carroll and the electrician were not burned, though hair on their arms was singed. Carroll also aggravated a previous back injury, but recovered. [90160-10095](#)



JOSE L. CASANOVA

*New Britain, Connecticut*

**Jose L. Casanova** helped to rescue a police officer from assault, Hartford, Connecticut, May 17, 2018. Responding to a complaint, a police officer, 34, was inside a female resident's ninth-floor apartment when the resident attempted to leave, prompting a violent struggle. As they wrestled in the kitchen, the assailant obtained a kitchen knife, which she used to stab the officer multiple times about her neck. In the building's lobby, Casanova, 32, maintenance technician, and a maintenance supervisor, neither of whom was responsible for building security, were alerted that the officer needed help. Casanova and the maintenance supervisor took an elevator to the ninth floor, where they exited into a hall leading to the apartment. In the hall, they saw that the assailant, while holding the knife, had a chokehold on the officer, who was on the floor outside the apartment. Casanova and the maintenance supervisor ran to them. Casanova seized the knife from the assailant's hand, and the maintenance supervisor grasped the assailant's arms and removed her from the officer. The maintenance supervisor restrained the assailant while another person tended to the officer's wounds to stanch the bleeding until backup officers arrived. The officer survived and was hospitalized for treatment of serious wounds. [89925-10089](#)



MICHAEL S. CHANDLER

*Stafford, Virginia*

**Michael S. Chandler** rescued Blake Brock from drowning, Southern Shores, North Carolina, July 19, 2018. Blake, 12, was playing in the Atlantic Ocean with his brothers when a rip current carried him to a point about 200 feet from shore in water 12 feet deep. His brothers alerted their mother and her fiancé immediately sprinted to the water and swam toward Blake. As Blake's mother continued to call for help, Chandler, 52, a vacationing firefighter, responded to the scene from nearby and removed his cap, shirt, and sandals. By this time,

the fiancé had reached Blake, moved behind him and, grasping him beneath his armpits, threw Blake out of the rip current. The fiancé struggled to stay afloat as he was carried by the current about 60 feet farther from the beach. Chandler entered the water at a point farther south and swam about 240 feet to reach Blake. Another man also swam out to a point near Blake and Chandler. Chandler grasped one of Blake's arms with his right hand and side-stroking with his left arm, towed the boy to shallow water atop a sand bar about 60 feet from shore accompanied by the other man. Both men and other bystanders then helped Blake wade to shore after advising an arriving lifeguard that the fiancé remained in the water. Blake, who had swallowed sea water and was treated at the hospital for shock, recovered. Chandler was nearly exhausted, but not injured. Ocean rescue crews using at least one personal watercraft pulled the fiancé from the water unresponsive several minutes later. Efforts to revive him on the beach were unsuccessful. He had drowned. **90110-10091**



DAVID J. CONNELLY

*Providence Forge, Virginia*

**David J. Connelly** rescued Brian D. and Mary M. Turner from drowning, Doswell, Virginia, December 22, 2016. Turner, 62, was driving on an interstate highway overpass with his wife, Mary, 60, when an accident occurred that caused their vehicle to roll over a concrete barrier and fall into the Little River below. Connelly, 30, crane inspector, was driving nearby and witnessed the accident. Connelly stopped his vehicle, ran down an embankment and, fully clothed, jumped into the river. He swam a short distance to the vehicle's driver's side, where, with difficulty, he pried the door open using his arm and hand. Extending his upper body inside the vehicle, Connelly unlatched Turner's seat belt, grasped Turner around his arms and removed him from the vehicle. Turner alerted Connelly that Mary remained in the front, passenger seat. Connelly re-entered the vehicle and submerged to reach Mary's seat belt and unlatch it. Connelly grasped Mary around her arms and removed her from the vehicle. Holding on to both Turner and Mary, Connelly, kicking his legs, maneuvered them to the bank. A bystander assisted Connelly in removing Turner and Mary from the water and up the embankment to safety. Turner was treated for minor injuries, and he recovered. Mary suffered serious injuries sustained in the accident. Connelly suffered cuts to his hand and arm, and he recovered. **88924-10073**



DAVID COVINGTON

*Rockingham, North Carolina*

**David Covington** rescued a 6-year-old girl from attacking dogs, Rockingham, North Carolina, January 9, 2019. On a rural road, the girl exited her school bus and was attacked by two pit bull dogs. As she lay on the ground, she was bitten all over her body by the dogs. Covington, 72, retired railroad clerk, who was in his vehicle with his granddaughters and had stopped behind the bus at the scene, saw the dogs attacking her. He exited his vehicle, took a 4-foot-long tree branch from the ground, and went to her aid. As he approached the girl, one of the dogs charged him and, using the branch, Covington swung at it, fending it off. As the second dog bit the girl, Covington struck it with the branch, interrupting its attack. Covington, using the branch, persisted in his efforts to disrupt the dogs' attack on the girl, and they ultimately left the scene. The girl was hospitalized for treatment of serious injuries, and she recovered. [90284-10117](#)



PETER C. DI PINTO, SR.

*Brookhaven, New York*

**Peter C. Di Pinto, Sr.**, saved Janice C. Esposito from being struck by a train, Brookhaven, New York, October 10, 2017. Esposito, 43, was driving her van through a railroad crossing at night when a collision with another vehicle occurred and her van was pushed onto a railroad track where it straddled both rails. Di Pinto, 64, retired teacher and off-duty volunteer firefighter, heard the crash from his nearby house and drove to the scene. He ran to the driver's door of the van, which was smashed, and told Esposito, who was dazed, that she needed to exit the van. Suddenly, the crossing's gates began to descend and warning lights flashed as an eastbound commuter train approached them at 65 m.p.h. Di Pinto ran around to the passenger side of the van and opened the door, then reached in and grasped Esposito, who was having difficulty moving. Di Pinto pulled her out through the door when the train was several hundred feet away. Di Pinto quickly moved Esposito off of the track and to safety behind a nearby signal box where they sought shelter. The train, which had slowed to about 60 m.p.h. struck the van about six seconds after Esposito had been removed. The van was thrown off of the track and into nearby vegetation. Esposito was treated at a hospital for minor injuries. [89440-10072](#)



SEAN R. DIAS  
*Whitman, Massachusetts*

**Sean R. Dias** saved Diane V. Gray from burning, Braintree, Massachusetts, November 19, 2017. Gray, 70, her husband, and her son were inside their house after fire broke out in the son's bedroom. Responding to the scene and arriving before firefighters, Dias, 37, on-duty police officer, located the husband in a wheelchair just inside the front door and aided him outside. The husband informed Dias that Gray and the son remained inside. Despite flames at the roof and a window to the son's room, Dias entered the house at the front door into the living room. He observed fire at the doorway of the son's room, and smoke extended from the ceiling to Dias's waist. Dias called out and Gray answered. Dias followed her voice, locating her seated in the living room. Dias lifted Gray onto his shoulder. Disoriented by darkness and smoke, Dias had difficulty retracing his path to the door. Ultimately, Dias found the door and exited with Gray. Dias went to his knees to catch his breath, and Gray was helped farther away from the home by another officer. Heavy fire prevented firefighters from rescuing Gray's son, who did not survive. Gray was hospitalized for inhaling smoke, but she was not burned. Dias was treated at a hospital for smoke inhalation; he recovered. [90339-10121](#)



PHILLIP H. DILUCA  
*Clinton, Maine*

**Phillip H. DiLuca** saved Shawn C. Skehan from burning, Clinton, Maine, June 13, 2017. At night, Skehan, 53, was asleep in a bedroom of his mobile home when fire broke out in the home's attic. Neighbors alerted authorities and made efforts to rouse Skehan by banging on the home's doors and windows. Police officer, DiLuca, 24, was off-duty and driving home from work when he heard of the fire on his police radio in his private vehicle. DiLuca drove to the scene. Informed by a neighbor that Skehan was likely asleep inside, DiLuca peered through a window and observed heavy smoke in the home's living room. Unable to enter the home's front door, DiLuca ran to the rear of the home, forced open a door, and entered. Encountering intense heat and smoke, DiLuca crouched low and moved quickly through the home using a T-shirt to shield his face from smoke.

DiLuca searched for Skehan but failed to immediately find him. Entering the third and final bedroom, DiLuca found Skehan asleep. DiLuca shook Skehan, who took several seconds to rouse, and informed him he needed to leave quickly. DiLuca then guided Skehan through thick smoke and past nearby flames to the back door where they exited. Skehan wasn't injured. DiLuca was treated at the scene for smoke inhalation and recovered. [89746-10104](#)



MARVIN GEORGE DIXON  
*Cromwell, Connecticut*

**Marvin George Dixon** helped to rescue a police officer from assault, Hartford, Connecticut, May 17, 2018. Responding to a complaint, a police officer, 34, was inside a female resident's ninth-floor apartment when the resident attempted to leave, prompting a violent struggle. As they wrestled in the kitchen, the assailant obtained a kitchen knife, which she used to stab the officer multiple times about her neck. In the building's lobby, Dixon, 38, the building's senior maintenance supervisor, and a maintenance technician, neither of whom was responsible for building security, were informed that the officer needed help. Dixon and the maintenance technician took an elevator to the ninth floor, where they exited into a hall leading to the apartment. In the hall, they saw that the assailant, while holding the knife, had a chokehold on the officer, who was on the floor outside the apartment. Dixon and the maintenance technician ran to them. Dixon moved behind the assailant, grasped her arms, and removed her from the officer, and the maintenance technician seized the knife from the assailant's hand. Dixon restrained the assailant while another person tended to the officer's wounds to stanch the bleeding until backup officers arrived. The officer survived and was hospitalized for treatment of serious wounds. [89924-1008](#)



STEPHEN ANTHONY EBERLE  
*Ivoryton, Connecticut*

**Stephen Anthony Eberle** helped to save Shelton T. Smith from burning, Middletown, Connecticut, July 16, 2017. Smith, 38, was unconscious and seat-belted in a sedan after an accident on a highway at night. As the front of Smith's wrecked vehicle caught fire on the highway where it had come to rest, Eberle,

31, power station electrician, stopped his car, called 911, and moved to the burning sedan where he made initial unsuccessful efforts to enter Smith's car. Eberle retrieved a tire iron from his car and used it to break the rear, driver's-side window. He then opened the rear door and crawled into the back seat. He reached forward and attempted to release Smith's seat belt. Unsuccessful, Eberle exited the car and then broke the driver's window, while a teacher's aide, who had arrived at the scene, forced the driver's door open. As the teacher's aide held the door open, Eberle twice extended his upper body into the car to unfasten the seat belt but was thwarted by flame. The teacher's aide then extended his upper body inside and also tried unsuccessfully before he retreated. The teacher's aide then used a pocketknife to cut the belt at Smith's lap and shoulder. The teacher's aide maneuvered behind Smith while pushing him forward, grasping Smith beneath his right arm. Eberle grasped Smith beneath his left arm, and both men twisted Smith's torso toward the open car door and pulled. Smith's shoes caught beneath the dash, and the two men pulled harder, ultimately removing Smith from the vehicle. Eberle and the teacher's aide then dragged Smith to safety near the rear of the car before a third bystander helped them carry Smith farther away. An arriving state trooper using a fire extinguisher attempted to extinguish the fire but was not successful, and the car was shortly engulfed. Smith was treated for minor crash injuries but was not burned. Eberle and the teacher's aide were not burned, though hair on their arms was singed. 90161-10094



STEVEN W. FITZPATRICK

*Marysville, Washington*

**Steven W. Fitzpatrick** rescued Theodore E. Shockley from burning, Marysville, Washington, April 18, 2018. Shockley, 88, was in his burning mobile home after fire broke out in the living room. Fitzpatrick, 72, retired laborer, lived across the street and was alerted to the fire. Fitzpatrick went to Shockley's home with fire extinguishers and entered its living room through the front door. Despite blistering heat, Fitzpatrick crawled to Shockley, who was unconscious on the living room floor near a flaming couch. Fitzpatrick used a fire extinguisher near Shockley to suppress nearby flames, then grabbed Shockley and moved him toward the front door. Forced to retreat by heat, Fitzpatrick exited the home briefly for air, then re-entered and returned to Shockley. With difficulty, he moved Shockley to the threshold of the front

door where another man grasped Shockley and fully removed him. Fitzpatrick exited the home, which was shortly engulfed by flames. Shockley sustained smoke inhalation and extensive burns; he died later that day. Fitzpatrick sustained burns to his head, forearm, and hand, for which he received hospital treatment; he recovered. [90047-10120](#)



RICHARD J. GANDOLFO

*Manorville, New York*

**Richard J. Gandolfo** helped to rescue Mercedes C. Ramos from burning, East Patchogue, New York, April 20, 2018. Ramos, 19, was trapped inside a burning sport utility vehicle after an accident in which the front of her vehicle became wedged beneath a truck. Flames broke out on the vehicle's hood and spread to its interior. Gandolfo, 55, police officer, who was on duty and responded to the scene, attempted unsuccessfully to open the vehicle's doors. A passing male motorist opened the rear, driver's-side door. As flames burned inside the car, Gandolfo and the motorist worked together to move Ramos to the back seat and then from the vehicle. Another man joined them and helped move Ramos away from the vehicle, which was shortly engulfed by flames. Ramos sustained second-degree burns to her legs and a broken ankle. Gandolfo sustained smoke inhalation and burns to both hands; he recovered. [89807-10112](#)



DYLAN M. GOETSCH

*Spearfish, South Dakota*

**Dylan M. Goetsch** helped to save Jason R. McKee from burning, Sturgis, South Dakota, May 12, 2018. McKee, 47, was unconscious inside a bedroom of a burning, split-level house. Goetsch, 27, police officer, was on duty and went to the scene, where he was told that McKee was inside an upper-level bedroom. Goetsch entered the house, which was filled with dense smoke and flames that were visible in the kitchen on the upper level. Goetsch and a police sergeant moved to the upper level where Goetsch went to his hands and knees and crawled to a bedroom, unable to see more than a few feet in front of him in the thick smoke. Goetsch searched inside the bedroom but did not find McKee. He retreated to the upper-level stairway, where he was told McKee was in a

different bedroom. Goetsch crawled to McKee's bedroom door and opened it, but visibility was limited. He exited the house and climbed a ladder below McKee's bedroom window and heard McKee breathing. Goetsch descended the ladder, and he and the sergeant entered the house again with wet shirts covering their faces, ran to McKee's bedroom, and, with difficulty, dragged him from the house as flames spread to the ceiling near them. McKee was hospitalized for smoke inhalation and inhalation burns to his lungs. Goetsch inhaled smoke, and he was examined at the scene. He recovered. 89919-10128



KENNETH RAYE GOOCH, JR.  
*Powells Point, North Carolina*

**Kenneth Raye Gooch, Jr.**, died attempting to rescue Blake Brock from drowning, Southern Shores, North Carolina, July 19, 2018. Blake, 12, was playing in the Atlantic Ocean with his brothers when a rip current carried him to a point about 200 feet from shore in water 12 feet deep. His brothers alerted their mother, 39, who was on the beach with her fiancé, Gooch, 32, laborer. As Blake's mother expressed concern for her son's safety, Gooch sprinted to the water where he waded then swam toward Blake while his mother shouted for help. A vacationing firefighter, 52, responded to the scene from nearby and removed his cap, shirt, and sandals. By this time, Gooch, who had reached Blake, moved behind him and, grasping him under his arms, threw Blake away from the rip current. Gooch struggled to stay afloat as he was carried by the current about 60 feet farther from the beach. The firefighter entered the water at a point farther south and swam about 240 feet to reach Blake. Another man also swam out to a point near Blake and the firefighter. The firefighter grasped one of Blake's arms with his right hand and side-stroking with his left arm, towed the boy to shallow water atop a sand bar about 60 feet from shore accompanied by the other man. Chandler, the other man, and bystanders, then helped Blake wade to shore after advising an arriving lifeguard that Gooch remained in the water. Blake, who had swallowed sea water and was treated at the hospital for shock, recovered. Ocean rescue crews using at least one personal watercraft pulled Gooch, who was unresponsive, from the water several minutes later. Efforts to revive him on the beach were unsuccessful. He had drowned. 89979-10090



PHILIP L. HALL

*Arlington, Virginia*

**Philip L. Hall** rescued Kierre Caldwell-Smith from burning, Albuquerque, New Mexico, April 29, 2018. Kierre, 2, was trapped between a burning tent and an adjacent fence in the backyard of an apartment building in a residential neighborhood. A neighbor, Hall, 22, home remodeling laborer, heard Kierre's great-grandmother scream for help and saw Kierre's plight. Wearing only shorts, Hall exited his first-floor window and quickly climbed over two 6-foot-high fences attempting to reach Kierre. With his way to Kierre blocked by flames, Hall changed course and climbed over two additional fences to bring himself closer to Kierre, who was on the opposite side of another fence. Pulling part of that fence's chain-link panel toward him, Hall, while standing on debris, reached down for Kierre and grasped the boy's left arm. Hall lost his grip, and Kierre fell. Despite blistering heat, Hall leaned over the fence farther, extended his upper body into the flames and grasped the boy. Hall then lifted him over the fence to safety. Carrying Kierre, Hall made his way to a nearby parking lot where paramedics treated them. Kierre suffered severe burns to about 55 percent of his body and was hospitalized for nearly three months; he continued to recover. Hall was hospitalized and underwent rehabilitation for nearly four months for treatment of second- and third-degree burns to more than 55 percent of his body. He recovered. [90235-10130](tel:90235-10130)



TYLER JAMES HANCE

*Fort Covington, New York*

**Tyler James Hance** saved Christian B. Perez from drowning, Kirksville, Missouri, December 11, 2018. Perez, 62, was a front-seat passenger in a sport utility vehicle that left a road and entered an ice-covered pond. Perez released his seat belt and exited the vehicle through the window opening of his door. Perez yelled for help in the 12-foot-deep water before floating face-up about 30 feet from the pond's bank. Hance, 25, brush removal laborer, was riding in a truck past the pond with his foreman when he spotted the vehicle sinking. Hance's foreman stopped the truck, and Hance got out and ran to the pond where he heard Perez's calls for help. Hance removed his boots, shirt, and work jacket and, dressed only in his jeans, waded then swam to Perez from the bank in the 39-degree water. Perez became

non-responsive as Hance grasped him. With difficulty, Hance side-stroked with his right arm while grasping Perez's shoulder with his left hand. Hance, swimming toward a spot on the bank about 40 feet away, towed Perez. About 15 feet from the bank, Hance submerged and, nearly exhausted, called for help. Two police officers and Hance's foreman, in wadable water about 5 feet from the bank, were able to reach Hance and Perez and pull them from the pond. Paramedics revived Perez, and he recovered after several days in the hospital. Hance donned dry clothes and warmed himself in a heated police car. [90366-10123](#)



