

RED ALERTS!



Keeping our Red Cross volunteer partners engaged and informed



ON THE HORIZON

■ **Sound the Alarm smoke alarm install,** Boise, April 27-28, volunteers needed, visit <https://goo.gl/q2SVbn>.

■ **Sound the Alarm,** Billings, May 18-19, visit www.montanaredcross.org.



IN FISCAL year 2017 our 861 Idaho and Montana volunteers logged 53,575 hours.



RED CROSS MILESTONES

BEVERLY NEAL, 20 years

ANITA JONES, 10 years

DENISE BACON, 5 years

MARY FAHLGREN, 5 years

ROB REZEK, 5 years

LAURA SENIOR, 5 years

IN THE SPOTLIGHT: JIM STUMPF OF MERIDIAN

45 years and counting

Exhaustion and trauma were taking their toll on the firefighters, police officers, volunteers and others at Ground Zero after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

That's where Jim Stumpf, a Red Cross volunteer from Meridian, Idaho, stepped in to do liaison work.

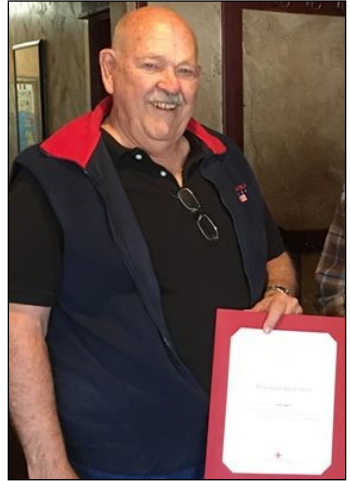
"I worked with the volunteers who were with agencies working on the pile, and I was trying to keep everybody happy," said Stumpf, who was recognized recently for 45 years of Red Cross volunteer service. "Some of the volunteers were starting to get worn a little thin so the job was talking to them, keeping them happy, exchanging stories and information, trying to relieve them of tension."

At one of the nation's darkest moments, Stumpf was there in New York City, helping for more than three weeks.

He also responded to flooding in Louisiana on a deployment, but he spent more of his 45 years as a volunteer teaching first aid. These days he does disaster cycle services, supporting disaster teams on the casework side.

Friends talked him into joining the Red Cross "and I've just been working at it ever since," he said. "It seemed to work out. I was satisfied, and I didn't make everybody unhappy."

The "inspiring and encouraging" Red



Cross volunteers he's met along the way have helped him keep going.

"I enjoy doing the work with the Red Cross and helping out where I can, when I can. It's a gratifying experience," he said.

Stumpf advised potential volunteers to "jump in and get your feet wet."

"It's a good experience, and they're not going to break your door down to get you to volunteer. You have to wander in and be willing to help," he said. "Be patient. We don't have disasters every day, fortunately. It takes time before you deploy."

— By Kristen Inbody

In the know ...

■ **BIOMED:** This summer Red Cross will launch the Missing Types campaign to raise awareness of the need for lifesaving blood. Iconic businesses, celebrities and community leaders will remove the letters A, B and O — the blood types — from their names on signs, logos and social media to inspire new donors. If you see an **_meric_n Red Cr_ss** sign or billboard you will know why.

■ **RED CROSS MONTH:** March is national Red Cross Month. Celebrate by sharing your Red Cross story with someone you know.

■ **DEPLOYMENTS:** Several Idaho and Montana volunteers deployed recently to

provide flooding relief in Kentucky and Indiana. They include: Suzanne Carroll, Tim Dye, Kent Jay, Vicky Johns, Don Nesbitt, Diana Ochsner and Lew Savik.

■ **COMMUNICATIONS:** Take a picture of yourself testing your smoke alarm and email it to matthew.ochsner@redcross.org for a chance to win a \$20 Starbucks gift card. Photos will be used on social media.

■ **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** We need more than 200 volunteers to install smoke alarms in 500 Boise homes on April 27-28, and we have a ways to go. Visit <https://goo.gl/q2SVbn> or www.redcross.org/local/idaho/home-fire-safety.

Dive into some wings, support MT Red Cross

In celebration of National Red Cross Month, the Montana Red Cross and Buffalo Wild Wings restaurants across Montana are teaming up on March 28.

Twenty percent of all Buffalo Wild Wings sales that day will be donated to the Red Cross. Customers are asked to present a coupon when they pay their bill to take part in the fundraiser. They can either print out the coupons or show the coupon on their phones. The coupons can



be found on the Montana Red Cross website at

www.redcross.org/news/article/local/montana/Eat-wings-support-the-Montana-Red-Cross.

Buffalo Wild Wings has restaurants in seven cities across Montana including in Billings, Bozeman, Butte, Great Falls, Helena, Kalispell and Missoula.

Grab your friends, eat some wings and support the Montana Red Cross on March 28 at a Buffalo Wild Wings near you.

It's Training Institute time

Join us at the Holiday Inn in West Yellowstone on April 20-23 for our Training Institute.

Courses such as Disaster Action Team Basics are geared toward those who are new to the organization, while Supervising the Disaster Workforce is intended for those who would like to become supervisors or managers on deployments.

This year, attendees can sign up for individual courses based on their interests.

Registration is open for all Montana and Idaho volunteers at <http://www.event.com/d/7tqb2y>. Contact local program staff for more details.