

bitten repeatedly, often to the bone, and required some 30 stitches.

Jeffery Markant, a Pioneer from Niagara Falls, New York, saw a runaway car headed for his home. He ran to the kitchen and pulled his little sister to safety, just as the car crashed through the wall.

Tim Anderson, a Trailblazer from Mount Pleasant, Texas, observed a small boy being bitten by a coyote. Tim ran to the rescue, was bitten repeatedly, requiring some 19 stitches in his arms and legs. But he saved the boy's life.

Chris Jackson, a Trail Ranger in Andalusia, Alabama, rushed into a burning jail after two police officers had been overcome with smoke inhalation, unlocked the cellblock, and led the jail's only prisoner to safety.

Commander Richard Allen of Oxnard, California, prevented a suicide by removing a loaded gun from a man. He then drove the man to church, where he was converted.

Commander Ken Grove of North Bend, Oregon, walked into a convenience store. He was confronted by a gunman who had already killed one person and was threatening others. Ken disarmed the gunman, suffered a stab wound in the neck which narrowly missed his jugular vein, but subdued the man until police arrived.

Brian Summers, a pastor's son in Channelview, Texas, found a little girl in a pasture who had been bitten by a copperhead. He tried to give aid, but was kept back by a German shepherd who kept circling his little master. Running to the girl's home, he fought off two more guard dogs to tell her parents to call an ambulance.

Donald Spicer, Jr., a Buckaroo from Rush Springs, Oklahoma, awoke to find his mobile home ablaze. His mom and dad were at work. Donald rescued his 5-year-old sister, but after two attempts, was unable to rouse his older brother, 9, who perished in the blaze.

**I**n Brooklyn, New York, John Vazquez, commander of the Spanish Eastern District, observed a woman being robbed in broad daylight. A man with a switchblade drew back to stab her; his other hand was on her purse. Vazquez yelled to get his

attention, pretended to reach for a gun underneath his trenchcoat, while running toward the assailant. He frightened the mugger away, and the woman was unharmed.

Jonathan Becker from Pensacola, Florida, saw a man drowning in the Gulf of Mexico. He went to his aid with an inner tube. He discovered the man, twice his size, was intoxicated. Resisting the man's attempts to save himself, the Ranger pulled the man to safety.

Commander Paul West of Savannah, Georgia, had retired at 37 because of a serious heart condition. One day he heard that a neighbor's 3-year-old daughter was choking and had stopped breathing. He ran to the house, worked feverishly to open the child's airways, and administered CPR. Just as the child began breathing again, West felt faint, sat down on the floor, and went to be with Christ.

Commander Robert E. Missal of Fredericksburg, Virginia, a firefighter, responded to a house fire. He entered the burning building to search for persons. Despite searing heat and dense smoke, he located a 2-year-old girl on the second floor. She was resuscitated, but later died from her injuries. Missal returned in an effort to locate another girl. After an extensive search, it was discovered the second child had escaped the blaze with her mother.

Matthew Avila, a Straight Arrow from Phoenix, Arizona, was on a campout when he heard someone call for help. Running to a nearby pond, he discovered a boy had fallen into water over his head and did not know how to swim. Matthew, who could not swim either, bent down from the bank and held the boy by the arms until help arrived.

Commander Robert Hill of Tunnel Hill, Georgia, was participating in a missions project in Haiti. He and his friends had been warned of a dangerous ocean undercurrent. One of the men was carried out to sea. Hill went to him, ordered him to lie on his back, and brought him to safety after a long, exhausting struggle.

David Kovalcik, a Trailmaster from Baytown, Texas, observed a friend trying to put out a fire on an electric generator mounted on the back of a truck. Kovalcik ran to his friend and

knocked him away, just as the carburetor blew up, igniting the gasoline supply. The fire singed the back of Kovalcik's hair; his friend was unharmed.

Commander Floyd "Red" Seratte of Oologah, Oklahoma, noticed an automobile near his house being washed off a low-water bridge. An overnight downpour had produced flash flooding. The current pulled the car downstream. Trapped inside the car was a teenager. She managed to get out of the car, but was in water over her head. Seratte dived into the water and swam through a fence and under brush to rescue her. Both were then swept further downstream and under a log. The two emerged from the muddy water unharmed.

**C**ommander James Rediker took a group of Royal Rangers from Nashville, Tennessee, on a canoe expedition. The next day the commander, along with Andy Payne, Donnie Prescott, Tommy Ledbetter, and Shawn Follis, were preparing to shoot the rapids, when they happened upon Missionettes who were also on a canoe trip. Their craft had capsized, and two of the girls had their feet entangled in roots along the bank and were pinned underwater with only their faces at the surface. The commander and four Rangers went to the rescue in swift water up to 7 feet deep. One girl lapsed into semiconsciousness during the rescue. Both were finally freed—unhurt. Rediker and the four Rangers received medals.

Michael Doyle, 9, a Pioneer from Valdosta, Georgia, was with his family on a picnic. A 2-year-old had wandered away from her parents and had fallen into the lake 4 feet deep. While other children ran for help, Michael dove into the water fully clothed, and brought the little girl to safety. Michael didn't know how to swim.

Javier Solis, 14, a Trailblazer from Old Messila, New Mexico, joined friends for a baseball game in the river bottoms of the Rio Grande. The ball fell into the water, and some younger boys went to retrieve it. It became apparent to Solis that the boys were in danger of drowning. He rescued his younger brother, Mario,

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