ANDREA L. HARRIS

*Tuscaloosa, Alabama*

**Andrea L. Harris** saved Demarcus T. Richardson from burning, Coker, Alabama, July 27, 2018. Demarcus, 7 months old, remained inside a car that had traveled off a rural highway at night and overturned onto its roof. The driver, his mother, sought help on the highway, alerting Harris, 33, a water meter reader, who was driving past the scene. He stopped, moved down a grassy embankment, and approached the car. Flame issued from the car's undercarriage near the engine. Unable to open the passenger-side doors, Harris lay on his stomach at the rear, passenger-side door and twice struck the window with his right hand, breaking it open. As smoke issued through the window, he could not see or hear Demarcus. Harris crawled inside the window to his waist, feeling around for Demarcus while trying to keep his eyes closed because of the smoke. Locating Demarcus lying inside on the car's roof near a headrest, Harris grasped his leg and pulled him out through the window as he withdrew. The fire grew as Harris carried Demarcus to the highway. Demarcus was not burned. [90003-10098](#)



KRISTIAN B. HARRISON

*Dayton, Kentucky*

**Kristian B. Harrison** rescued a man from burning, Dayton, Kentucky, November 24, 2017. In the early morning, a 29-year-old man remained inside a one-story house after fire broke out in its kitchen area. His cousin's yelling outside the house alerted neighbors, including Harrison, 47, concrete finisher, who was asleep. Barefoot, Harrison went to the scene, where he saw flames

issuing from the home. After forcing open the home's front door, Harrison entered, went to his knees, and crawled about 18 feet to the man, who was face down and unresponsive beneath the doorframe at the kitchen. The ceiling burned above them. Harrison grasped the man, who was about the same size as him, by the ankles. Remaining at floor level, Harrison gradually dragged the man about halfway to the front door before tiring. Harrison resumed pulling him to the doorway, where he received help moving the man across the street as flames reached the front of the house. The man suffered severe burns. Harrison was not injured. [89523-10068](#)



#### MADDISON HENSLIN

*Nipomo, California*

**Maddison Henslin** helped to rescue a woman from burning, Lompoc, California, November 13, 2018. The woman, 55, was in a hallway of her first-floor apartment after fire broke out in her bedroom. Henslin, 21, animal welfare specialist, who lived on the second floor of the same building, responded to the apartment with her partner. After her partner kicked open the locked front door, Henslin followed him inside. Crawling under heavy smoke and flames, Henslin and her partner reached the woman, who was unconscious and lying on the floor, about 15 feet from the door. Henslin grasped the woman's feet, while her partner grasped the woman's upper body. Together, they dragged the woman back to the front door and outside, where they were met by first responders who took the woman away from the building to safety. The woman was taken to a hospital for treatment of smoke inhalation and burns. [90179-10134](#)



#### CHARLES FRANKLIN HOOP

*Wendell, Idaho*

**Charles Franklin Hoop** saved a man from falling, Twin Falls, Idaho, December 14, 2017. The suicidal man, 19, was standing on a 4-inch concrete curb on the outside of a 40-inch-high bridge railing at night above the Snake River, which was 486 feet below. After several motorists called 911 to report the man's behavior, a sheriff's deputy, Hoop, 40, was dispatched to the

scene and arrived within about two minutes. Hoop observed the man leaning forward away from the bridge and shouting incoherently, leading Hoop to believe the man planned to jump to his death. Hoop parked his patrol vehicle adjacent to the man, exited his vehicle and hopped a concrete barrier onto a walkway. From a point behind the man on the inside of the railing, Hoop placed his left leg quickly through the railing's vertical metal slats for stability and, extending his arms and torso toward the man, lunged forward, and bear hugged the man around his chest as the man released his grip and went limp. Securing the man in place and supporting the full weight of the man's body, Hoop pushed against the bottom of the railing with his free right foot and, using that for leverage, pulled the man up and over the railing to the walkway, subduing the man for his own safety until other deputies arrived. The man was taken to a hospital for observation and was not physically injured, though he admitted himself for psychiatric screening and care. Hoop was not injured. 89901-10074



ROBERT M. HOSEY

*Coplay, Pennsylvania*

**Robert M. Hosey** helped to rescue Mercedes C. Ramos from burning, East Patchogue, New York, April 20, 2018. Ramos, 19, was trapped inside a burning sport utility vehicle after an accident in which the hood of her vehicle became wedged beneath a truck. Flames broke out on the vehicle's hood and spread to its interior. Hosey, 38, construction worker, stopped at the scene and ran to the vehicle, where a police officer was attempting to open the rear, driver's-side door. Hosey thrust his hand through the broken-out window of that door and, with difficulty, released the lock mechanism and opened it. Working with the officer, Hosey grasped Ramos, who was in the front seat, and pulled her to where he was sitting at the center of the back seat. Hosey and the officer then removed her from the vehicle. Another man joined them and helped move Ramos away from the vehicle, which was shortly engulfed by flames. Ramos sustained second-degree burns to her legs and a broken ankle. Hosey was treated at a hospital for smoke inhalation. 89806-10113



## TIMONTHY HUNLEY

*Wilmington, North Carolina*

**Timothy Hunley** rescued Silvia Y. Valladares from burning, Walterboro, South Carolina, March 29, 2018. Valladares, 40, was a front passenger in the cab of a semi-tractor that left an interstate highway and entered a wooded median, striking several trees, and catching fire. The tractor's attached motorhome contained multiple propane tanks, and the trailer it was towing contained a vehicle and additional fuel containers. Traveling on the same road, Hunley, 43, film set painter, witnessed the accident, parked his car, and ran to the scene. Approaching the tractor's cab at its front end, Hunley saw Valladares, conscious, inside the passenger side of the cab. Despite flames burning at the front of the vehicle and inside the cab, Hunley stepped onto the wreckage, and reached the broken-out windshield, which was partially blocked by trees. Extending most of his body inside through the opening, he unlatched her seat belt. Hunley then hugged Valladares to him, and with her in his grasp backed through the opening. As he stepped down from the cab, Hunley fell onto his back on the ground, and Valladares landed atop him. He rose and dragged her away from the vehicle to a point from which others ultimately aided her to safety. Flames grew to engulf the cab and spread into the motorhome and wooded median. Valladares required hospitalization for treatment of her injuries, which included severe burns. Hunley suffered minor burns to his arms, and he recovered. [89770-10067](tel:89770-10067)



## MICHAEL BENJAMIN JAMES

*Belleville, New Jersey*

**Michael Benjamin James** helped save Mariam S. Egberongbe from drowning, Belleville, New Jersey, March 4, 2019. After her car left a highway and entered the Passaic River, Egberongbe, 22, escaped through the broken-out rear windshield and positioned herself atop the trunk as the current carried the car, with its front end submerged, downstream. Having approached the scene as a passenger in a vehicle driven by another man, James, 36, rail signal maintainer, saw Egberongbe in the river. He removed

his jacket and boots and descended an embankment to the retaining wall at the nearest bank. Although he had been recovering from recent surgery, James lowered himself from the wall into the 37-degree river. James swam to Egberongbe, who tried to remain above the surface after the car had submerged. James gained a hold of Egberongbe and towed her toward the wall at the nearer bank and helped to secure her with a piece of wood as he struggled to move closer to the bank. Those present at the scene, including police officers, threw ropes to them and worked to pull Egberongbe then James up the wall to safety. Egberongbe and James were hospitalized for their exposure to the cold water. They recovered. [90388-10126](#)



MICHAEL JAMES JORDAN

*Sterling, Connecticut*

**Michael James Jordan** helped to save Alicia E. Brunnett from burning, Killingly, Connecticut, November 14, 2017. Brunnett, 24, was trapped inside her burning pickup truck after a highway accident. Jordan, 47, logger, was driving on the highway with his son when they came upon the accident. Flames were issuing from the underside of the truck on its passenger side. Jordan exited his vehicle and ran to the driver's side of the truck, where Brunnett was sitting in the driver's seat, her legs trapped beneath the dashboard. Jordan attempted to open the driver's door but it was jammed. The door's window was broken out, and the window frame was buckled, limiting access to Brunnett. Jordan grasped the door frame and pulled down on it. Jordan's boot caught fire from flames on the underside of the truck near where he was standing, and he stamped his foot to put out the flames. Jordan's son arrived at the driver's side and both pulled down on the door frame until there was a gap large enough to remove Brunnett. Despite heavy smoke and intense heat, Jordan and his son both reached in through the gap. Both men grasped Brunnett, Jordan freeing her legs from underneath the dashboard, and pulled her from the truck. Jordan's pant leg caught fire and he smothered the flames. Jordan and his son moved Brunnett farther away from the truck, which was shortly engulfed by flames. Brunnett was hospitalized for broken limbs and internal injuries. She was not burned. Jordan sustained a burn to his right shin; he recovered. [89525-10077](#)



## WYATT JORDAN

*Sterling, Connecticut*

**Wyatt Jordan** helped to save Alicia E. Brunnett from burning, Killingly, Connecticut, November 14, 2017. Brunnett, 24, was trapped inside her burning pickup truck after a highway accident. Jordan, 20, logger, was in a vehicle with his father when they came upon the accident. Flames were issuing from the underside of the truck on its passenger side. Jordan's father exited their vehicle and ran to the driver's side of the truck, where Brunnett was sitting in the driver's seat. The father attempted to open the driver's door, but it was jammed. The door's window frame was buckled and its window was broken out, limiting access to Brunnett. Jordan's father grasped the window frame and pulled down on it. Jordan arrived at the truck's driver's side and both he and his father pulled down on the frame until there was a gap large enough to remove Brunnett. Despite heavy smoke and intense heat, Jordan and his father both reached in through the gap and grasped Brunnett, his father freeing her legs from underneath the dashboard. The men pulled Brunnett out of the truck as flames spread to the interior of the truck. Jordan's pant leg caught fire and he smothered the flames. Jordan and his father moved Brunnett farther away from the truck, which was shortly engulfed by flames. Brunnett was hospitalized for broken limbs and internal injuries. She was not burned. [89526-10078](#)



## SOMMER MARIE KING

*Leduc, Alberta*

**Sommer Marie King** helped to save an unidentified man from drowning, Devon, Alberta, June 20, 2018. A man who had entered the cold, swift water of the North Saskatchewan River was carried downstream by its current and waved his arms in apparent distress. King, 33, educational assistant, who was on the riverbank and observed the man struggling in the 500-foot-wide river, entered the water with another woman and waded and swam toward him. The man submerged and the other woman dived, grasped him, and pulled him to the surface. As the woman began to tow him back to the riverbank she experienced fatigue and called out to King to help her. King, from nearby, joined the other woman and, with both women grasping the man, towed him to water near the riverbank, where they all waded to safety. King was tired after the rescue but was not injured. [90074-10101](#)



MACIEJ KOSIARSKI

*Schaumburg, Illinois*

**Maciej Kosiarski** saved Mohanakumari Naidu from burning, South Barrington, Illinois, July 3, 2018. Naidu, 61, was driving a sport utility vehicle on a two-lane highway before dusk when the vehicle left the road, struck a tree, and turned onto its passenger side in a shallow, grassy ditch. Smoke immediately issued from the vehicle's engine. Naidu, secured in the driver's seat by a seat belt, was unable to open her door. Kosiarski, 30, pizza delivery driver, was passing by and observed Naidu's smoking vehicle. Kosiarski climbed onto the driver's side of Naidu's vehicle and found the rear, driver's-side door unlocked. He opened it and entered Naidu's vehicle, standing on the rear, passenger-side door panel. Naidu tumbled down from her driver's seat and scrambled into the rear-seat area, while Kosiarski pulled himself out of the car through the rear, driver's-side door. The vehicle continued to smoke, and Kosiarski reached down into the car to grasp Naidu. Kosiarski pulled her up to a sitting position atop the vehicle. After jumping down to the ground, Kosiarski reached up and grasped Naidu, then carried her on his back to his car. He then drove a safe distance from Naidu's vehicle, from which flames issued. Naidu was taken to a hospital but did not require treatment. [90060-10122](tel:9006010122)



RICHARD THOMAS KROCHTA

*Florissant, Colorado*

**Richard Thomas Krochta** saved Scott C. Smith and Denese M. Kostrzewa from burning, Woodland Park, Colorado, August 29, 2018. Smith, 70, was driving a minivan on a highway at night with a passenger, Kostrzewa, 59, when the vehicle left the road and crashed into a tree in a rural area. Richard Thomas Krochta, 56, freight truck driver, who saw their burning vehicle as he came upon the scene, stopped. Alerting authorities by cellphone, Krochta grabbed a fire extinguisher and moved to the vehicle where he attempted to suppress flames issuing from the van's engine compartment. Hearing Smith call for help, and with access to and ingress through the driver's door blocked by the fallen tree's branches, Krochta moved to the minivan's passenger side where he found Smith amid dense smoke. Krochta tugged on the top of the

front, passenger door and created a small opening through which he reached inside and grasped Smith by his collar. Krochta pulled Smith from the van and dragged him to safety about 30 feet behind the vehicle. On Smith's word that Kostrzewa remained in the van, Krochta returned to the same door and located Kostrzewa. He reached in, grasped her by her clothing and, pulling her out of the van, placed her on his shoulder. Krochta then carried her to a point of safety near Smith. Kostrzewa, who was in a coma for two weeks, underwent surgery to repair broken legs and, later, a shattered elbow. She continued to undergo rehabilitation. Smith had surgery to repair a broken ankle, and continued to recover. They were not burned. 90050-10111



JORDAN SCOTT LAMBAY

*Okinawa, Japan*

**Jordan Scott Lambay** rescued a woman from assault, Kirksville, Missouri, June 29, 2018. At night, a woman, 28, fled her house, where her husband had attacked her with an axe, and ran to a neighboring house for help. The woman alerted its occupants, including Lambay, 22, college student, and his partner, who both went outside. The assailant dragged the woman, bloodied, into the street and hovered over her with the axe as her children, screaming, were near. Barefoot, Lambay ran to the assailant, who was about 40 pounds heavier than him, and grasped the axe handle with his hands, impeding the assailant from swinging it at the woman. Lambay then struggled with the assailant, ultimately taking him to the ground as the woman remained facedown in the street. Lambay got atop the assailant, pinning him down, and attempted to wrest the axe away until his partner seized it and removed it from the scene. Lambay restrained the assailant until police arrived shortly. The woman was flown to a hospital for treatment of serious wounds; she survived. Lambay was not injured. 90228-10110



CHRISTOPHER E. LAWLESS

*North Sydney, Nova Scotia*

**Christopher E. Lawless** rescued Krista E. Grosskleg from drowning, Inverness, Nova Scotia, July 22, 2017. Grosskleg, 40, was wading in the Gulf of St. Lawrence with her daughter at a public beach when they lost

their footing and were carried into deeper water by a rip current. High winds and large waves also hampered their efforts to return to shore. Grosskleg's husband entered the water and swam to them. He grasped their daughter, but Grosskleg was pulled farther from shore. Lawless, 41, manager, entered the water with a boogie board, which he gave to the husband and daughter. He then swam to Grosskleg, who was on her back and barely conscious, at a point about 300 feet from shore. Lawless grasped Grosskleg and towed her toward shore. Once he reached wadable water, a lifeguard assisted him in getting Grosskleg closer to the beach. Others came out and helped Grosskleg out of the water while Lawless exited on his own. Grosskleg's husband and daughter were assisted out of the water by another lifeguard. Grosskleg was hospitalized for pneumonia and extreme exhaustion; she recovered. Lawless was tired after the rescue; he recovered. 90082-10132



OMAR LEE

*Louisville, Kentucky*

**Omar Lee** helped to save Brad E. Vandeverter from burning, Louisville, Kentucky, November 7, 2017. In an accident on an interstate, Vandeverter, 59, remained inside the cabin of a semi-truck that overturned onto its passenger side and slid into a retaining wall. Fire burned on the truck's undercarriage and at the front end, and leaked diesel fuel caught fire on the road. Lee, 40, an off-duty police officer, and another man went to the truck. Smoke inside the cabin prohibited them from seeing Vandeverter. Lee used his flashlight to strike the windshield but could not break it. After the rupture of an air hose, flames briefly intensified; they stepped back. Smoke issued from the front end. Lee and the man then moved to the truck's skylight area. After Lee used his handheld radio to break out a skylight window at their chest level, Lee and the man grasped Vandeverter's upper body at the opening and pulled him to the ground. Lee and the man then lifted Vandeverter over the retaining wall to shield him from the flames that grew to consume the truck. Vandeverter was not burned. 89505-10075



MELISSA ANNE LEHEW

*Darlington, Maryland*

**Melissa Anne Lehew** died attempting to help rescue Daniel E. Samis from drowning, Bel Air, Maryland, August 31, 2018. During heavy rain in a rural area, Samis, 67, was stranded in his car on a flooded section of road where it crossed a stream. Lehew, 34, was riding in a pickup truck driven by her boyfriend when they saw Samis's car and stopped at the scene. The boyfriend backed his truck to the water's edge about 100 feet from Samis's car and got out. Intending to help Samis, the boyfriend waded toward his car with a rope that he had tied to the truck's rear, and Lehew, holding onto the rope, also waded toward Samis's car. Shortly, Lehew lost her footing and fell into the water. The boyfriend moved to Lehew at the road's guide rail and helped her to her feet. They soon became separated, and Lehew was carried downstream by the current and away from the scene; the boyfriend safely exited the water. Samis's car, with him inside, also was carried away downstream by the current. His body later was recovered from his car; he had drowned. Lehew's body ultimately was recovered from a pond three days later. She also had drowned. [90183-10119](#)



ARCANGELO F. LIBERATORE

*Hawthorne, New York*

**Arcangelo F. Liberatore** rescued Natalia K. Petrellese from an attacking coyote, Thornwood, New York, April 29, 2018. Natalia, 5, was at a township park with her mother and younger brother when a rabid coyote approached them and bit Natalia's arm, latching onto it. The coyote dragged Natalia to the ground, where her mother grasped the coyote's snout. The coyote briefly released Natalia, but then bit the back of her neck, which was covered by a hooded sweatshirt. Natalia's mother fought the coyote, but could not get it to release Natalia. Liberatore, 31, off-duty police officer, was at the park and heard screams. He ran to Natalia and grabbed the coyote, pinning it to the ground. The coyote released Natalia, who was taken to safety by her mother. Liberatore struggled to restrain the aggressive coyote, which attempted to bite him, for several minutes. Police arrived and shot and killed the coyote.

