

RED ALERTS!



Keeping our volunteer partners engaged and informed



ON THE HORIZON

■ **Hometown Heroes Awards**, May 24, Boise, to learn more or buy tickets visit www.redcross.org/idaho

■ **World Blood Donor Day**, June 14, to make appointment to donate visit redcrossblood.org

■ **World Refugee Day**, June 20, www.redcross.org/what-we-do-international-services/reconnecting-families/world-refugee-day



RED CROSS MILESTONES

JENNY ERICKSON, 10 years

KAREN BIRCH, 10 years

JOAN PARISEAU, 10 years

KATHERINE VALEU, 5 years

JANICE BROWN, 5 years

WAYNE CHILCOTE, 5 years

JENNIFER OLMSTEAD, 5 years

COLEEN REYNOLDS, 5 years

LARRY REYNOLDS, 5 years

CAROL STABENBURROUGHS, 5 years

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: LEWIS SLAVIK OF KALISPELL

'A lot of satisfaction'

As a Red Cross volunteer, Lew Savik has seen people at some of the worst times in their lives.

But he hasn't seen them at their worst.

During the aftermath of hurricanes, landslides, fires, tornados and flooding, the Kalispell volunteer witnesses people showing courage, endurance and gratitude.

"Even in a hurting situation, people were grateful," he said. "I'm not seeing the worst of people. I'm helping and working with some really great people."

In Indiana, where flood waters swept through communities in March, the Red Cross provided families supplies such as shovels, as well as food and water. Savik worked the night shift at a shelter.

"It was just a matter of staying awake all night and making sure everything went smoothly," he said.

He monitored who came and went, fed late arrivals, lent an ear to people who needed someone to talk to and, when things quieted, he scrubbed the men's bathroom.

"This was a group of disadvantaged people, young, old and between," he said.

This was Savik's first time volunteering at a shelter but seventh deployment.

He worked in a kitchen after a disaster in Texas, worked at a warehouse and in delivery in Alabama after a slew of tornados, fed people after Sandy, manned a cantina after a Washington landslide, distributed supplies after wildfires hit Washington and helped with supplies again in Texas.

"All of them were good deployments. There's a lot of satisfaction in helping. You

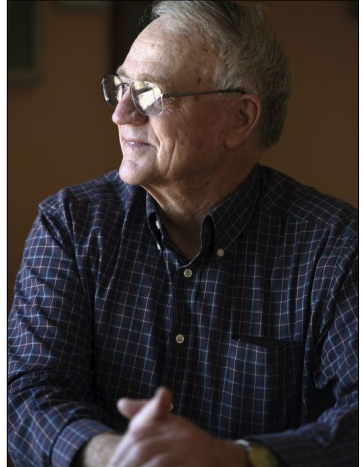


Photo courtesy of Brenda Ahearn/Daily Inter Lake

get a lot of hugs and thank you."

Savik drove a Red Cross emergency response vehicle from Helena to New York after Hurricane Sandy.

He saved a message from a thankful woman in Lindenhurst, N.Y., who wrote that his Red Cross van from Montana had the "best hot dogs in town."

"Thank you to your families for sharing you with us in our time of need," she wrote. "You lifted our hearts and spirits, and I thank you for that. Sandy didn't take everything."

New Yorkers found the Montana team special, he said.

"We got to know the people by their smiles," he said.

— By Kristen Inbody

Caught you at your best



Volunteers Tobie Weist, left, Jim Thornton, standing, and Toni Taylor, right, staff a shelter with Jacqueline Baldwin-LeClaire during flooding in Missoula County.

In the know: Deployments, ISU fire

■ **DEPLOYMENTS:** Edward Amstutz, Tim Dye, Ted Lease, Layla Johnson, Diana Ochsner, JoAnna Thompson, Jill Washburn and Barbara Weber deployed to help with Montana flooding and training.

■ **IDAHO STATE FIRE:** Thanks to all our volunteers who assisted the

PICS ON PAGE 2: Training Institute, Sound the Alarm

70 Idaho State students displaced by the Schubert Heights fire.

■ **SERVICE TO THE ARMED FORCES:** Idaho Red Cross and its

partners served up 400 cups of ice cream to veterans and staff earlier this month at the Boise VA Center.

■ **VOLUNTEER HOURS:** Please remember to log your hours by June 30 so they count toward the awards program. You can enter hours as far back as July 1, 2017. Show us your hours!

TRAINING INSTITUTE



SOUND THE ALARM, BOISE

