



**American
Red Cross**
Southeast Colorado Branch
of Pikes Peak Chapter

**HOMETOWN
HEROES**



••2011 HONOREES••

Adult Heroes



Tom Luster

Moltz Construction: Tom Luster, Casey Wilson, Jim Vaupel and Dave Blosser

On 9/30/10 at approximately 2:00 in the afternoon a piece of metal grating fell from a catwalk 38 ft. at the top of the building being constructed and struck a sub contractors employee, the employee was wearing his hard hat. 4 Moltz employees that were trained in Basic First Aid and CPR responded to the accident.

The 4 Moltz employees assessed the situation, called 911 and Flight for Life and called for our First aid equipment. The 4 Moltz employees immediately decided to move the injured person to a safer location once they placed the cervical collar and placed him on the backboard. Once they moved him, they controlled the bleeding by using compresses and applying them directly to the wound, there was much concern for a brain injury at this time.

They kept the injured person on the backboard and kept him warm until the Flight for Life Helicopter arrived and flew the injured worker to a hospital in Durango, CO.

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Jim Vaupel



Casey Wilson



Dave Blosser

Youth Hero

Andrew Ritterling

Andrew Ritterling, a full-time student at Colorado State University- Pueblo, is pursuing a master's degree in business administration. Andrew is a graduate of Pueblo County High School where he was a Commander with ROTC. Andrew is involved with the Family Worship Center as a volunteer youth group leader.

Andrew recalls "the moment" when he used the Heimlich maneuver on Mr. Jim Fredregill and firmly repeats that, "God directed him to go help this guy". Andrew shares how vivid his memory remains of that day as he walked toward the kitchen and saw Mr. and Mrs. Fredregill sitting off to the side and this look of anxiety over Mrs. Fredregill's face. Andrew was continuing in his route when he "heard God direct him to go help this guy". Andrew went over to the couple and saw that Mr. Fredregill was choking. He flashed back to a training video from his ROTC days and immediately began administering the Heimlich maneuver. Andrew feels as though he continued the maneuver for a good two minutes as he watched Mr. Fredregill lose consciousness and go from a natural color to purple and then return to a normal coloring. The preparedness training he had sat through years before flashed back into his mind and he was able to, "with God's guidance help Mr. Fredregill".



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Military Hero

Jacob Castro



Jacob Castro joined the Army in March 2006. Jacob, Combat Engineer with the First Infantry Division out of Fort Riley, Kansas, deployed to Iraq out of Fort Riley with the First Infantry. Jacob's tour of duty began in Kuwait where he was stationed for one week as he transitioned to Tikrit, Iraq.

The night of January 30, 2007, Jacob began his shift, doing what he did daily, looking for and clearing the routes of IEDs and bombs. As Jacob led the patrol in an armored RG-31, the vehicle was hit on the right, front side. The vehicle he traveled in approached a bomb crater and a concealed pressure wire detonated sending many artillery rounds through the vehicle. Jacob lost consciousness and did not realize how severe the explosion had been. Jacob spent five months in a trauma center in Landstuhl, Germany where he underwent several surgeries. Jacob was then transported to Brook Army Medical Center in San Antonio, TX where they began reconstruction his leg. Jacob endured eight months of mental and physical recover.

Today Jacob serves as a National Service Officer assisting veterans of wars past, as far back as World War II in completing all the paperwork necessary to receive assistance with their daily medical care. Jacob remains committed to his fellow combat team and the U.S. Army, and continues to advocate on behalf of those serving our country and injured in the line of duty.

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Animal Hero

Rainbow

Rainbow, Canine Officer with the Pueblo County Sheriff's Department made Pueblo her home in 2004 when the Alley Foundation donated her to the Sheriff's Department. Rainbow's tracking skills were discovered when the daughter of the founder of the Alley Foundation was kidnapped in 2002/2003. Rainbow found the young girl.

Shortly after Rainbow's arrival to Pueblo, a call came into the Sheriff's Dispatch reporting a missing two year old, twin girl. Upon Rainbow and Officer Post's arrival to the home of the missing child in the Mesa area, Officer Post became very concerned that any tracking evidence had been covered up by the search team members who had arrived earlier. One small footprint in the middle of a myriad of larger footprints was all Rainbow had to work with. Rainbow sniffed at the small print and took off running toward a steep hill nearby. She ran down steep hill and through the shrubs and foliage. The thick shrubbed terrain was not an area that could be easily traveled by adults but was for a toddler. As Rainbow ran searching for the missing child, officer fear grew, as Rainbow was headed for the river which was located just north of the home. Officer Post and fellow officer followed Rainbow as she continued on her search. Suddenly the officers could hear Rainbow's barking and happy sounds along with the excited sounds of the missing toddler. The toddler was found no more than 20 yards from the river.

Rainbow has been an outstanding officer assisting with the drug tracking and assisting in other criminal cases. Rainbow prepares for retirement in the next two months.



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