Natalia sustained a bite wound to her arm, which required sutures. Liberatore sustained scratches to his hands. Both Natalia and Liberatore were treated for rabies. Both recovered from their injuries. [89938-10069](#)



C. KEMP LITTLEPAGE

*Devon, Pennsylvania*

**C. Kemp Littlepage** helped to rescue Brian E. King from drowning, Wayne, Pennsylvania, June 12, 2018. King, 37, remained in the driver’s seat of his car after it left the roadway, traveled down an embankment, and entered a lake. Upright, the car came to rest at a point about 80 feet from the bank and began to submerge in water at least 6 feet deep. Littlepage, 70, retired real estate developer, was driving nearby and witnessed the accident. He parked his vehicle and removed his shirt and shoes, entered the water, and swam to the vehicle. Littlepage reached the driver’s door and extended his arms through the open window toward King. Littlepage pulled King’s head away from the steering wheel and unlatched King’s seat belt. Another man responded to the car’s passenger side, and with his son, opened the car’s front, passenger door. The man entered the car. As Littlepage pushed King toward the man, he pulled King out through the open door. The car shortly submerged. The man, his son, and others who had entered the water towed King to the bank and removed him from the lake. Littlepage exited the lake to safety. King required hospitalization for injuries sustained in the accident. [89914-10083](#)



TODD D. LYFORD

*Brownville, Maine*

**Todd D. Lyford** saved a 65-year-old woman from burning, Dover-Foxcroft, Maine, July 30, 2018. The woman was the driver of a vehicle that left a road and traveled down a steep, wooded embankment, striking trees and rocks until coming to rest upright with its front end against a tree and tilted upward. A fire broke out under the hood; the woman remained inside on the vehicle’s front, passenger foot well. On-duty police officer Lyford, 54, and his police chief arrived at the scene before firefighters. Lyford sprayed a

fire extinguisher to little effect, then unsuccessfully attempted to open both driver's-side doors. Lyford moved to the front, passenger door, the base of which was about 3 feet off the ground. He opened the door about 1 foot, but his actions were hindered by a nearby tree. Lyford persisted and, with difficulty, opened the door further. He then extended his upper body and arms inside, grasped the driver's upper body, and pulled her through the door opening and to the ground. He dragged her a short distance away from the vehicle, which was shortly engulfed. Joined by responding paramedics, Lyford and others then dragged her up the embankment. The woman was not burned, but she was hospitalized for injuries and died nine days later. Lyford was nearly exhausted and had inhaled extinguisher chemicals. He recovered after treatment that day at a hospital. [90089-10105](#)



#### TROY MARTIN

*Ventura, California*

**Troy Martin** rescued Ricardo Rodriguez from burning, Santa Paula, California, February 11, 2017. Rodriguez, 19, was the driver of a car that, in a nighttime accident, went off a rural highway into a ditch and overturned at an angle onto its passenger side. Injured, he was unable to free himself as fire broke out in the car's floorboard. A passing motorist, Martin, 64, machinist, saw flame under the car's hood and stopped at the scene. Approaching the car with a flashlight, he could not see Rodriguez inside but assumed he had not escaped. He retrieved a machete from his vehicle and, moving to a rocky ditch slope at the car's roof, Martin repeatedly struck the sunroof panel with the machete until he lost his balance and fell into the ditch near the car's front end. Returning to the sunroof, Martin resumed striking it with the machete until he created an opening. Martin, seeing flame at the dashboard, extended his arms inside, grasped the upper body of Rodriguez, who was larger than him, and pulled until he fell again into the ditch. Returning to the sunroof, Martin regained hold of Rodriguez and dragged him from the car, which was shortly engulfed by fire. Rodriguez suffered a back injury and minor burns to a hand and his thighs. Martin recovered from minor burns to a hand, singeing to his head, and bruises and cuts to his head and legs. [89264-10093](#)



JASON P. MAXWELL

*Maple Valley, Washington*

**Jason P. Maxwell** rescued Weihong Xu from drowning, Seattle, Washington, August 13, 2018. Xu entered the Lower Duwamish Waterway near the rear of his docked ship. Alerted to Xu's plight, Maxwell, 43, vessel operations manager, ran from his nearby office to the edge of the dock and, seeing Xu face-down in the water, removed his shoes and reflective vest and dived about 15 feet to the 59-degree water, which was 51 feet deep. Maxwell swam about 150 feet to Xu who had submerged. Maxwell submerged and swam to Xu, who was about 10 feet beneath the water's surface. Grasping the collar of Xu's coveralls, Maxwell pulled him to the surface and, resting Xu's head, face-up, on his left forearm, Maxwell then used a sidestroke to swim toward the dock. Maxwell, nearly exhausted from towing Xu, swam toward a life ring that a bystander had tossed to a point about 75 feet from the dock. Maxwell, with difficulty, reached the life ring and supported himself and Xu in the water and continued kicking toward the dock. A diving salvage boat was directed toward Maxwell and Xu and its two-man crew pulled them aboard. The crew performed CPR on the unconscious Xu, as Maxwell lay nearly exhausted. Fire and rescue crews shortly raised Maxwell and Xu to the dock. Xu was revived, taken to a hospital, and ultimately recovered. Maxwell was sent home to rest for the remainder of the day, but he was not injured. [90032-10102](#)



RYAN SCOTT MCILWAIN

*Douro-Dummer, Ontario*

**Ryan Scott McIlwain** saved a man from drowning, Lakefield, Ontario, July 13, 2018. A fully clothed man, 18, was struggling to stay afloat in the Otonabee River. He called for help, alerting bystanders, including Ryan, 16, high school student, who was seated in his parked vehicle along the nearest bank. Ryan drove closer, parked, and observed the man flailing his arms as the current carried him downstream. Upstream of the man, Ryan removed his outer clothing and shoes, waded into the river, then swam to him. Ryan directed the man, who was panicking and about the same size as him, to lie on his back, and he grasped him with one arm around his chest. With his free arm, Ryan

backstroked and used the current to help him tow the man to wadable water downstream at the same bank. There, a bystander assisted Ryan and the man out of the water. Emergency personnel took the man to a hospital. Ryan was nearly exhausted and cold, but he was not injured. [89996-10087](#)



ANGELA LYNN MCQUEEN

*Mattoon, Illinois*

**Angela Lynn McQueen** saved an indeterminate number of people from assault, Mattoon, Illinois, September 20, 2017. Students and staff were in a high school cafeteria at lunch time when a 14-year-old male student made threatening remarks and showed several students a .40-caliber semiautomatic pistol that he had brought to the school. McQueen, 40, a math and physical education teacher who was assigned to monitor the cafeteria, learned of the student's gun and approached him. As she confronted the student and attempted to summon help, he pulled the gun from beneath his sweatshirt. McQueen immediately stepped toward him and lunged for the gun as the assailant began to fire shots, one of which wounded a student in the cafeteria. Grasping the assailant's left hand and gun in both her hands, McQueen forced his arm upward toward the ceiling as he continued to fire shots. McQueen successfully kept the assailant's gun raised toward the ceiling as the student fired the remaining bullets upward. Recognizing the gun was empty, McQueen then disarmed the assailant as the school resource officer arrived to handcuff him. The wounded student recovered. McQueen was treated for minor hearing loss in both ears and continued to suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder. The remaining students and staff escaped the cafeteria unharmed. [89410-10099](#)



KOTE MHITARI

*Sandy, Utah*

**Kote Mhitari** attempted to rescue Georgi Davidov from drowning, Lahaina, Hawaii, March 4, 2018. Davidov, 28, fell from a 15-foot-high cliff overlooking the Pacific Ocean and landed in the water near the cliff's rocky base where slippery rocks and frequent waves prevented him from climbing

out to safety. Davidov screamed for help. Mhitari, 54, truck driver and Davidov's father, who was atop the cliff, saw Davidov fall. Despite being a poor-swimmer, Mhitari jumped down into the water near Davidov and swam a short distance to him. Mhitari and Davidov grasped one another in a bear-hug until a wave shortly separated them. Davidov treaded water near the rocks while Mhitari was carried to a point about 80 feet away from shore. A responding lifeguard reached Davidov and pulled him aboard a personal watercraft. The lifeguard then navigated the watercraft to Mhitari, who was unconscious and face down in the water, and pulled him aboard. The lifeguard took both Mhitari and Davidov to a nearby beach and initiated efforts to resuscitate Mhitari. Arriving medical personnel took Mhitari and Davidov by ambulance to a hospital for treatment. Davidov, who was nearly exhausted, suffered bruising and scrapes to most of his body; he recovered. Mhitari, who was revived after suffering cardiac arrest, required extensive hospitalization and therapy. [89855-10103](#)



#### BRADLEY EUGENE MURPHY

*Foley, Alabama*

**Bradley Eugene Murphy** died attempting to save a 12-year-old boy and rescue Steven B. Wahler from drowning, Gulf Shores, Alabama, October 9, 2017. The boy was playing in the Gulf of Mexico when a rip current carried him to a point about 100 feet from shore into water over his head. Waves up to 5 feet high were breaking close to shore when Murphy, 21, landscaper, and Steven B. Wahler, 47, were alerted to the boy's plight by his mother. After Wahler entered the water and swam to the boy they were separated by a passing wave, and Wahler was carried farther from shore by the current. The boy's mother moved toward her son in the rough surf, reached him, and began to return him to shore. Murphy entered the water and began to swim toward them, then continued swimming past them toward Wahler. As Murphy appeared to reach Wahler both men submerged, disappearing from view. The boy was led from the water by his mother, examined by medics who had arrived at the scene, but he was not injured. Wahler was recovered about two hours later, he had drowned. Murphy was recovered the next day. He, too, had drowned. [89428-10064](#)



CHRISTOPHER M. OLUP

*Willowick, Ohio*

**Christopher M. Olup** helped to save a 54-year-old man from burning, Willowick, Ohio, April 5, 2016. The man who had mobility issues, discovered a fire in the first-floor laundry room in his two-story house. He crawled to a point in the living room that was at least 15 feet from the front door. Olup, 34, police officer, responded to the scene with another officer. Smoke issued from the house's rear and through the open front door. Informed by the man's wife that he remained inside, Olup and the other officer entered at the front door. Overcome by smoke and unable to see him, they exited. While the other officer retrieved a flashlight, Olup re-entered and crawled through the living room, calling out to the man, who answered. Flames burned at the rear of the house. Locating the man, who was heavier than him, Olup grasped one of his wrists, rose to a crouching position, and dragged him toward the front door. The other officer re-entered and crawled until he located Olup, whose belt he grasped. As the other officer pulled Olup by the belt while moving to the door, Olup dragged the man. At the doorway, a third officer arrived and helped to move the man into the lawn. Olup and the man were treated at a hospital for smoke inhalation and released that day. They recovered. [89790-10079](https://www.cleveland.com/news/2016/04/05/police-officer-dragged-man-from-burning-house/)



JULIUS A. ORTENZO

*Prescott, Arizona*

**Julius A. Ortenzo** rescued Rebecca Castelhana and her children, Ava, Axel, and Addison, from burning, Ash Fork, Arizona, August 30, 2018. Castelhana, 31, her husband, and her four young children, Ava, 6, Axel, 5 months, Addison, 9, and a 3-year-old daughter were trapped in their burning sport utility vehicle after a head-on collision with another vehicle on a remote highway. The collision forced the family's vehicle off of the highway and into a disabled pickup truck, parked just off the highway. Fire broke out on both vehicles. Ortenzo, 68, retired construction consultant, was a passenger in a car that came upon the scene and saw the wreckage. His driver stopped and parked nearby. Hearing the children's screams

for help, Ortenzo ran to the burning vehicle's rear, passenger-side door where he pulled Ava through the window opening to safety. Despite rapidly spreading flames and intense heat, Ortenzo also removed Axel and Addison from the vehicle, and aided by another motorist, moved them to safety. Ortenzo then observed Castellano crawling toward the driver's window opening. He helped her out of the window and with help from the other motorist aided her across the highway to safety. An effort was made to remove the husband, but it was not successful. The vehicle was shortly engulfed, and Castellano's husband and 3-year-old perished. Axel, who suffered a fractured skull, and Addison, and Ava, who suffered abrasions and minor burns, all recovered. Castellano suffered a forehead laceration and other minor injuries, but recovered. Ortenzo was treated at a medical center for abrasions on an arm and both knees. He also sustained burns to fingertips on both hands. He recovered. [90176-10127](#)



#### ROBERT PROCHAZKA

*Willoughby, Ohio*

**Robert Prochazka** helped to save a 54-year-old man from burning, Willowick, Ohio, April 5, 2016. The man, who had mobility issues, discovered a fire in the first-floor laundry room in his two-story house. He crawled to a point in the living room that was at least 15 feet from the front door. Prochazka, 49, police officer, responded to the scene with another officer. Smoke issued from the house's rear and through the open front door. Informed by the man's wife that he remained inside, Prochazka and the other officer entered at the front door. Overcome by the smoke and unable to see the man, they exited. Prochazka retrieved a flashlight and re-entered the house at the front door, crawling toward the other officer who had located the man and was dragging him to the front door. Prochazka advanced until he located the other officer, whose belt he grasped. As Prochazka, remaining low to the floor, pulled the officer by the belt while moving to the door, the officer dragged the man. At the doorway, a third officer arrived and helped Prochazka to move the man into the lawn. Prochazka and the man were treated at a hospital for smoke inhalation and released that day. They recovered. [89791-10080](#)



## ZACHARY SALCE

*Nipomo, California*

**Zachary Salce** helped to rescue a woman from burning, Lompoc, California, November 13, 2018. The woman, 55, was in a hall of her first-floor apartment after fire broke out in her bedroom. Salce, 24-year-old sheriff's department custody deputy, who lived on the second floor of the same building, was alerted and responded to the scene with his partner. He knocked on the front door, and heard the occupant scream for help. Unable to open the locked door, Salce kicked the door open and entered, his partner following him. Crawling on his hands and knees under heavy smoke and flames Salce reached the woman, who was unconscious and lying on the floor about 15 feet from the door. Salce grasped the woman's upper body, while his partner grasped the woman's feet. Together, they dragged the woman back to the front door and outside, where they were met by first responders who took the woman away from the building to safety. The woman was taken to a hospital for treatment of smoke inhalation and burns. 90180-10133



## CHRISTOPHER SCHAFER

*Hayti, South Dakota*

**Christopher Schafer** helped to save Colt J. Brink from burning, Blunt, South Dakota, August 17, 2017. Colt, 16, farmer, was semi-conscious and partly buried in wheat grain inside the cab of his tractor-trailer after it collided with a locomotive at a crossing. Flames broke out in the truck's engine compartment and in the spilled grain and diesel fuel leaking from the truck. The train's engineer and conductor exited the train and made efforts to extinguish the blaze, but could not completely suppress the fires. Schafer, 42, county tax assessor, was driving nearby, came upon the accident, and pulled off the road. Schafer exited his vehicle and ran to the truck where he assessed Colt's condition and briefly fought flames with a fire extinguisher. Unable to extinguish the fire and concerned it was likely to spread, Schafer began to pull on the driver's side door of the cab. With the help of another individual, the door was opened. As flames issued from the truck's undercarriage, some coming into direct contact with the truck's full fuel tanks, Schafer and the other individual extended

themselves partially into the cab. Grasping Colt under his arms, Schafer and the other individual pulled Colt from the cab shortly before it was engulfed in flames. Colt was hospitalized two weeks with broken ribs, a broken wrist, and broken leg, as well as head injuries; he recovered. He was not burned. 89631-10081



CHRISTOPHER W. SCHMOKER

*Belle Fourche, South Dakota*

**Christopher W. Schmoker** helped to save Jason R. McKee from burning, Sturgis, South Dakota, May 12, 2018. McKee, 47, was unconscious inside a bedroom of a burning, split-level house. Schmoker, 37, police sergeant, was on duty and went to the scene, where he was told that McKee was inside an upper-level bedroom. Schmoker and a police officer entered the house, which was filled with dense smoke; flames were visible in the kitchen on the upper level. Schmoker and the officer went to the upper level but Schmoker returned to the landing while the officer crawled toward a bedroom to search for McKee. The officer returned to the front door, and he and Schmoker exited the house. The officer climbed a ladder below McKee's bedroom window and heard McKee breathing. He descended the ladder and he and Schmoker entered the house again with wet shirts covering their faces, ran to McKee's bedroom, and, with difficulty, dragged him from the house as flames spread to the ceiling near them. McKee was hospitalized for smoke inhalation and inhalation burns to his lungs. Schmoker sustained minor smoke inhalation; he recovered. 89918-10129



DANIEL SIMONELLI

*San Diego, California*

**Daniel Simonelli** helped to save a man from drowning, La Jolla, California, January 10, 2019. After entering the Pacific Ocean from a beach in a cove, the man struggled to swim as high, surging waves washed him toward a rocky bluff along the shoreline. The man was alone in the water, and no lifeguards were on duty. Overlooking the scene, Simonelli, 53, swim coach, saw the man in distress and concluded that he needed help. As a bystander notified first-responders, Simonelli removed his outer clothing, entered the 60-degree water, and, wearing swim fins, swam to the man, who was near the opening of a rocky notch at the

base of the bluff. Navigating large, frequent waves, Simonelli ultimately grasped the man and guided him to a point away from the rocks but also farther from the beach. Simonelli remained with the man as an arriving lifeguard reached them on a personal watercraft and another swam out to them from shore. Using the watercraft, the lifeguards took the man to safety, leaving Simonelli behind. Simonelli returned to the beach under his own power. He was cold and nearly exhausted but did not require medical treatment. [90280-10131](#)



ALLEN SIROIS

*Salado, Texas*

**Allen Sirois** helped to rescue Melvin K. Belcher from a burning truck, Belton, Texas, May 26, 2018. Belcher, 60, was the driver of a concrete mixer truck that struck a highway's guide rail and barrier, traveled off the highway, overturned, and rolled down a hill. The truck came to rest in a grassy area on its driver's side, and flames broke out in its engine. Sirois, 20, delivery driver, was working across the street from the scene and witnessed the accident. Sirois grabbed a fire extinguisher and ran to the truck, where he doused some flames. He kicked a small hole in the front windshield but was unable to gain access to the cab's interior. Sirois climbed onto a platform between the cab and mixer and opened the passenger door, where he saw Belcher inside. The cab was filled with smoke and flames that were entering the cab near the driver's door window and windshield. Sirois reached in through the open door, grasped Belcher, and, with difficulty, pulled him partially out of the cab. Another man moved onto the truck and pulled Belcher fully out of the cab. Others took Belcher to the ground and carried him to safety. Sirois and the other man jumped off the truck and the entire group moved to safety as flames engulfed the cab. Belcher and Sirois both sustained minor burns, and recovered. [89970-10109](#)



DARREN M. SMITH

*Vero Beach, Florida*

**Darren M. Smith** saved Gabrielle R. Mishler from burning, Vero Beach, Florida, March 4, 2017. Gabrielle, 17, was trapped inside a burning, overturned sport utility vehicle after a collision with another vehicle on a highway at night. Smith, 31, golf professional, was driving in the area and stopped at the scene.

He approached Gabrielle’s vehicle, which had flames on its undercarriage, and heard her screaming. Smith retrieved a golf club from his vehicle, then broke out the vehicle’s front, passenger window. Smith went to his stomach and, after clearing broken glass fragments from the frame, crawled in through the window opening until his upper body was inside. Heat was intense, and smoke filled the vehicle. He grasped Gabrielle’s feet and pulled her toward him, then maneuvered her feet through the window. Another man arrived and pulled Gabrielle by the feet fully outside the vehicle and to safety. Smith backed out of the vehicle, which was shortly engulfed by flames. Gabrielle was treated at a hospital for injuries she sustained; she was not burned. Smith sustained lacerations to his hands and arms; he recovered. 90269-10116



TROY E. STRICKLAND

*Scottsburg, Virginia*

**Troy E. Strickland** died attempting to save a girl from drowning, Emerald Isle, North Carolina, July 25, 2018. A girl who had entered the Atlantic Ocean shouted for help and waved her arms in the air. Warning flags advising people against entering the water were posted on the beach, and dangerous surf warnings had been issued, including one warning of a rip current. Strickland, 41, public defender’s office investigator, was vacationing at the beach with his family when he became aware of the girl’s plight. Despite being urged not to enter the water, Strickland ran into the ocean and swam toward the girl, who was about 125 feet from shore. Strickland ultimately disappeared from view and was submerged beneath the surface of the water. Lifeguards shortly entered the water and removed Strickland and the girl. The girl was given oxygen at the scene; she was not injured. Strickland, who was unconscious, was transported to a hospital, but could not be revived. He had drowned. 90011-10096



VAN U. THANG

*East Moline, Illinois*

**Van U. Thang** rescued Jaden A. G. Williams from drowning, Moline, Illinois, June 6, 2017. Jaden, 6, was on a dock in the Mississippi River when he fell into the water where a strong current was flowing, and struggled to stay above its

surface. Jaden's father jumped fully clothed into the river in an attempt to save Jaden, but they floundered and both submerged. Van, 17, high school student, was in the area and alerted to the situation. He ran to the bank of the river where he saw Jaden, who had resurfaced. Van, despite having limited swimming ability, waded, then swam 15 feet to Jaden, and grasped his arm. Van swam, then waded back to the bank with Jaden. Van handed Jaden to his mother, and then he exited. Jaden swallowed water and was taken to a hospital for treatment; he recovered. Jaden's father did not resurface, and he drowned. Van was not injured. [89269-10066](tel:89269-10066)



J. RYAN THORNTON

*Commerce City, Colorado*

**J. Ryan Thornton** rescued Wanda A. James from burning, Thornton, Colorado, September 5, 2018. James, 61, physically disabled, was in a bedroom of her mobile home when fire broke out on her bed. Unable to flee, she used a medical alert device to report the fire and Thornton, 41, police officer who was on patrol nearby, responded to the scene. Upon arriving, Thornton observed heavy smoke issuing from James's bedroom window and flames inside the room. He approached the home's locked front door, kicked it open, and entered. Thornton crawled about 15 feet to the bed where James was sitting, moving items on the floor near her bed that blocked his path to her. After briefly retreating outside for air Thornton re-entered the home, and again crawled to James. He lifted her from the bed and, standing, carried her from the room. Thornton tripped and fell, then stood up and dragged James the remainder of the way to the front door, where he was met by first responders who took her farther away to safety. Flames consumed the bedroom. James suffered a severe burn, requiring surgery. Thornton was hospitalized for two days for treatment of inhalation burn injuries. He recovered. [90070-10106](tel:90070-10106)



DANNY LEE TIGER

*Ardmore, Oklahoma*

**Danny Lee Tiger** saved Nathan P. Nolen from burning, June 26, 2019, Ada, Oklahoma. Nolen, 43, was pinned in the driver's seat of his burning truck after a head-on collision with another vehicle on a rural highway at night. Tiger, 46, administrator, who was nearby, heard the crash and drove to the accident scene

with his wife. Tiger approached the truck to find that Nolen was alive with his legs pinned in the wreckage. Unable to open the driver's door, which was jammed, Tiger gripped the top of the damaged door at a gap and bent it downward until he created an opening large enough to extend his arms inside to grasp Nolen's arm and head. Flames burned against the front windshield, and Tiger's wife urged him to get back. As Tiger pulled Nolen toward him through the opening and reset his grasp to beneath both armpits, there was a small explosion at the truck's front end. Tiger then fully freed Nolen, who fell to the ground outside the truck's cab. Tiger dragged Nolen away from the truck, then his wife and another man helped to pull Nolen off the highway. A medical helicopter flew Nolen to a hospital for treatment of serious leg injuries; he was not burned. 90607-10135



DAVID S. TURNER, SR.  
*Lubbock, Texas*

**David S. Turner, Sr.**, died attempting to rescue Priscilla M. Turner from burning, Lubbock, Texas, November 20, 2018. Priscilla, 38, who was disabled, remained in her bedroom inside her house as smoke spread to it from an adjacent room where a fire had broken out by the shared wall. Priscilla's niece stayed with her, attempting to help Priscilla from the bedroom. Returning home, Priscilla's father, Turner, 70, retired parole officer, learned that Priscilla was inside. As smoke issued through the front door, Turner entered the house. The niece escaped through a window in Priscilla's bedroom as conditions in the house worsened. The fire spread to the doorway of the adjacent room and the exterior of that side of the house. Responding firefighters who attacked the fire with water from a hose found Priscilla and Turner a short distance apart and removed them from the house. Priscilla suffered severe burns and ultimately died 11 weeks later. Turner inhaled smoke and was burned. He died the following day. 90203-10124



STEVEN B. WAHLER  
*Owensboro, Kentucky*

**Steven B. Wahler** died attempting to save a 12-year-old boy from drowning, Gulf Shores, Alabama, October 9, 2017. The boy was playing in rough surf in the Gulf of Mexico when a rip current carried him to a point about 100 feet from shore into

water over his head. Waves up to 5 feet high were breaking close to shore when Wahler, 47, IT manager, a male landscaper, 21, and others were alerted to the boy's plight by his mother. Wahler, carrying a boogie board, entered the water and swam southwest toward him. Wahler reached the boy, placed him on the boogie board, and began pushing the board toward shore but became separated from him following the passage of a breaking wave. Wahler was carried farther from shore by the current. The boy's mother, using a boogie board, reached her son and guided him back to shore. The landscaper, who had also entered the water, swam toward Wahler, and appeared to reach him before he and Wahler submerged. The boy was examined by medics but was not injured. Wahler was recovered from the water more than two hours later; he had drowned. The landscaper's body was recovered the following day. He, too, had drowned. [89427-10063](#)



NATHAN SCOTT WANHALA

*Santa Cruz, California*

**Nathan Scott Wanhala** rescued a woman and her daughter from assault, Visalia, California, March 5, 2018. A woman, 25, and her daughter, 3, were aboard an interstate bus on a highway when a female passenger armed with a knife forced her way between them. The assailant put the daughter in a chokehold, pointed the knife at her throat, and threatened to kill her. The girl's mother quickly pulled her daughter away from the assailant and urged her to run, though her daughter remained in the vicinity. The assailant then stabbed the woman twice in the torso. Wanhala, 30, an unemployed pizza shop manager, moved from a nearby seat and positioned himself between the mother and the assailant while shouting at the assailant to drop the knife. When the assailant refused, Wanhala grasped her right arm in both of his hands and attempted to wrest the knife from her hand. A struggle for control of the knife ensued, during which Wanhala was stabbed in the wrist and cut on his hands. The assailant then began to stab herself. The bus driver and two other passengers helped Wanhala subdue and disarm the assailant, and the woman and her daughter were aided to the front of the bus. The woman was taken to a hospital where she underwent treatment for her wounds; she recovered. Her daughter was treated for a forehead abrasion. The assailant was arrested and criminally charged. Wanhala was taken by ambulance to a hospital where he was treated for stab wounds to his right wrist and hand that required stitches, and a cut to his left hand. He recovered. [89729-10114](#)



PERNEICE L. WHITE

*Gretna, Virginia*

**Perneice L. White** rescued Wayne P. Crews from burning, Gretna, Virginia, March 13, 2018. Crews, 58, was trapped inside a burning pickup truck that had left a rural road at night and crashed into a stand of trees. White, 49, emergency medical technician, was driving home from work and came upon the scene. Flame extended 5 feet above the hood of the truck, and White heard Crews shout for help. White ran to the truck's driver's door, saw Crews still in the driver's seat, and extended her hands and arms through the open window. She grasped Crews's arm, and he held onto her as she pulled on him. White braced her foot against a log on the ground and pulled on Crews as he pushed with his legs. Once he was halfway through the window opening, White grasped the back of his jeans and shirt and removed him fully from the truck, and Crews dropped to the ground. White dragged Crews away from the truck and put out flame on his legs. Flame quickly spread to the truck's interior. Crews sustained serious burns to his legs, along with other injuries, and died three days later. [89748-10082](#)



TAYLOR ROD WHITE

*New Harbour, Newfoundland and Labrador*

**Taylor Rod White** saved a 22-year-old woman from drowning, New Harbour, Newfoundland and Labrador, June 24, 2017. The woman was in a vehicle that traveled off a road and into a bay of the Atlantic Ocean near a dock. The vehicle floated away from shore and began to submerge as the woman, unconscious, floated near the car on her back. White, 21, crane operator, who was nearby, saw the woman's vehicle enter the water. White responded to the dock where he removed his shoes and socks and, despite heavy rain and winds, entered the 42-degree water. White swam about 80 feet to the woman, grasped her and, with the woman in tow, swam back toward the dock. White struggled in the cold water but persisted in towing her, keeping her afloat, and her head above water as she regained consciousness. Ultimately he reached the dock with her, where others pulled her to safety. White was also assisted from the water. White was cold after the rescue, but he recovered. [89884-10097](#)



MALIK ANDRE WILLIAMS

*Galesburg, Illinois*

**Malik Andre Williams** died attempting to rescue Jaden A. G. Williams from drowning, Moline, Illinois, June 6, 2017. Jaden, 6, was on a dock in the Mississippi River when he fell into the river where a strong current was flowing. Jaden's father, Williams, 25, laborer, was fishing on the dock near Jaden and jumped feet first, fully clothed into the river. Williams submerged and re-surfaced a few feet from Jaden then floundered with Jaden near the dock. Ultimately, both submerged. A teen arrived at the scene and was told Williams and Jaden were below the surface of the water. He ran to the bank of the river where he saw Jaden suddenly resurface. The teen waded into deep water from the river bank, swam to Jaden, and grasped him, then took him back to the bank, where they exited. Jaden swallowed water and was taken to a hospital for treatment; he recovered. Williams was recovered several hundred feet downstream a few days after the incident; he had drowned. 89752-10065



LEON WRIGHT

*Orlando, Florida*

**Leon Wright** saved Mildred Ortiz and Albert Vazquez from assault, Orlando, Florida, September 8, 2018. Ortiz, 55, and her husband, Vazquez, 60, were in their car parked at a drive-through banking machine when a man armed with a box cutter approached the driver's window and reached in through the driver's window and attempted to steal Ortiz's purse. As Ortiz tried to drive away, the assailant shut off her car and reached into the vehicle. A struggle ensued, during which Ortiz honked her car's horn to attract attention. Wright, 51, car interior restorer, who was about to enter a nearby store, heard the commotion and crossed a parking lot to the car where the assailant had his right arm around Ortiz's neck and the retracted box cutter against her throat. Wright approached the assailant from behind, punched his head and side, and pulled on the assailant. The assailant moved from Ortiz and toward Wright, swinging the box cutter at him. As the confrontation continued the assailant stumbled and fell. Wright and another man briefly kicked at the assailant on the pavement, but the assailant regained his footing and confronted Wright

again. During the ensuing scuffle Wright backpedaled and fell. The assailant then fled. Ortiz and Vazquez were not physically injured. Wright was treated at a hospital for a fractured wrist that required surgery and two months of physical therapy. He recovered but with reduced mobility in his wrist. [90148-10108](#)



JAMES WYATT  
*Clarksville, Indiana*

**James Wyatt** helped to save Brad E. Vandeventer from burning, Louisville, Kentucky, November 7, 2017. In an accident on an interstate, Vandeventer, 59, remained inside the cabin of a semi-truck that overturned onto its passenger side and slid into a retaining wall. Fire burned on the truck's undercarriage and at the front end, and leaked diesel fuel caught fire on the road. Wyatt, 42, a teacher who was driving in the opposite direction, parked on the interstate, climbed over the median wall, and went to the truck, as did an off-duty police officer. Smoke inside the cabin prohibited them from seeing Vandeventer, and they were unable to break the windshield. After the rupture of an air hose, flames briefly intensified; they stepped back. Smoke issued from the front end. Wyatt and the officer then moved to the truck's skylight area. After the officer used his handheld radio to break out a skylight window at their chest level, Wyatt and the officer grasped Vandeventer's upper body at the opening and pulled him to the ground. Wyatt and the officer then lifted Vandeventer over the retaining wall to shield him from the flames that grew to consume the truck. Vandeventer was not burned. [89506-10076](#)



HEATHER ZABROWSKI  
*Olympia, Washington*

**Heather Zabrowski** saved Alan E. Rathbun from burning, Olympia, Washington, July 30, 2018. Rathbun, 67, was trapped inside a burning sport utility vehicle after the vehicle left a two-lane road and traveled down an embankment into a ditch containing grass and dry brush. Zabrowski, 29, administrative assistant, was driving on the same road and came upon the scene. Flames broke out beneath the vehicle, and spread to its rear. Zabrowski ran

down the embankment to the vehicle's driver's door. Despite flames spreading beneath the vehicle, Zabrowski pulled the door open and saw Rathbun in the driver's seat, slumped over the steering wheel. She extended her upper body into the passenger compartment, reached across Rathbun, and unlatched his seat belt. Zabrowski grasped him by his arm and leg and turned him to face her. She then grasped both of Rathbun's arms and pulled him from the vehicle to the ground. Unable to lift him, Zabrowski called to others nearby for help. Zabrowski and a man who responded, aided Rathbun to safety. Flames grew to engulf the rear of the vehicle and spread to its interior. Rathbun suffered bruising to his left shoulder, and was taken by ambulance to the hospital. He was treated and released, and he recovered. Zabrowski sustained scratches to her feet, and she recovered. [90033-10115](#)

HEROIC ACTS RECOGNIZED DURING 2020

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*The following 67 individuals were cited by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission in 2020 for having performed outstanding acts of heroism. In each case, a Carnegie Medal and a financial grant were awarded.*



KENNETH ALFRED

*Vista, California*

**Kenneth Alfred** saved Roxana Valdovinos from assault, Vista, California, September 22, 2019. Valdovinos, 36, was in the driver's seat of her car in the parking lot of her multi-unit housing community when two men in a truck pulled up behind her and parked. One of the men ran to the car, opened the driver's door, and pointed a knife at Valdovinos as he pulled on her shirt and demanded she get out. Valdovinos's passenger exited the car and screamed for help, alerting Alfred, 56, mechanic, who was across the parking lot. As Valdovinos used her feet to fend off the assailant, Alfred ran to the driver's side of the car and grasped the assailant's neck. While Alfred shoved the assailant to the ground, the assailant stabbed Alfred in the abdomen. The second assailant then pulled Alfred's shirt over his head before Alfred separated from him. The assailants then fled the scene in the truck. Alfred underwent emergency surgery for his wound and remained hospitalized for two days. He recovered in about a month. [90761-10144](#)



## MOYSES ARREGUIN

*Houston, Texas*

**Moyes Arreguin** died saving Sergio A. Bruno from assault, Houston, Texas, July 27, 2018. Sergio, 16, was in the driveway of his home when a juvenile male approached him and attempted to rob him at gunpoint. Arreguin, 29, welder, Sergio's neighbor who lived on the same street, ran to the assailant with an aluminum baseball bat and struck him. He shouted at Sergio to run. A second juvenile male, who also carried a gun, ran toward them and he and the first assailant fired several shots. Sergio ran into the house. Arreguin, struck by several gunshots, fell to the ground. The assailants fled the scene. Sergio sustained abrasions to his knees; he recovered. Arreguin died of multiple gunshot wounds. [90045-10175](#)



## JOSEPH A. ARSENAULT, JR.

*Farmington, Maine*

**Joseph A. Arsenault, Jr.**, helped to save Mark E. Tuttle from burning, Belgrade, Maine, January 2, 2019. Tuttle, 54, was inside the cab of a burning tanker truck filled with nearly 10,000 gallons of home heating fuel after a highway accident. The tanker, which had ruptured and spilled fuel, came to rest on its passenger side. Arsenault, 62, mail carrier, was working across the road and saw the tanker truck in flames. Fuel spilled on the road also caught fire. Arsenault ran to the truck's cab, its windshield broken, and saw a disoriented Tuttle inside. The truck's hood had been torn off and the engine was in flames. Another man ran up to the cab and stood next to Arsenault. Aided by Arsenault and the man, Tuttle was removed from the vehicle through the windshield and helped away from the truck as flames spread to the cab. Fifty-foot-high flames shortly issued from the top of the tanker and thick, black smoke filled the sky. Tuttle sustained a shoulder injury and contusions to his body; he was not burned. Arsenault was not injured. [90274-10152](#)



BENJAMIN M. BLOSTEIN

*Royal Oak, Michigan*

**Benjamin M. Blostein** helped save Kim J. Fairchild from drowning, Marilla Township, Michigan, June 6, 2019. Fairchild, 71, was fly fishing in chest waders while standing in a knee-deep section of the Big Manistee River when he concluded that he needed assistance to wade safely in the swift current to the nearby island where, Blostein, 30, commercial roofer, was fishing in a separate party. Fairchild asked Blostein for help in returning to the island. Blostein waded into the 62-degree water and grasped his hand, but Fairchild lost his footing. They separated, and the current carried Fairchild downstream into deeper water until he reached a point where, motionless, he bobbed out of reach of a fisherman at the bank. Blostein returned to the island and ran to its downstream end, then re-entered the water, following Fairchild, whose waders had filled with water. Ultimately, Blostein swam to Fairchild, whom he grasped. Blostein struggled to tow Fairchild, who was larger than him, to the bank until the fisherman, in waist-deep water, grasped Blostein's hand and pulled him, towing Fairchild, to safety. Blostein then helped Fairchild expel water, assisted with moving him by kayak to a safer location, and ran barefoot to meet responding authorities to direct them to the remote scene. Fairchild recovered after spending one night in a hospital. Blostein was cold but not injured. [90579-10195](tel:90579-10195)



SETH ROBERT BOND

*Tallmadge, Ohio*

**Seth Robert Bond** helped to rescue a 23-year-old mother and her three children from assault, Akron, Ohio, June 16, 2019. The woman and her three daughters, ages 1, 3, and 4, were on a sidewalk of a city street when her ex-partner, 24, armed with a handgun, shot her once in the back. Bond, 26, unemployed laborer, was a passenger in a car driven by a certified nursing assistant when they saw the assailant shoot the woman. As the nursing assistant drove a short distance to the scene, Bond jumped out of the car and ran to the woman and her children. Meanwhile, a group home staff supervisor also stopped nearby and parked, arriving first. Exiting his vehicle, the group home staff supervisor positioned himself between the woman, who was on the ground and shielding her daughters, and the assailant. Bond ran up,

took off his shirt, and held it against the woman's back to stem the bleeding as the nursing assistant exited her car and stood nearby. The group home staff supervisor continued to shield the woman when the assailant reached over his left shoulder and shot her in the back a second time and, in the process aimed the gun at Bond's head. Bond engaged the assailant, along with the group home staff supervisor who, by this time, had grasped the assailant's gun-wielding arm. During the struggle a shot was fired into the ground near them and shortly the assailant lost control of the gun, which fell to the ground. The assailant then produced a knife. The group home staff supervisor put two of the daughters into his car while the certified nursing assistant aided the mother and carried the other daughter to her car. The group home staff supervisor and the certified nursing assistant drove them from the scene to safety. Bond, meanwhile, continued to fight with the assailant at the scene until the assailant retrieved his weapon and fled. Bond gave chase with arriving police officers but ultimately the assailant shot himself nearby and died. The group home staff supervisor and the nursing assistant, who drove several blocks away, flagged down a responding police cruiser and summoned help for the woman and her daughters. The woman was hospitalized but recovered. The group home staff supervisor, the nursing assistant and the other man were not harmed. 90604-10198



#### NICHOLAS CLAUDEL

*Belgrade, Maine*

**Nicholas Claudel** helped to save Mark E. Tuttle from burning, Belgrade, Maine, January 2, 2019. Tuttle, 54, was inside a burning tanker truck filled with nearly 10,000 gallons of home heating fuel after a highway accident. The tanker, which ruptured and spilled fuel, came to rest on its passenger side. Claudel, 29, mail carrier, was working at the post office across the road and saw the tanker truck in flames. Fuel spilled on the road also caught fire. Another man ran up to the cab and Claudel followed. The cab's windshield was broken, and a disoriented Tuttle was inside. The truck's hood had been torn off and the engine was in flames. Aided by Claudel and the man, Tuttle was removed from the vehicle through the windshield, and helped away from the truck as flames spread to the cab. Fifty-foot-high flames shortly issued from the top of the tanker and thick, black smoke filled the sky. Tuttle sustained a shoulder injury and contusions to his body; he was not burned. Claudel was not injured. 90273-10153



SCOTT COOPER

*Fort McCoy, Florida*

**Scott Cooper** helped to save a boy and girl from drowning, St. Pete Beach, Florida, October 13, 2018. The brother and sister were swimming in the Gulf of Mexico when they were carried away from shore by a current and shouted for help. Cooper, 46, correctional facility sergeant, was fishing from the dock of a nearby jetty when he heard shouting and saw the boy about 10 feet from the jetty, struggling to stay afloat in the water. Cooper climbed onto the dock's railing and saw the girl a few feet from the boy. Despite no easy egress from the water, which was murky, deep, and had a strong current, Cooper jumped in feet first and submerged. After Cooper surfaced, the boy climbed onto him, submerging him several times. Cooper resurfaced again, grasped the boy with one arm and the girl with the other, and moved them both a short distance to the dock. Others on the dock lifted the boy from the water. Unable to lift the girl up, Cooper moved her toward large rocks and helped her climb up onto them. Others pulled her up and helped the girl off of the rocks to safety. Cooper pushed away from the rocks, and floating on his back and kicking, reached shallow water where he was able to wade ashore. The boy and girl were not injured. Cooper ingested water and sustained lacerations to his hands and feet; he recovered. The children's mother, who had entered the water at some point along with their four other siblings, was removed from the water by rescue personnel. She had drowned. [90212-10163](#)



DARREN COX

*Corona, California*

**Darren Cox** helped to rescue Saul D. Flores from burning, Corona, California, February 3, 2018. Flores, 23, was trapped inside his burning sport utility vehicle following a nighttime accident in which the vehicle left the road, continued down an embankment to its bottom, and caught fire. Flames engulfed the rear of the vehicle, and the fuel tank ruptured. Cox, 35, unemployed police officer, was driving nearby and responded to the vehicle. Approaching the vehicle, Cox saw another man pulling Flores through the open driver's door but struggled to completely free him. Flames engulfed the

rear passenger compartment and were burning the front, passenger seat. Cox extended his arms inside and grasped Flores about his torso. Together, Cox and the man freed Flores from the vehicle as flames encroached on the driver's seat, burning Flores's clothing. As Cox and the man laid Flores down on the ground next to the vehicle, ammunition inside the vehicle began to explode. Cox and the man moved Flores about 30 feet farther from the vehicle. Flames quickly grew to engulf the vehicle. Flores succumbed to his injuries, which included severe burns. Hair on Cox's right arm was singed. [90371-10189](#)



EDWARD S. CYR

*Tolland, Connecticut*

**Edward S. Cyr** rescued Glenwood D. Little from burning, Stafford Springs, Connecticut, November 1, 2019. Little, 66, was inside a burning sport utility vehicle on a roadway after an explosion in the rear of the vehicle started a fire. Cyr, 57, telecommunications technician, was driving nearby and saw Little's vehicle aflame. Cyr changed course and responded to the scene. Despite advancing flames and blistering heat, Cyr opened the driver's door, extended his head and left arm inside, grasped Little's coat and tugged, but Little's fastened seat belt prevented Cyr from removing Little. With his left hand, Cyr followed Little's seat belt to its release button and opened it, freeing Little from the belt. With both arms and his upper torso extended inside the SUV, Cyr grasped Little's coat and pulled him from the vehicle as flames reached the driver's seat. Cyr removed Little's coat, portions of which had melted, and aided Little farther away to safety. Flames soon engulfed the vehicle. Little suffered minor burns and was taken by ambulance to the hospital for treatment. He recovered. Cyr's skin on his left hand was red following the incident, but he did not seek medical treatment. He recovered. [90851-10171](#)



WINSTON S. DOUGLAS

*Hapeville, Georgia*

**Winston S. Douglas** rescued Terri L. Bradley from assault, Atlanta, Georgia, September 9, 2018. Bradley, 63, was crossing a residential street when a man armed with a kitchen knife, stabbed her. Douglas, 52, transit bus driver, was

driving a bus when he witnessed the attack. Douglas immediately stopped the bus, exited, and called for the assailant to stop. When the assailant continued attacking Bradley, Douglas grabbed a 4-foot length of fence post from nearby and advanced to the assailant while swinging the post and striking the assailant at least once in the ribs. The assailant attempted to strike Douglas with the knife and then thrust the knife at Bradley again. The blade of the knife broke off, and the assailant fled as Douglas gave chase and another man working nearby tackled the assailant. Douglas joined the other man and the two struggled to subdue him. Douglas and the other man were ultimately able to restrain the assailant and hold him until police arrived. The assailant was arrested and charged with various offenses including aggravated assault. Bradley was hospitalized for several days for treatment of her stab wounds, and she recovered. 90069-10167



#### ROSS DUGAN

*Fairhaven, Massachusetts*

**Ross Dugan** saved three men and helped to rescue a fourth man from burning, West Bridgewater, Massachusetts, February 6, 2019. Following a multi-vehicle accident on a highway, the driver of a sedan, 45, and his three passengers, 27, 36, and 46, remained inside the sedan as fire broke out at the sedan's rear. Dugan, 38, lineman, driving on the same highway, responded to the sedan. Unable to open the car's doors, he broke out the front, passenger window. Extending his head and arms through the window opening, Dugan grasped the front passenger under his arms and pulled him free of the vehicle. In the same manner, he removed the 45-year-old driver, 27-year-old and 36-year-old passengers. Flames by then had entered the rear passenger compartment, and Dugan retreated for air. As another man discharged a fire extinguisher into the sedan's rear interior, Dugan yelled at the 46-year-old passenger in the back seat to come to the front window. The passenger responded and moved to the front, passenger seat where he extended his arms out through the window. Dugan and the other man each grasped one of the man's arms and pulled him from the vehicle to safety. Flames quickly grew to engulf the interior of the vehicle. The 46-year-old passenger, who suffered severe burns, was transported to the hospital, as were the other passengers and driver. Dugan suffered burns to his hand and face, for which he received hospital treatment. He recovered. 90309-10166



DAVID DULKIS

*Corona, California*

**David A. Dulkis** helped rescue Saul D. Flores from burning, Corona, California, February 3, 2018. Flores, 23, was trapped inside his burning sport utility vehicle following a nighttime accident in which the vehicle left the road, continued down an embankment to its bottom, and caught fire. Flames engulfed the rear of the vehicle, and the SUV's fuel tank ruptured. Dulkis, 47, executive chef, who was driving nearby, saw the vehicle on fire, stopped, and responded to Flores's vehicle. Seeing Flores inside and unconscious, Dulkis, after several tries, pulled the driver's door open. Flames by then had reached the rear passenger compartment and were spreading to the front, passenger seat. Dulkis tried to unlatch Flores's seat belt but was unsuccessful. He lifted the shoulder strap over Flores's head and grasped Flores under his arms and struggled to pull his torso and legs through the lap belt. Another man arrived at the SUV and grasped Flores about his torso. Together, Dulkis and the man pulled Flores from the vehicle as flames encroached on the driver's seat, burning Flores's clothing. As Dulkis and the man laid Flores down on the ground ammunition inside the vehicle began to explode and the men moved Flores about 30 feet farther away. Flames quickly grew to engulf the vehicle. Flores succumbed to his injuries, which included severe burns. Dulkis suffered a second-degree burn to his arm and was treated at the scene. He recovered. [90372-10188](tel:90372-10188)



BRENT D. DUNCAN

*Jasper, Indiana*

**Brent A. Duncan** helped to save a man from burning, Jasper, Indiana, September 16, 2018. A 33-year-old man remained in the front, passenger seat of a sport utility vehicle after an accident at night in which the vehicle went off a road and came to rest, overturned onto its passenger side, on a grassy shoulder. Other motorists pulled over upon seeing the SUV's injured driver in the road and called 911. Dispatched to the scene and finding the man disoriented in his seat, Duncan, 28, police officer, and another male officer sprayed fire extinguishers at the engine compartment but were unable to

smother the flames. Duncan and the other officer then moved to the SUV's rear, where the hatch window was broken out. After the other officer entered and grasped the man, who began moving toward them, Duncan also gained a hold on the man's arm. Together, they removed the man, and a bystander helped Duncan and the other officer drag him away from the vehicle before flames grew to consume it. The man was taken to a hospital for treatment of a facial abrasion. [90174-10161](#)



MICHAEL B. DUNN  
*Waterford, Connecticut*

**Michael B. Dunn** rescued Lisa J. Margaritis from drowning, Southold, New York, August 2, 2019. Margaritis, 49, was on a paddleboard beneath a bridge in a large, tidal pond when she fell off of the board into a swift current and the board caught on a bridge piling. Margaritis, still tethered to the board, was unable to free herself and floated facedown in the water. Dunn, 60, real estate investor, was jogging nearby and was alerted to Margaritis's plight. Dunn responded and jumped into the water, but was immediately carried downstream in the strong current. Dunn swam into an adjacent upstream eddy current and was carried back to a point upstream of Margaritis. He swam to Margaritis and turned her over. Dunn held Margaritis's head above water as he trod water and struggled in the current. Shortly the tether broke, and the current carried them rapidly downstream. Dunn swam toward the bank with Margaritis. Once he could stand, Dunn dragged Margaritis, who was unconscious, from the water. She could not be revived. Dunn was tired and sustained a laceration to his foot; he recovered. [90282-10168](#)



JACOB FARLEY  
*Wichita, Kansas*

**Jacob Farley** died attempting to rescue Madison L. Capps from drowning, Noel, Missouri, June 21, 2019. Capps, 21, was in the Elk River upstream of a low-head dam when she was carried by the current over the dam and became trapped in a hydraulic current at the dam's base. Kept at the base of the dam by the strong current, she could not free herself and submerged several times.

Farley, 26, floor installer, and several others in his group approached the scene from upriver and saw Capps floundering at the base of the dam. Farley exited the water upstream of the dam, then reentered the water from the river's bank at the dam's base, and swam about 25 feet to Capps. Farley positioned himself behind Capps and over a period of about 30 minutes, repeatedly pushed up on her back to keep her afloat. Fire personnel arrived and threw a rope to Capps, which she grasped. She was then pulled from the current to safety. Farley submerged and did not resurface. Capps suffered bruising and a cut to her foot, for which she was treated at the hospital. She recovered. Farley's body was later recovered by fire personnel; he had drowned. 90629-10137



MICKIE FENWICK

*Abilene, Texas*

**Mickie Fenwick** helped to save Chad L. Perkins from a burning vehicle, Abilene, Texas, November 1, 2018. Perkins, 36, was unconscious in a burning sport utility vehicle which came to rest against a tree after it struck a gas meter, which ruptured and began to leak natural gas. Flames broke out on the engine. Fenwick, 47, stopped at the scene and went to the vehicle, where he saw Perkins inside. Fenwick put damp leaves and dirt on the flames in an unsuccessful effort to extinguish the fire. At the driver's door of the vehicle he was joined by a police officer. Fenwick and the police officer reached inside the vehicle through the open window of Perkins's driver's door, grasped Perkins, and tugged on him, attempting to pull him out. Perkins's foot was stuck, and Fenwick reached in through the window and freed it. He and the police officer pulled Perkins out through the window and carried him away from the vehicle. Perkins sustained a lacerated liver and numerous broken bones. He was not burned. 90328-10176



MICHAEL GARCIA

*Abilene, Texas*

**Michael Garcia** helped to save Chad L. Perkins from a burning vehicle, Abilene, Texas, November 1, 2018. Perkins, 36, was unconscious in a burning sport utility vehicle which came to rest against a tree after it struck

a gas meter, which ruptured and began to leak natural gas. Flames broke out in the engine. Garcia, 35 on-duty police officer, arrived at the scene. He hurried to the passenger side of the vehicle and opened the rear door there, but could not gain access to Perkins. Garcia moved to the driver's door, joining another man. Garcia and the man reached in through the driver's door window, which was broken out, grasped Perkins, and attempted to pull him out. Perkins's foot was trapped and the other man reached in through the window and freed it. Garcia and the other man pulled Perkins out through the window and carried him away from the vehicle. Perkins sustained a lacerated liver and numerous broken bones. He was not burned. Garcia was treated for exposure to hazardous chemicals a laceration to his elbow; he recovered. [90632-10177](#)



JEFFREY GARRETT

*Elk Grove, California*

**Jeffrey Garrett** saved a woman and a man from burning, Elk Grove, California, October 21, 2018. The woman was in a rear seat of a truck driven by her husband after a predawn accident in which the truck left the road and struck a tree, coming to rest upright against it. The front passenger, the couple's adult son, called 911, and a fire broke out in the engine compartment. The crash awakened nearby homeowner Garrett, 47, sales manager, who went outside and heard the son coughing. Garrett climbed over a wall and went to the truck's passenger side where the son directed him to help his parents. Garrett opened the rear, passenger-side door and leaned inside, finding the woman injured and unresponsive. Garrett unbuckled her seat belt, grasped her upper body, and carried her out of the truck. Hearing the driver call out, Garrett moved to the damaged driver's door, which he opened. Seeing flames on the vehicle's interior near one of the man's legs, Garrett lifted the leg out of the fire. Garrett leaned inside, reached across the driver's body, and unbuckled his seat belt. Grasping him, Garrett withdrew, pulling the man to his feet outside the truck. Garrett then aided the son, who had exited the vehicle, away from the truck. The fire spread to engulf the truck's cab by the time police and firefighters arrived. The woman and the man were hospitalized; both recovered. Garrett was sore and had a small cut on a finger. [90117-10164](#)



PIERRE JOSEPH GIBBONS

*Baltimore, Maryland*

**Pierre Joseph Gibbons** rescued Mary Sterling from burning, Baltimore, Maryland, September 23, 2019. Sterling, 77, remained in the basement of her burning row house as fire spread inside. Gibbons, 57, hospital facilities manager, was at a neighbor's home when he was alerted. As Gibbons approached her house, he saw Sterling through an open basement door with flames on the ceiling above her. Gibbons entered the home through its front door and, moving through thick smoke, found a door to the basement stairs. Descending the stairs into the basement, Gibbons found and grasped Sterling and carried her up the stairs to the first floor, where heat was intense. Gibbons grasped a towel or blanket to shield them from intensifying flames and smoke but collapsed while attempting to move with her toward the front door. Minutes later, firefighters entered the first floor and, finding Gibbons laying atop Sterling, removed both unconscious victims from the house. Sterling was hospitalized and died about a month later from complications of her injuries. Gibbons suffered burns to more than 70 percent of his body along with inhalation injuries, underwent more than 20 surgical procedures, and suffered two strokes during his nine-month hospital stay. He was released from the hospital but continued to undergo rehabilitation at home. [90783-10179](#)



MARCOS GIL

*Arimo, Idaho*

**Marcos Gil** died saving a 14-year-old girl from drowning, Lava Hot Springs, Idaho, April 28, 2018. The girl jumped from a ledge and entered the Portneuf River where she became caught in a circular current downriver from a waterfall. Struggling in the strong, circular current in deep water, she called for help. Marcos, 17, student, despite limited swimming ability, jumped into the river and was also caught in the current. Marcos submerged and the girl felt him push her toward the bank, where she grasped a branch. The girl swam to the riverbank. Marcos, still in the current, submerged and surfaced several times before he disappeared from view. The girl climbed the bank to where she had left her cellphone and called 911. She was not physically injured. Divers found and recovered Marcos from the river several hours later. He had drowned. [89844-10158](#)



HARMANJEET SINGH GILL

*Brampton, Ontario*

**Harmanjeet Singh Gill** saved two men and helped to save a third man from a burning vehicle, Brampton, Ontario, August 29, 2018. Three men were in a sport utility vehicle when the driver lost control, struck several other vehicles, and came to rest on its driver's side a few feet from a house in a residential neighborhood at night. The vehicle burst into flames. Gill, 20, truck driver, who was driving nearby and witnessed the crash, went to the vehicle, where large flames extended above its rear. Gill extended his head and arms inside the vehicle through its sunroof and pulled one of the men out through the sunroof and dragged him to safety. Gill then returned to the vehicle and removed a second man through its sunroof, dragging him away to safety near the first man. Returning to the vehicle a third time, Gill had difficulty removing the third man. With the help of a male teenager who responded to the scene, he broke open the sunroof to create a larger opening. Gill pulled the third man out with assistance from the teenager as flames entered the passenger compartment, and moved him to safety with the others. The vehicle was shortly engulfed by flames, which spread to a nearby car and impinged on the house. All three men sustained non-life threatening injuries. Gill sustained lacerations to his hands and was treated at the scene; he recovered. [90053-10194](https://www.carnegiehero.com/90053-10194)



JAMES GLORIOSO, JR.

*Amsterdam, New York*

**James Glorioso, Jr.**, helped attempt to rescue Thanh V. Bui from drowning, Atlantic City, New Jersey, July 29, 2019. Bui, 58, struggled in the Atlantic Ocean in rough water conditions, unable to return to shore. Glorioso, 42, actor, was on the beach a few hundred feet away when he was alerted to Bui's plight. Glorioso ran up the beach, obtained a small boogie board, and ran into the water with the board. Having lost sight of Bui, Glorioso swam and paddled through the ocean swells toward where he last saw him. When Glorioso was about 25 feet away from Bui, he found him facedown in the water. Glorioso grasped Bui and turned him over onto his back and put him on the board. Glorioso held to Bui and the board and kicked his legs, but struggled to make

progress toward shore. Rescue personnel arrived shortly and entered the water. They swam to Glorioso and Bui, took Bui from Glorioso, and took him to shore. Rescuers aided Glorioso, nearly exhausted, to the beach. Bui could not be revived; he had drowned. Glorioso experienced muscle cramps, weakness in his legs, and was dehydrated after the rescue; he recovered. [90697-10181](#)



GRANT A. GOFFINET

*Jasper, Indiana*

**Grant A. Goffinet** helped to save a man from burning, Jasper, Indiana, September 16, 2018. A 33-year-old man remained in the front, passenger seat of a sport utility vehicle after an accident at night in which the vehicle left a road and overturned onto its passenger side on a grassy shoulder. Other motorists pulled over upon seeing the SUV's injured driver in the road and called 911. Dispatched to the scene and finding the man disoriented in his seat, Goffinet, 28, police officer, and another male officer discharged fire extinguishers at the engine compartment but were unable to smother the flames. Goffinet moved to the SUV's rear, where the hatch window was broken out. He entered to his waist, removed a headrest from a rear seat, and called to the man, who reacted and leaned around his seat, reaching for him. Goffinet grasped his upper body and pulled him, and the other officer also gained a hold on the man's arm. Together, they removed the man, and a bystander helped Goffinet and the other officer drag him away from the vehicle before flames grew to consume it. The man was taken to a hospital for treatment of a facial abrasion. [90175-10160](#)



HENRY F. F. GRANT

*South Egremont, Massachusetts*

**Henry F. F. Grant** helped rescue Paula Kaplan-Reiss from falling, Great Barrington, Massachusetts, August 10, 2019. Kaplan-Reiss, 59, was hiking with her husband when she fell from the rocky, 1,642-foot summit of Squaw Peak 30 feet straight down before she tumbled down a steep slope to a narrow ledge where she lay, severely injured, about 30 feet above a boulder field. Grant, 18, college student, who had been hiking with his mother and became aware of Kaplan-Reiss's fall, left the main trail to search for her, shortly

arriving at the base of a rock wall below her. Despite having no climbing gear and using a crevice in the rock, Grant climbed up about 18 feet at a 75-degree angle and saw Kaplan-Reiss on the ledge still some distance above him. He called out to her and, after determining she was alive, used his cellphone to report to rescuers that he'd found her. Rescue crews arrived shortly on the peak while Grant climbed a 90-degree rock wall and a short 45-degree slope upward to a point immediately below Kaplan-Reiss. Partially climbing the 6-foot rock wall below her, and anchoring his feet in tree roots, Grant reached up to grasp Kaplan-Reiss's hand to comfort and stabilize her. Several minutes later another hiker arrived and climbed up by the same route, bringing a windbreaker and bottle of water to Kaplan-Reiss. Grant let the hiker take his place below Kaplan-Reiss then climbed up behind her on another 45-degree slope, then took hold of her backpack to steady her as he braced his feet against a tree. Two rescue crew members rappelled down to the ledge and, later, used a rope to help a medic climb up to them. After the medic stabilized Kaplan-Reiss, the rescuers, using ropes, hauled her up to the summit. As she was moved off the mountain to an ambulance, the rescuers returned to bring the other hiker and Grant to the summit. Kaplan-Reiss suffered a concussion and multiple broken bones. She was hospitalized for treatment of her injuries and ultimately recovered after physical rehabilitation. 90873-10170



KENNETH L. HAMILTON

*San Antonio, Texas*

**Kenneth L. Hamilton** saved Tammy F. Cook from burning, San Antonio, Texas, May 1, 2019. Cook, 48, was trapped inside her car following a highway accident at night during which the car overturned onto its passenger side and caught fire. Cook remained suspended in the driver's seat by her seat belt, unable to remove herself from the car. Kenneth L. Hamilton, 54, off-duty campus police sergeant, was driving nearby and stopped at the scene as did two college students. Hamilton, seeing Cook inside, used a collapsible metal baton from his equipment belt to strike the front windshield repeatedly but could not break through. The students each had grabbed pieces of broken concrete and threw them against the windshield, weakening it. Hamilton kicked it several times and peeled the cracked windshield from its frame to create an opening. By then, flames extended about 4 feet above the car

and had spread to the car's interior floorboard near Cook's feet. Hamilton extended his arm through the windshield opening and used a folding knife to cut Cook's seat belt at the shoulder. Cook fell down to the passenger side of the car and scrambled to her knees as Hamilton reached through the windshield and grasped both of her wrists. Hamilton dragged Cook from the car to a point about 20 feet away from the flames, where he collapsed in a grassy area nearly exhausted. The students then helped move Cook and Hamilton farther away from the burning car. Cook, who was not burned, was treated for a foot laceration and shock at a hospital and recovered. Hamilton was treated for a strained shoulder as well as cuts and scrapes to his right leg. He recovered. **90530-10138**



MATTHEW M. HANNA

*Sun City, Arizona*

**Matthew M. Hanna** saved Teresa Hartgraves from burning, Sun City, Arizona, June 16, 2019. Hartgraves, 57, was asleep in her one-story condominium when fire broke out in the living room. Hanna, 33, mechanics training student, was at his grandmother's house nearby and, alerted, ran to the scene in his bare feet. Approaching the duplex at its back end, Hanna could see an orange glow through a rear window. Hanna reached the front of the house and could hear Hartgraves screaming for help. He instructed a neighbor to call 911, then forcibly opened the front door. Despite rapidly spreading flames and dense smoke, Hanna entered and crawled about 20 feet beneath the smoke to her. Hanna stood, grasped Hartgraves under her arms, and dragged her back to the door and outside to safety. Hartgraves was treated at the scene for smoke inhalation. Hanna too suffered smoke inhalation but did not require medical treatment. He recovered. **90695-10183**



CAMERON K. HANSON

*Fergus Falls, Minnesota*

**Cameron K. Hanson** saved Leon G. Engelhart from drowning, Fergus Falls, Minnesota, December 6, 2018. Engelhart, 65, driving an all-terrain vehicle on ice-covered Wall Lake at night suddenly entered open water on

the lake and floundered. Hanson, 37, corrections officer, fishing nearby, saw Engelhart enter the water. Hanson and another man drove an all-terrain vehicle on the ice to a point near the open water, where they saw Engelhart struggling to stay above the surface. Hanson entered the water and swam about 75 feet to Engelhart. Hanson grasped Engelhart by the back of the jacket and swam, with difficulty, while towing Engelhart, back to the edge of the ice. Once there, the other man helped Hanson remove Engelhart from the water. The man also helped pull Hanson from the water. Hanson and the friend then placed Engelhart on their vehicle and rode to a public access area of the lake where they were met by rescue personnel. Engelhart sustained severe hypothermia; he recovered. Hanson was cold after the rescue. **90320-10139**



V. THOMAS HAYES, SR.

*Barnhart, Missouri*

**V. Thomas Hayes, Sr.**, helped to save Evelyn B.K. Ingoldsby from burning, Byrnes Mill, Missouri, September 9, 2018. Ingoldsby, 56, was in the family room of her one-story house when an explosion in the basement leveled the structure. Ingoldsby's husband was trapped beneath debris, and Ingoldsby called out for help. Responding from a neighboring house were Hayes, 66, retired mechanic, and his son-in-law. Shirtless, Hayes dug through debris at the front of the house and found a small opening to gain access to the collapsed home's interior. Hayes then crawled inside the home's family room and advanced to Ingoldsby, who resisted leaving her husband. Hayes grasped Ingoldsby's clothing and pulled her toward the front of the house, then became stuck in knee-deep rubble as fire spread through the house's main level. Hayes's son-in-law helped to free him and arriving authorities ultimately aided Ingoldsby to safety shortly before flames grew to engulf the house and ammunition stored within the home exploded. Arriving firefighters were unable to make immediate entry to rescue Ingoldsby's husband, who was trapped inside and did not survive. Ingoldsby, who was not burned, went to a hospital for treatment of minor injuries. Hayes injured his left shoulder and had cuts to his legs. **90068-10150**



## MICHAEL HIERONYMUS

*Maricopa, Arizona*

**Michael Hieronymus** rescued Christopher A. Diaz from burning, Maricopa, Arizona, September 26, 2018. Christopher, 23 months old, was in his family's two-story house when fire broke out on the first floor. Hieronymus, 51, power plant operator, was in his parked car nearby and heard a loud noise. He exited the vehicle, saw smoke coming from the house and ran to it. At the east side of the house, Hieronymus saw Christopher's mother at the window of an upstairs bathroom where she was trapped. Despite flames and heavy smoke issuing from the structure, he approached the main entry door, on the west side of the house and opened it. Smoke billowed from the opening. Hieronymus went to his hands and knees and crawled inside, looking for a stairway to the second floor, when, about 12 feet from the door he was surprised to find Christopher sitting in the hallway. Hieronymus, still on his hands and knees, grasped Christopher's hand and then wrapped his right arm around Christopher's torso. With Christopher in his grasp, Hieronymus retraced his path and crawled back to the door and exited the house to safety. Hieronymus re-entered the home briefly to try to rescue the mother but was driven back by heat and smoke. Christopher suffered burns and smoke inhalation and was taken to the hospital for treatment. Hieronymus too suffered smoke inhalation, but did not seek medical treatment. Firefighters removed Christopher's mother from the home; she was taken to a hospital but died as a result of her injuries. [90674-10178](tel:90674-10178)



## THOMAS H. HUNNICUTT

*Phoenix, Arizona*

**Thomas H. Hunnicutt** rescued Mark Brandemuehl from burning, Phoenix, Arizona, June 11, 2019. Brandemuehl, 59, was trapped in his single-engine airplane after it crash-landed, overturning on a highway. Flames broke out on the inverted plane's fuselage and cockpit. Hunnicutt, 34, project manager, responding from a nearby stopped car, ran to the plane and crawled beneath its sole intact wing, extending his arms through a broken cockpit window toward Brandemuehl, who lay on the cockpit's roof. Despite intense heat

and nearby flames, Hunnicutt grasped Brandemuehl beneath his arms, pulled him out through the cockpit's window opening, and dragged him to a point several feet away from the plane's fuselage where he was joined by two men. Hunnicutt and the men carried Brandemuehl to safety on a nearby sidewalk as the burning wreckage exploded and was rapidly engulfed. Brandemuehl was hospitalized for treatment of severe burns and died several months later as a result of his injuries. 90572-10141



### JOHN-PAUL JASMINIS

*Surrey, British Columbia*

**John-Paul Jasmins** rescued a woman from assault, Delta, British Columbia, February 20, 2019. The woman, 41, was forced by her husband, 49, who was armed with a large kitchen knife, to drive with him to a school to pick up their child. Upon parking in the school's lot and concerned that the assailant planned to harm them both, the woman exited her vehicle and attempted to run to the school's main entrance, but the assailant exited and quickly grabbed her near the rear of the parked vehicle. After unsuccessfully trying to force her back into her vehicle the assailant stabbed her, before the woman slipped and fell. Jasmins, 38, an off-duty constable, heard a female bystander scream as he walked nearby with his children. Sprinting toward the scene, Jasmins saw the woman on her back behind another parked vehicle, her assailant straddling and stabbing her as the woman tried to fend off the thrusts with her hands. Jasmins rushed the assailant and drove shoulder-first into his body, tackling him to the ground. A struggle ensued during which Jasmins was stabbed three times before the assailant lost his grip on the knife. Jasmins then used a jujitsu hold to subdue the man, while a male bystander held down the assailant's legs. Shortly constables arrived and placed the assailant under arrest. The assailant later pleaded guilty to assaulting the woman and Jasmins. The woman sustained several stab wounds to her body and was taken to a hospital for treatment. She recovered, but with lingering effects from her wounds. Jasmins sustained three stab wounds to his abdomen and underwent emergency surgery for internal injuries. He was hospitalized three days before returning to work, though he continued to undergo rehabilitation for an injured hip. 90357-10174



JEFFREY JOHNSON

*Winston-Salem, North Carolina*

**Jeffrey Johnson** helped to rescue Susan R. Leonard from burning, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, July 11, 2019. After a highway crash involving a semi-truck and several other vehicles, Leonard, 64, was pinned in the driver's seat of her burning, heavily-damaged car. Interior flames surrounded Leonard, who released her seat belt but could not open her door. Leonard screamed for help. Seeing Leonard's hands extended out her broken-out window opening, Johnson, 47, registered nurse, ran to the car, joining another man who had responded and could not open the driver's door. Together, Johnson and the man reached through the driver's-window opening, grasped Leonard's arms, and pulled her out. With help from others, Johnson and the man carried Leonard farther from the car. Johnson tended to her until first responders arrived. Arriving firefighters extinguished the fire and fuel burning on the road near the car. Leonard suffered severe burns to her legs and arms and injuries to her hands. 90739-10191



CHRISTOPHER LANSKI

*Agawam, Massachusetts*

**Christopher Lanski** helped to rescue a woman from burning, Agawam, Massachusetts, March 20, 2018. The woman, 56, was in a second-floor apartment of a two-story house when fire broke out on an exterior landing adjacent to the apartment and spread inside. Lanski, 47, police officer, was dispatched to the home where he was alerted by bystanders at the scene that the woman was trapped inside. Lanski entered the home's first floor and ascended stairs to the apartment's door. Finding the door locked, Lanski kicked it several times, breaking it open. Heavy smoke issued from the apartment, and Lanski retreated twice to the stairwell before he returned to the doorway. Spotting the woman on the floor several feet away, he went to his hands and knees and crawled under heavy smoke to her. He grasped the woman's wrist and dragged her back to the door where another officer joined him at the top of the stairs. Lanski and the other officer dragged the woman to the bottom of the stairs and outside. The woman was taken to the hospital for treatment of smoke inhalation and burns. Lanski suffered smoke exposure, and he recovered. 89828-10157



ROBERT LAWSON

*King, North Carolina*

**Robert Lawson** helped to rescue Susan R. Leonard from burning, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, July 11, 2019. After a highway crash involving a semi-truck and several other vehicles, Leonard, 64, was pinned in the driver's seat of her burning, heavily-damaged car. Interior flames surrounded Leonard, who released her seat belt but could not open her door. Leonard screamed for help. Seeing Leonard's hands extended out her broken-out window opening, a motorist, Lawson, 32, welder, went to the car and pulled on the driver's-door handle, which broke off. He reached inside through the driver's-window opening, tried the interior handle, but could not open the door. Shortly, another man responded to the car. Together, Lawson and the man reached through the driver's-window opening, grasped Leonard's arms, and pulled her out. With help from others, Lawson and the man carried Leonard farther from the car. Arriving firefighters extinguished the fire and fuel burning on the road near the car. Leonard suffered severe burns to her legs and arms and injuries to her hands. 90740-10190



DONALD C. LOWRIE

*Islamorada, Florida*

**Donald C. Lowrie** attempted to rescue a girl from attacking dogs, Islamorada, Florida, May 6, 2018. The girl, 8, was attacked continuously at her family's condominium by two adult dogs, a male pit bull and a female pit bull mix, that were living with her. During the attack, which began in the area of the second-floor front door, the dogs bit the girl's upper body and legs. The girl's mother intervened to separate her from the dogs, enabling the girl, who was severely wounded, to retreat to the condo's third floor. Outside nearby, a neighbor, Lowrie, 50, mechanic, had heard the girl screaming through the open front door but could not see the attack. Concluding she was in danger, Lowrie ran into the condo's ground-level carport and ascended the staircase to the front door. Lowrie encountered the dogs, which exited the condo at the door and pursued him. Lowrie fell down the steps to the ground while the mother tended to the girl inside and called 911. The dogs pursued Lowrie, who

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suffered a broken right wrist and was bitten on his arms before separating from them. The girl was hospitalized and underwent surgery to treat her wounds; she recovered. Lowrie, who missed about one month of work immediately afterward, had multiple surgeries on his right wrist. [90460-10169](#)



ALBERT MADRID

*Highland, California*

**Albert Madrid** died helping to save two girls from burning, Highland, California, March 9, 2019. Two sisters, about 7 and 4, remained inside their family’s mobile home at night after fire broke out in the area of the kitchen. Others in the home at the time, including an elderly man who suffered severe burns, had exited. A family friend, Madrid, 25, warehouse worker, approached the scene, briefly conferred with others outside, then urgently ran in through the mobile home’s front door. Less than two minutes after Madrid’s arrival, the girls were evacuated from the mobile home and, carried by two men, they were taken safely away from the structure. Firefighters responding shortly found the mobile home engulfed in flames and learned from witnesses that Madrid remained inside. The girls were treated at a hospital for inhaling smoke; the elderly man succumbed to his injuries 19 days later. After firefighters extinguished the blaze, they located Madrid near the rear door outside the girls’ bedroom; he died of severe injuries he sustained in the fire. [90405-10180](#)



JUSTICE MICHAEL MCBAIN

*Sturtevant, Wisconsin*

**Justice Michael McBain** saved Kelvin J. Yde from burning, Yorkville, Wisconsin, June 19, 2019. Yde, 20, was semi-conscious and trapped inside his burning car after a multi-vehicle accident on an interstate highway. McBain, 21, recreational vehicle technician, stopped at the scene and, after aiding a woman from her car, ran to Yde’s vehicle, its passenger side aflame. Forcing Yde’s driver’s door open, McBain found Yde pinned against his seat by the steering wheel and beneath the collapsed windshield. McBain extended himself into the sedan and pushed the damaged windshield off of Yde. He then used a pocket knife to cut Yde’s seat belt. Reaching around

Yde's torso, McBain then forcefully pulled Yde from behind the steering wheel and out of the car, where he was shortly joined by two other motorists who helped him carry Yde to safety. Yde suffered multiple injuries, including broken bones, but he was not burned. He was hospitalized for about two weeks and required several months in outpatient rehabilitation. McBain was not injured. [90644-10162](#)



ZACHARY A. MCDOWELL  
*Carmichaels, Pennsylvania*

**Zachary A. McDowell** helped to rescue Eric J. Stroud, Jr., from a burning vehicle, Waynesburg, Pennsylvania, August 3, 2018. Stroud was trapped in a sport utility vehicle after the vehicle left an interstate highway at night, overturned, and came to rest upright and partly on the road. Stroud's vehicle caught fire. McDowell, 22, emergency medical technician, was on duty and dispatched to the accident in an ambulance with a male co-worker. Upon arriving, McDowell grabbed a fire extinguisher and fought the fire at the front of the vehicle. The co-worker entered the vehicle's cargo area through the rear hatch door. The co-worker crawled to Stroud, who was tangled in his seat belt. McDowell extinguished flames on the vehicle's dashboard and Stroud's seat belt was removed. The co-worker grasped Stroud and pulled him into the cargo area. McDowell and his co-worker then removed him from the vehicle and away from the SUV, which was shortly engulfed by flames. Stroud sustained severe head injuries and burns to his legs and hands. [90345-10155](#)



LUIS ALBERTO MENDOZA  
*Beloit, Wisconsin*

**Luis Alberto Mendoza** saved a woman and two boys from burning, Beloit, Wisconsin, May 24, 2019. At night, a 24-year-old woman and her sons, 6 and 3, remained in the basement of a two-story house after fire broke out beneath a rear deck. First-floor tenant Mendoza, 29, cook, who awoke, went into his kitchen, where he found encroaching flames blocking his exit via a rear door. At the front door and preparing to exit the home, Mendoza heard the woman

call out from the basement. Mendoza responded from the front door to the basement, joining the woman and the boys. With Mendoza carrying one boy and the woman carrying the other, they ascended the stairs to the kitchen but advancing fire forced them to return to the basement, where Mendoza used his fist to break out a small basement window. Mendoza helped the woman and the boys escape the basement through the window, then ascended the stairs to the kitchen, where the heat was blistering, and exited the house through the front door. One of the boys suffered a minor burn; the other boy and the woman were not injured. Mendoza received hospital treatment for second-degree burns to his face and hands, as well as a cut to his right hand. He recovered within about three weeks. [90658-10184](#)



ANTHONY MOSS

*Arlington, Washington*

**Anthony Moss** rescued David M. Wampler from burning, Lake Stevens, Washington, August 31, 2018. Wampler, 25, remained in his soft-top convertible sports car after it was struck from behind by another vehicle on a highway at night and caught fire. Moss, 61, preflight inspector, witnessed the accident and approached the scene in his car, following Wampler's car until it came to a stop in a traffic lane. Exiting his vehicle and running to Wampler's vehicle, Moss could see only Wampler's silhouette in the driver's seat due to the thick smoke and rapidly spreading fire inside the passenger compartment. Moss attempted to open both of the burning car's doors to no avail then began pounding on the passenger window with his hands, at which point Wampler, still dazed, responded. Moss asked Wampler if his seatbelt was unbuckled and whether he could stand up. Wampler, responding that he was unbuckled, stood. Climbing onto the car's hood, Moss reached over the windshield, extended his arms and hands through the smoke, grasped Wampler beneath his arms and lifted him over the windshield. After patting out flames on Wampler's burning hair, Moss slid off the hood with Wampler and rolled him on the ground to extinguish his burning clothes. Moss then walked while supporting Wampler to safety away from the car. Wampler suffered burns and spinal injuries from the impact. Moss suffered minor burns to his hands and arms. They both recovered. [90870-10173](#)



## VICTOR MOZQUEDA

*Newhall, California*

**Victor Mozqueda** died attempting to save Vincent Gonzalez from drowning, Three Rivers, California, June 23, 2018. Vincent, 5, was with his family and a family friend, Mozqueda, 22, driver, on a rocky bank of the Kaweah River in Sequoia National Park when he fell into the cold water. Near where Vincent had fallen and partially submerged, Mozqueda, who could not swim, entered the 60-degree river fully clothed and quickly submerged along with Vincent. They resurfaced, and Mozqueda held Vincent, keeping him afloat, as they drifted to the middle of the river. Vincent's mother, father, and a nearby fisherman also entered the river in an effort to aid Vincent and Mozqueda before returning, safely, to the bank. Vincent separated from Mozqueda and ultimately was brought, motionless, to the bank, where the fisherman performed CPR. Mozqueda submerged in the river. Vincent was flown to a hospital; he recovered. Divers shortly located Mozqueda around the area where he last had been seen; he had drowned. [89939-10146](#)



## VLADMIR ORELUS

*Avon, Massachusetts*

**Vladmir Orelus** died attempting to rescue Louis Orelus from burning, Avon, Massachusetts, December 25, 2018. Orelus, 70, who had mobility issues, remained inside his house after fire broke out in the kitchen at night. His son, Vladmir Orelus, 28, dental assistant, and Vladmir's wife, two sons, and aunt escaped the house. As Vladmir's wife called out for help and held their son, Vladmir re-entered the house through its front door to locate his father. Vladmir was later found a few feet inside the home's front door beneath a ceiling that had collapsed in the fire. Orelus was found unresponsive on his bedroom floor and died shortly after being rescued by firefighters. Vladmir died of smoke inhalation and suffered burns on multiple parts of his body. [90240-10162](#)



## CALVIN PARHAM

*Knightstown, Indiana*

**Calvin Parham** saved Edward A. Norfleet from burning, Knightstown, Indiana, January 11, 2019. Norfleet, 85, was in his house when fire broke out in the living room in the early morning. A neighbor, Parham, 44, forklift operator, left his home for work when he smelled smoke and saw the glow of flames at the side of Norfleet's house. He ran to the side door of Norfleet's house, kicked in the door, and entered the smoke-filled kitchen. Crouching down, Parham, who had trouble breathing, encountered intense heat and called out to Norfleet, who responded. Parham followed Norfleet's voice into a room about 12 feet from the door, where Parham helped Norfleet, who had mobility issues, from his bed. Parham supported and carried Norfleet out of the house and then assisted him to his own house. Firefighters arrived shortly and found Norfleet's house fully engulfed by flames. Norfleet was seen at a hospital but was not injured. Parham inhaled smoke; he recovered. [90364-10186](#)



## FUSAKO M. PETRUS

*North Highlands, California*

**Fusako M. Petrus** died rescuing a woman from assault, North Highlands, California, April 26, 2017. The woman, 61, and her friend, Petrus, 86, retired clerk, were walking apart at dawn on a school-campus track when an 18-year-old man approached the woman from behind, grasped her, and struck her in the face. They went to the ground and the assailant struck the woman again while holding her down and attempted to sexually assault her. Petrus, who was considerably smaller than the assailant, witnessed the attack and moved closer to them, brandishing a stick. Petrus struck the assailant and called for him to leave the woman alone. The assailant shifted his attention to Petrus and began to violently punch and kick her with his hands and feet even after she was on the ground and until she no longer appeared to be moving. The woman was treated for her injuries and sheriff's deputies arrested the assailant later that day. Petrus did not survive the attack. [89154-10185](#)



JOHN D. PHELPS

*Tampa, Florida*

**John D. Phelps** rescued Schnaider Prophete from assault, Tampa, Florida, November 19, 2019. Prophete, 60, was driving a public commuter bus when, at a stop, an agitated man, 65, entered the bus and discharged pepper spray into his face, irritating his eyes. Using a utility knife, the assailant then repeatedly slashed Prophete in the upper body. Prophete fell to the floor of the bus near his seat as the assailant continued to attack him, slashing his legs. Among the passengers, Phelps, 61, cook, left his seat in the middle of the bus, loudly ordered the assailant, who was standing over Prophete, to stop, and advanced to Prophete's side; the assailant moved toward the open, front doorway, about 5 feet away. Phelps, who coughed from the effects of the spray, received a metal, folding cart from a passenger and warded off the assailant, who dropped the spray can onto the floor and shortly exited the bus after Phelps stepped toward him. Following him outside, Phelps waved the remaining passengers off the bus and stood on the sidewalk a short distance from the assailant, who lunged toward him with the knife then left the scene. Prophete underwent emergency surgery and was hospitalized for multiple days. Police shortly arrested the assailant. [90841-10202](#)



ISIAH JAMAL PIERCE

*Laurel, Mississippi*

**Isiah Jamal Pierce** died attempting to save Mahogany R. Brownlow from burning, Laurel, Mississippi, December 19, 2018. Mahogany, 1, remained inside a bedroom she shared with her mother and Pierce, 27, chicken plant laborer, after fire broke out in the home at night. Mahogany's mother removed Mahogany's three older siblings from the home while Pierce attempted to douse the fire with buckets of water. Unsuccessful, Pierce exited the home through the front door as flames and smoke intensified. When Pierce and Mahogany's mother realized the girl was still inside, Pierce took a deep breath and ran back into the burning home through the front door as dense, black smoke began to fill an interior hallway. He did not return outside. Fire shortly spread throughout the home, and firefighters were unable to safely enter it until after the fire was extinguished. Firefighters found the bodies of Mahogany and Pierce in the bedroom. The two had died of smoke inhalation. [90249-10156](#)



## YUN QI

*Richmond, British Columbia*

**Yun Qi** rescued a girl from an attacking dog, Surrey, British Columbia, June 3, 2017. A girl, 4, was playing in a residential alley when a Rottweiler approached her and attacked her, biting her leg and latching on to it. The dog dragged the girl to the ground and continued to bite her. The girl's sister was with her, and the sister screamed for help. Qi, 33, business operator, was in his driveway nearby and heard screams. He ran to the girl and yelled at the dog, disrupting its attack on the girl. The dog released the girl's leg and attacked Qi, biting his hand, arms, and legs. Qi was knocked to the ground and the dog pinned him there as Qi made efforts to fend him off. Qi's father responded and, using a bicycle to protect himself, he struck the dog, disrupting its attack on Qi, who was able to escape. The girl and her sister retreated to their home. The dog's owner arrived and took it to his residence. The dog was later euthanized. The girl was taken to a hospital where she was treated for bite wounds to her leg that required multiple surgeries. Qi was treated for a severe bite wound to his left hand that caused some permanent damage and required surgery, and additional bite wounds to his arms and left leg. [89181-10148](#)



## JOSHUA RYAN QUICK

*Tallahassee, Florida*

**Joshua Ryan Quick** saved at least one woman and rescued at least one other from assault, Tallahassee, Florida, November 2, 2018. Quick, 33, law student, was attending a yoga class in a studio with eight female students and a female instructor, when a man, 40, armed with a loaded 9 mm handgun and more than 80 additional bullets, entered and opened fire on the group. Police later stated he fired 13 shots. Several students were shot. Quick, his partner, and the class instructor, retreated from the line of fire to an alcove in the room. When the shooting abruptly stopped, Quick, seeing that the assailant had focused his attention on the gun, quickly grasped an upright vacuum cleaner, emerged from the alcove, and charged him. Quick later stated the gun either jammed or needed reloaded, and police couldn't determine which occurred. Quick struck the assailant with the vacuum cleaner, and the assailant hit Quick in the face with the gun, knocking him down. Forfeiting his opportunity to flee as the

assailant's attention remained focused on his gun, Quick grasped a nearby broom and struck the assailant's head. Quick was struck again by the much-larger assailant in the nose. Two women in the room, one of whom had been wounded, fled. Quick then grasped the hand of his partner and fled to safety with her. Shortly, the assailant fatally shot himself in the head. Six women were shot during the attack including two who died. Quick was treated at a hospital for a facial laceration. He recovered. [90138-10151](#)



STACEY REDMON

*Vernon, Florida*

**Stacey Redmon** died attempting to save a boy from drowning, Panama City Beach, Florida, June 21, 2019. The boy was swimming in the Gulf of Mexico when he was carried away from shore by waves and a current. At the time, swimming was prohibited due to dangerous water conditions, including large waves and a rip current. Redmon, 48, disabled air structural repairman, was walking along the beach with his family when he was alerted to the situation. Redmon immediately ran into the water and swam toward the boy. Three surfers, who heard screams and Redmon's calls for help, swam to Redmon and the boy, who were near one another in water at least 8 feet deep at a point about 100 feet from the beach. They took the boy and others who were in the water back to the beach, then returned for Redmon, who was on his back and struggling to stay afloat. A large wave struck Redmon and the surfers, and they submerged. The surfers and Redmon surfaced, and the surfers pulled Redmon, who had lost consciousness, to shore, and removed him from the water. Others on the beach began efforts to resuscitate Redmon, who was in cardiac arrest. Redmon was shortly taken by ambulance to a hospital, but he could not be revived. He had drowned. [90634-10187](#)



ROBERT TODD RIDDLE

*Deer Park, Texas*

**Robert Todd Riddle** died attempting to save an unidentified man from drowning, Kemah, Texas, September 4, 2019. An unidentified man floundered in Trinity Bay adjacent an amusement park's boardwalk and called for help.

Riddle, 56, maintenance technician, was alerted to the man's plight. Despite rough water on the bay, Riddle removed his outer apparel and dived into the bay from the boardwalk. Riddle began to swim toward the man, who had reached a buoy and clung to it. Meanwhile, boaters, alerted to the man's plight, responded to the buoy and brought him aboard their boat, unaware of Riddle's efforts. Riddle was briefly seen swimming back toward the boardwalk before he disappeared from view. Search efforts were initiated, but Riddle's body was not located until the following day. He had drowned. [90735-10165](#)



YOLANDA ROBINSON ISOM

*Rock Hill, South Carolina*

**Yolanda Robinson Isom** died attempting to rescue three of her sons from burning, Rock Hill, South Carolina, September 29, 2018. At night, Robinson Isom, 35, nursing assistant, was inside her family's single-story house with her husband, 34, and their five sons, ages 8, 7, 5, 4, and 2, when a fire broke out in the kitchen. A neighbor, seeing flames at the house's rear exterior, ran to the front door, located the two oldest sons and led them away from the house. Coughing, Robinson Isom exited the house at the front door and urgently mentioned her young children to a neighbor, who took custody of the two older sons. Robinson Isom then ran back inside through the front door; she did not return outside. Responding firefighters entered at the front door, located Robinson Isom on the living-room floor, and brought her out of the house. Firefighters then found and removed the three younger sons and her husband, all of whom were treated at a burn center. While the sons ultimately recovered, the husband succumbed to his injuries seven months later. Robinson Isom died at the scene. [90100-10159](#)



ANN ROTHPLETZ

*Louisville, Kentucky*

**Ann Rothpletz** saved Billy D. Waugh from drowning, Jeffersonville, Indiana, July 7, 2017. Waugh, 49, and a friend were fishing from a rock shelf that was submerged in several feet of water in the Ohio River when they were swept into deeper water of the river's main channel and struggled to stay afloat in the

swift current. Rothpletz, 46, university faculty member, was nearby and saw Waugh being carried downstream, waving his arms and shouting. Realizing he was in trouble, Rothpletz entered the water and swam about 300 feet to Waugh, who was unconscious. Rothpletz grasped Waugh, and turned him onto his back. Grasping his collar and towing him, she swam about 300 feet to the bank. Unable to fully remove Waugh from the river, she pulled his upper body out of the water and held his head upright so that he could breathe. Rescue personnel arrived, and Waugh was taken from the scene. He was monitored in the hospital for two days and released; he was not injured. Rothpletz was tired and shaken after the rescue; she recovered. Waugh's friend drowned. [90807-10147](#)



CHRISTOPHER F. N. SCHULTZ

*Frazee, Minnesota*

**Christopher F. N. Schultz** died attempting to rescue Ashton M. C. Schultz from drowning, Detroit Lakes, Minnesota, June 15, 2019. Ashton, 3, was standing on a bridge walkway that spanned a channel that connected Curfman and Detroit lakes with his father, Shultz, 31, construction laborer, when he fell into the water. Shultz, fully clothed, immediately jumped into the water and reached Ashton. Schultz grasped Ashton under his arms and held him up above the water. Schultz, holding Ashton, swam about halfway to the bank but began to struggle to stay afloat. Schultz's friend entered the water and took Ashton from Schultz, and others also entered the water to help. Ashton was brought to the bank but efforts to immediately locate Schultz, who had submerged, were not successful. Police and a dive team responded and located Schultz in the water, unresponsive. He was taken to the hospital, where further efforts to revive him proved unsuccessful. Ashton was uninjured. [90575-10196](#)



LESLIE E. SHAFFER

*Akron, Ohio*

**Leslie E. Shaffer** helped to rescue a 23-year-old mother and her children from assault, Akron, Ohio, June 16, 2019. The woman and her three daughters, ages 1, 3, and 4, were on a sidewalk of a city street when her ex-partner, 24, armed with a handgun, shot her once in the back. Shaffer, 31, certified nursing assistant,

was driving a car with a male passenger, an unemployed laborer, when they witnessed the attack and responded. As Shaffer drove toward the shooting scene, the unemployed laborer, jumped out of the car and ran to help the woman and her children. Meanwhile a group home staff supervisor also parked nearby, arriving first. Exiting his vehicle, the group home staff supervisor positioned himself between the woman, who shielded her daughters on the ground, and the assailant. Shaffer's passenger ran up, took off his shirt, and held it against the woman's back to stem the bleeding as Shaffer exited her car and stood nearby. The group home staff supervisor continued to shield the woman when the assailant reached over his left shoulder and shot her in the back a second time and, in the process aimed the gun at the unemployed laborer's head. The unemployed laborer engaged the assailant, along with the group home staff supervisor who, by this time, had grasped the assailant's gun-wielding arm. During the struggle a shot was fired into the ground near them and shortly the assailant lost control of the gun, which fell to the ground. The assailant then produced a knife. Shaffer aided the mother and carried the 1-year-old to her car while the group home staff supervisor put the other children into his car. Shaffer and the group home staff supervisor drove from the scene to safety. The unemployed laborer, meanwhile, continued to fight with the assailant at the scene until the assailant retrieved his weapon and fled. The unemployed laborer gave chase with arriving police officers but ultimately the assailant shot himself nearby and died. The group home staff supervisor and the certified nursing assistant, who drove several blocks away, flagged down a responding police cruiser and summoned help for the mother and her daughters. The woman was hospitalized but recovered. 90605-10199



NICHOLAS STEPHEN SIOKALO

*Lutherville, Maryland*

**Nicholas Stephen Siokalo** saved Chase A. Hannawacker from drowning, Belmar, New Jersey, September 14, 2019. Chase, 7, was being held by his aunt as she waded in the Atlantic Ocean when a wave carried them into deeper water and away from shore. Siokalo, 27, brand strategist, was sitting on the beach when he saw Chase and his aunt waving and screaming for help. Running into the water, Siokalo swam toward them as another wave hit them, separating them, and pushing the aunt onto a nearby jetty. Chase became caught in a rip current. Siokalo swam to Chase and held him against his hip with his arm as

they were carried farther from shore by a current. Siokalo and Chase submerged several times in the waves and current. Lifeguards were notified and swam out with flotation devices to Siokalo and Chase, who were by then about 145 feet from shore. The guards towed Siokalo and Chase toward shore and retrieved Chase's aunt from the jetty. Other rescue personnel in wadable water tossed the ends of ropes to lifeguards in the water and pulled everyone to shore. Chase's aunt suffered scrapes to her legs from the rocky jetty. Chase wasn't injured. Siokalo was nearly exhausted, vomited, and had swallowed water. He was taken by ambulance to a hospital where he was treated for several hours for symptoms of near drowning. He recovered. [90745-10149](#)



KENNETH STEAD

*Cold Lake, Alberta*

**Kenneth Stead** attempted to rescue a woman from assault, Cold Lake, Alberta, June 13, 2018. A 35-year-old woman's live-in partner assaulted her in their house, choking her and striking her head and body. Her teenaged son fled the home and informed a neighbor, Stead, 46, cable installer, that his mother's partner was going to kill her. Stead guided the son into his own house, then ran to the scene and knocked on the front door until the assailant opened it, enabling him to see the woman, motionless, on the floor. Stead asked her if she was okay, and the woman replied that she was not. As Stead entered the house and advanced toward the woman, the assailant stepped in front of Stead and stabbed him in the abdomen with a butcher knife. The woman retreated to a bathroom and Stead exited at the front door. Police responded shortly and tended to the woman, who by then was outside. The woman was shortly transported to a hospital where she was treated. The assailant was arrested by police. Stead was hospitalized for six days and missed about two months of work; he recovered. [90552-10172](#)



JONATHAN STEIN-PALMIERE

*Calgary, Alberta*

**Jonathan Stein-Palmiere** died helping to save a girl from drowning, Windermere, British Columbia, May 31, 2019. The girl, 10, called for help in Lake Windermere as she struggled to swim to a public beach after losing

contact with an inflatable pool float in the water. Stein-Palmiere, 20, apprentice carpenter, who was in her family's party on the beach, was alerted. Despite being a poor swimmer, Stein-Palmiere entered the water and waded and swam to the girl, whom he grasped and pushed closer to the beach as he struggled to stay afloat. He submerged and did not resurface. The girl ultimately rejoined her party and exited the lake safely at the beach. A man and a woman recovered Stein-Palmiere, who was unresponsive, and brought him to the beach. Efforts to revive Stein-Palmiere, who then was taken to a hospital, were unsuccessful. He had drowned. [90601-10200](#)



KRISTINA JEAN STRATTON

*Bakersfield, California*

**Kristina Jean Stratton** died attempting to save three young sisters from burning, Bakersfield, California, February 7, 2019. At night, a 17-year-old girl and her sisters, 9 and 8, were in a second-floor bedroom inside their two-story house after fire broke out in a first-floor bedroom; their brother, whose bedroom also was on the first floor, safely exited through the front door. The oldest girl called their mother, Stratton, 38, homemaker, who was not at home, to inform her that they were trapped by the fire. As Stratton, with the girls' older sister, returned home, the girls escaped the house through an upstairs bedroom window and made it to the ground in the home's fenced backyard. Unaware that the children had escaped the home and were safe in the backyard, Stratton arrived, entered the front door of the house, and was not seen outside again. The girls were hospitalized for inhaling smoke; they recovered. Responding firefighters found heavy fire and smoke issuing from the bedroom window through which the girls had escaped, and they located Stratton in that bedroom. Stratton, who had suffered burns and inhaled smoke, was deceased. [90384-10145](#)



JASON AARON STRUNK

*Canton, Ohio*

**Jason Aaron Strunk** helped to rescue a 23-year-old mother and her children from assault, Akron, Ohio, June 16, 2019. The woman and her three daughters,

ages 1, 3, and 4, were on a sidewalk of a city street when her ex-partner, 24, armed with a handgun, shot her once in the back. Strunk, 38, group home staff supervisor, who was stopped at a nearby intersection, saw the woman on the ground shielding her children from the assailant and drove a short distance to the scene. Strunk parked his car and exited, positioning himself between the woman and the assailant. A certified nursing assistant and her male passenger, an unemployed laborer, in another nearby car also witnessed the attack and responded moments later. The laborer exited the car and ran to the woman where he removed his shirt and held it against her bleeding back. The woman drove to a point adjacent to the scene and parked. Strunk continued to shield the woman from the assailant when the assailant reached over Strunk's left shoulder and shot the woman in the back a second time and, in the process aimed the gun at the other man's head. A struggle ensued between Strunk and the assailant with Strunk grasping the assailant's gun-wielding arm. The unemployed laborer joined in as Strunk struggled with the assailant for control of the gun. During the struggle a shot was fired into the ground near them and shortly the assailant lost control of the gun, which fell to the ground. The assailant then produced a knife. Strunk put two of the girls into his car while the woman aided the mother and her 1-year-old to her car. Strunk and the woman drove the woman and the children from the scene to safety. The unemployed laborer meanwhile, continued to fight with the assailant at the scene until the assailant retrieved his weapon and fled. The assailant, chased by unemployed laborer and police, ultimately shot himself nearby and died. Strunk and the woman, who drove several blocks away, flagged down a responding police cruiser and summoned help for the woman and her daughters. The woman was hospitalized but recovered. Strunk, the nursing assistant and the other man were not harmed. 90606-10197



DOUGLAS LEROY TALLMAN, SR.

*Marysville, California*

**Douglas Leroy Tallman, Sr.**, saved a woman from assault, Sacramento, California, February 27, 2019. A female diner server, 19, was at the diner's cash register when a man armed with a handgun entered and approached her. The assailant aimed a .40-caliber pistol at her and demanded money from the register. Tallman, 34, barber college student, was seated at a

booth in the diner with his fiancée and son about 15 feet from the cash register when he saw the assailant pointing the gun at the server. Tallman left the booth and walked in the direction of the server and the assailant. As he passed behind the assailant, Tallman grasped the assailant's hand that was holding the pistol, and wrapped his arm around the assailant's throat. A struggle between Tallman and the assailant ensued, during which Tallman took the assailant to the floor. As Tallman fought with the assailant for control of the gun, the server fled. Tallman's son, who had by then also left the booth walked toward the assailant and his father when the gun discharged a single round. Bullet fragments struck Tallman's son in the right foot and calf. Tallman, still on the floor with the assailant, pushed the assailant away from him, got up then ran and dived for cover behind a nearby table. The assailant struggled to his feet, grabbed money from the floor, and exited. He was later arrested. The server was not injured, nor were any patrons. Tallman's son was treated for his wounds but recovered in a few weeks. [90401-10142](#)



#### ERNEST J. TARSITANO

*Galloway, New Jersey*

**Ernest J. Tarsitano** helped to rescue Roderick R. Cormier from burning, Galloway, New Jersey, July 26, 2018. Cormier, 72, was in his one-room residence within a two-unit cabin after fire broke out inside. Seeing smoke issuing from the cabin, a passing motorist, Tarsitano, 60, retired firefighter, stopped at the scene and learned that Cormier remained inside. After the door was opened, Tarsitano, despite dark smoke that extended from ceiling to floor, entered and searched for Cormier. Shortly, Tarsitano located Cormier, who was limp, on the floor, in proximity to flames on a nearby wall. Tarsitano grasped his body, stood, and backed toward the door, dragging Cormier. Near the doorway, others assisted Tarsitano in removing Cormier from the cabin, then helped Tarsitano carry him away before fire shortly engulfed the room. Cormier, who suffered burns and inhaled smoke, was taken to a hospital for treatment. He recovered. Paramedics at the scene treated Tarsitano, who had difficulty breathing and had cuts on his knees. He also recovered. [89962-10136](#)



SCOTT ULLOM

*Dallas, West Virginia*

**Scott Ullom** helped to rescue Eric J. Stroud, Jr., from a burning vehicle, Waynesburg, Pennsylvania, August 3, 2018. Stroud was trapped in a sport utility vehicle after the vehicle left an interstate highway at night, overturned, and came to rest upright and partly on the road. Stroud's vehicle caught fire. Ullom, 59, paramedic, was on duty and dispatched to the accident in an ambulance with a male co-worker. Upon arriving at the scene, Ullom ran to the SUV but was unable to open the driver's door. As the co-worker used a fire extinguisher to fight the fire, Ullom went to the rear of the SUV and entered its cargo area through the rear hatch door. Ullom crawled to Stroud, 24, who was entangled in his seat belt. The seat belt was removed and Ullom grasped Stroud and pulled him into the cargo area. Ullom and his co-worker then removed him from the vehicle and away from the SUV, which was shortly engulfed by flames. Stroud sustained severe head injuries and burns to his legs and hands. [90344-10154](#)



KATHERINE M. WENZSELL

*Milwaukee, Wisconsin*

**Katherine M. Wenzell** saved Susan A. Wenzell from being struck by a train, Atlanta, Georgia, August 19, 2018. Wenzell, 57, was standing on a platform in a subway station when a man pushed her off the platform and onto a track on which a subway train approached. Wenzell's daughter, Katherine, 28, school teacher, jumped down onto the track and unsuccessfully attempted to remove her from the path of the train. As the train bore down on them, Katherine positioned Wenzell in the middle of the track, parallel to the rails and also got down between the rails seconds before the train arrived at the station. Unable to stop in time, the train struck Katherine and dragged her beneath it for several feet before it came to a stop. Wenzell crawled from underneath the train and was aided by arriving rescue personnel. Wenzell sustained a broken arm, concussion, a back injury, and contusions to her body from her fall onto the track. Rescue personnel removed Katherine, who was unconscious, from beneath the train, and she was transported to a hospital where she underwent several surgeries for various injuries which included a severed toe, multiple fractures, internal contusions, and a concussion. [90059-10143](#)



ARTHUR RAY WHITHAM, JR.

*Lincoln, Illinois*

**Arthur Ray Whitham, Jr.**, helped save George L. Horn from drowning, Lincoln, Illinois, December 4, 2018. Horn, 68, was driving a car that slid off an ice-covered road at dusk and into a nearby pond, where his car began to fill with water. Whitham, 46, welder, who was driving on the same road and witnessed the accident, stopped at the scene, and approached the pond. Horn shouted for help. Whitham, fully clothed, jumped into the 35-degree water and waded and swam to the driver's side of Horn's car, where he stood in chest-deep water. The water inside the car was up to Horn's neck and the driver's door window had been lowered several inches. Whitham grasped the top of the window and pushed it down completely, then extended his arms inside and grasped Horn. Whitham pulled Horn out through the window headfirst. Whitham grasped Horn and moved with him toward the rear of the car where they held on and waited for authorities. Arriving rescue personnel using an inflatable boat removed both men from the water and took them to the bank. Horn was treated at a hospital for hypothermia; he recovered. Whitham was cold after the rescue; he recovered. [90213-10140](#)



JAMES W. WHITLEY II

*Hannibal, Missouri*

**James W. Whitley II** helped save Mea A.K. Lewis, Brittany L. Caldwell, and Harland L. Miller, and attempted to save Barbara Ann Young from drowning, Hull, Illinois, August 3, 2019. Mea, 2; Caldwell, 22; Miller, 49; and Young, 42; were riding with three others in a 24-foot pontoon boat piloted by Miller in the Mississippi River when a rope caught in its engine propeller, and its engine stalled. The river, above flood stage and flowing twice as fast as normal, carried the powerless boat downriver where one side crashed into the slanted bow of a moored barge. The force of the current driving the pontoon boat against the barge pushed one side pontoon beneath the water and caused the boat to capsize with only one pontoon above water. All of those aboard either fell or dived into the water at the front of the barge. James W. Whitley II, 36, laborer, and his cousin, who were passing by in a 20-foot jon boat, saw the pontoon

boat strike the barge and navigated to the capsized boat and its passengers in the water. Despite the strong current that twice nearly capsized their boat, Whitley and his cousin maneuvered to the bow of the barge several times and, while Whitley kept their outboard motor on full-throttle reverse against the current, his cousin stood at the bow and was ultimately able to pull Mea into the boat. Successful, Whitley and his cousin circled around and rescued Caldwell on a subsequent pass. As it remained too difficult to maintain their position in the current, Whitley and his cousin circled their boat around and approached the barge again, with the cousin helping Miller scramble into their boat. During the earlier rescues, Young submerged and did not resurface. The Whitleys then navigated into the main channel where they pulled Caldwell's ex-boyfriend into their boat along with the body of Mea's grandmother. The Whitleys transported the pontoon boat survivors to shore where they were met by first responders. Mea, Caldwell, Miller, and the male passenger escaped with bumps and bruises. Another man was rescued by the crew of a tow boat. Young's body was recovered by authorities from beneath the barge the next day. Whitley was not injured. [90958-10193](#)



ROBERT J. WHITLEY

*New London, Missouri*

**Robert J. Whitley** helped save Mea A.K. Lewis, Brittany L. Caldwell, and Harland L. Miller, and attempted to save Barbara Ann Young from drowning, Hull, Illinois, August 3, 2019. Mea, 2; Caldwell, 22; Miller, 49; and Young, 42; were riding with three others in a 24-foot pontoon boat piloted by Miller in the Mississippi River when a rope caught in its engine propeller, and its engine stalled. The river, above flood stage and flowing twice as fast as normal, carried the powerless boat downriver where one side crashed into the slanted bow of a moored barge. The force of the current driving the pontoon boat against the barge pushed one side of the pontoon beneath the water and caused the boat to capsize with only one pontoon above water. All of those aboard either fell or dived into the water at the front of the barge. Robert J. Whitley, 38, construction worker, and his cousin, who were passing by in the cousin's 20-foot jon boat saw the pontoon boat strike the barge and navigated to the capsized boat and its passengers in the water. Despite the strong current that twice nearly capsized their boat, Whitley and his cousin maneuvered to

the bow of the barge several times and, while keeping their outboard motor on full-throttle reverse against the current, Robert stood at the bow and was ultimately able to pull Mea into the boat. Successful, Whitley and his cousin circled around and rescued Caldwell on a subsequent pass. As it remained too difficult to maintain their position in the current, Robert and his cousin circled their boat around and approached the barge again, with Robert helping Miller scramble into their boat. At some point during the earlier rescues, Young submerged and did not resurface. The Whitleys then navigated westward where they pulled Caldwell's ex-boyfriend into their boat along with the body of Mea's grandmother. The Whitleys transported the pontoon boat survivors to shore where they were met by first responders. Mea, Caldwell, Miller, and the male passenger escaped with bumps and bruises. Another man was rescued by the crew of a tow boat. Young's body was recovered by authorities from beneath the barge the next day. Whitley was not injured. [90957-10192](#)



#### WENDY WINTERS

*Edgewater, Maryland*

**Wendy Winters** died attempting to save several newspaper employees from assault, Annapolis, Maryland, June 28, 2018. Eleven newspaper employees, including Winters, 65, reporter, were inside the paper's first-floor office in a four-story building when a 38-year-old man arrived with a pump-action shotgun, shot through the locked, glass front door, and entered. The assailant immediately shot a sales assistant at the reception desk, severely wounding her. Some employees, hearing shots, sought cover beneath their desks; others located hiding places at the rear of the office, unable to escape from the rear exit, which the assailant had earlier barricaded. As the assailant proceeded toward the office's rear, Winters left her desk in the center of the office with a trash can and a recycling bin and charged toward him, telling him to stop. The assailant shot Winters in the chest, then advanced deeper into the office where he fatally shot two editors and a sports reporter. A sales representative fled to safety out the front door, as did a photographer, at whom the assailant shot but missed. The assailant ceased his attack and hid beneath a desk until responding police arrested him inside. Four other employees, who remained hidden until the ordeal ended, survived; the sales assistant died later at a hospital. Winters died at the scene. [89946-10201](#)

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## 2019-2020 AWARD STATISTICS

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### MEDALS

Seventy-three Carnegie Medals were awarded in 2019 and 67 in 2020, bringing the total to 10,202 since the Hero Fund was established in 1904. To date, the Commission has considered 90,958 rescue acts.

*Especially do we remember those who gave their lives saving or attempting to save others. Twenty-three such sacrifices were honored in 2019 and 2020, bringing the total to date to 2,075.*

Mir Khaled Ahmad	Stacey Redmon
Moyses Arreguin	Robert Todd Riddle
Jacob Farley	Yolanda Robinson Isom
Marcos Gil	Christopher F. N. Schultz
Kenneth Raye Gooch, Jr.	Jonathan Stein-Palmiere
Melissa Anne Lehew	Kristina Jean Stratton
Albert Madrid	Troy E. Strickland
Victor Mozqueda	David S. Turner, Sr.
Bradley Eugene Murphy	Steven B. Wahler
Vladmir Orelus	Malik Andre Williams
Fusako M. Petrus	Wendy Winters
Isiah James Pierce	

MONETARY GRANTS	2019	2020	TO DATE
For continuing support of widows, widowers, and other dependents, and disabled heroes	\$252,740	\$266,490	\$19,314,487
Monetary awards including educational assistance and medals	\$574,391	\$617,358	\$22,873,315
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$826,924</b>	<b>\$883,848</b>	<b>\$42,187,802</b>

## MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION

*(Shown with year of election)*

A. H. Burchfield III 1987  
Robert J. Cindrich 2012  
Evan S. Frazier 2015  
David McL. Hillman 1996  
Linda T. Hills 2007  
Peter J. Lambrou 2009  
Mark Laskow 1992  
Nathalie Lemieux 2012  
Christopher R. McCrady 1999  
Priscilla J. McCrady 1989  
Ann M. McGuinn 1992  
Nancy L. Rackoff 2002  
Frank Brooks Robinson 1966  
Dan D. Sandman 2002  
Arthur M. Scully III 2011  
Michael A. Thompson 2012  
Sybil P. Veeder 1992  
Joseph C. Walton 2011  
Susanne C. Wean 2011  
Thomas L. Wentling, Jr. 1991  
Eric P. Zahren 2015

## HONORARY MEMBER

James M. Walton 1968

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Mark Laskow, *Chair*  
Nancy L. Rackoff, *Vice Chair*  
Eric P. Zahren, *Secretary*  
Dan D. Sandman, *Treasurer*

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Thomas L. Wentling Jr., *chair*  
David McL. Hillman  
Nancy L. Rackoff  
Joseph C. Walton

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Thomas L. Wentling Jr., *chair*  
A.H. Burchfield III  
David McL. Hillman  
Frank Brooks Robinson  
Dan D. Sandman

## GOVERNANCE

Evan S. Frazier  
Nancy L. Rackoff  
Dan D. Sandman  
Michael A. Thompson  
Sybil P. Veeder  
Joseph C. Walton  
Thomas L. Wentling, Jr.  
Eric P. Zahren

## RETIREMENT PLAN TRUSTEES

Eric P. Zahren, *administrator*  
David McL. Hillman  
Mark Laskow  
Arthur M. Scully III

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Priscilla J. McCrady  
Nancy L. Rackoff  
Dan D. Sandman  
Arthur M. Scully III  
Michael A. Thompson

## EUROPEAN HERO FUNDS SUB-COMMITTEE

Mark Laskow, *chair*  
Linda T. Hills  
Peter Lambrou  
Dan D. Sandman  
Sybil P. Veeder  
Joseph C. Walton  
Thomas L. Wentling, Jr.

## EXECUTIVE

Sybil P. Veeder, *chair*  
Thomas L. Wentling Jr., *vice chair*  
A. H. Burchfield III  
Robert J. Cindrich  
Evan S. Frazier  
David McL. Hillman  
Linda T. Hills  
Peter J. Lambrou  
Nathalie Lemieux  
Christopher R. McCrady  
Priscilla J. McCrady  
Ann M. McGuinn  
Nancy L. Rackoff  
Frank Brooks Robinson  
Dan D. Sandman  
Arthur M. Scully III  
Michael A. Thompson  
Joseph C. Walton  
Susanne C. Wean  
Eric P. Zahren

<sup>1</sup>*The Chair is ex officio a member of each committee, except Audit*

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