

From the Fox Hole

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

Ty Heaps serves voluntarily as the primary archery instructor for Task Force Heroes. Ty is a weapons expert and served as a Platoon Sergeant in 4th Law Enforcement Battalion, D Company, United States Marine Corps Reserve. He underwent multiple overseas training missions, including one to Serbia. He currently works as a real estate agent for Corder and Associates, in Bozeman, MT.

His experiences in the military and as an avid archery hunter is a huge asset, giving our nation's Heroes an opportunity to shoot compound bows - many of our guests this year have never shot a compound bow before. Ty's expertise had everyone on target within a matter of minutes!

Ty and his wife continue to raise their three children in the morning shadow of the Bridgers and evening shadow of the Tobacco Roots.



PASTOR SHANE'S Point of View

Greetings to all of our alumni, donors, and fellow service members and first responders.

This has been an unbelievable year as we celebrate God's blessings on Task Force Heroes and in our very own lives.

As this ministry season comes to end and we look toward 2019, I would like to thank our wonderful Savior Jesus Christ who made all of this possible and who makes all things possible.

- I must thank my wife for her diligent efforts and dedication to this ministry. Karon prepared 126 meals for our Nation's Heroes not to mention the cleaning involved.
- My son Timothy (TJ) has been through so much with his battlefield injuries from Afghanistan to his broken femur sustained on a para-trooper jump, 3 surgeries, and a rapidly growing family. He has also been a good and faithful servant and a trusted confidant.
- And finally to my entire family for always being there for me through multiple deployments, personal battles, the stresses of police work over the previous years, and their sacrifices that service and ministry brings. They are my life and I thank God for them every day (Torie, Tawny, Travis, Turner, TJ). In all of you I am well pleased.
- I would also like to thank our gracious donors and volunteers who make all of this possible. You have blessed many!

Well to say it was a successful season would be an understatement and quite frankly wouldn't do the Lord, and His work in the lives of many, proper justice.

Within this newsletter you will find a section on year end data highlighting the blessings. With that said I also would like to highlight the largest and more important blessing of all and that is the birth of our Savior.

As we enter into this Christmas season let us not forget that Christ came to redeem all of us. He came to heal the sick. He came to sacrifice himself for us and to cleanse us from our sins. How did he come to us? Not as a child King born in a fancy castle with some type of huge ceremony. No, he came to us being born in a manger (most theologians agree it was likely a trough carved out of stone), wrapped in swaddling cloth (strips of cloth), among livestock and ordinary people who were about to witness extraordinary things. A humble beginning for the King of the universe! This humble King would go on to do miracles, love with that Agape love described to us in the scripture, and provide forgiveness to all and a promise of eternity!

So in closing this year end 2018, please remember it's all about Christ and His sacrifice for us. During this season we all get busy, we usually spend too much money, we focus sometimes on things that seem menial in the end. Let us focus on the reason for the season-Jesus Christ our Savior.

With love and appreciation,

Pastor Shane Yates
OIF/OEF Vet
CEO Task Force Heroes

WARRIORS HELPING WARRIORS

TASK FORCE HEROES™

FORMERLY HEALING HEROES MINISTRIES

REMEMBERING THE FALLEN THIS CHRISTMAS

We had the privilege, with the help of retired BN Chief Goulet (LA CO Fire), of meeting the crew of fallen Long Beach Fire Capt. Dave Rosa. It was such an honor to provide ministry to these brave men as they work through the pain and loss of their Leader and Hero. We were able to have numerous members of their agency who were affected by this tragedy at our renewal center and the gracious honor of meeting Capt. Rosa's wonderful wife who has been such a blessing to us here at TFH.

Capt. David Rosa, 45, was part of the response to the 11-story Covenant Manor in the 600 block of East 4th Street in downtown Long Beach, California over reports of an explosion and fire. After extinguishing the blaze, firefighters searched the building and a gunman opened fire killing David Rosa. Another firefighter, Ernesto Torres, was also injured in the shooting.

One of Capt. Rosa's two sons, Alec, told the crowd gathered at the service that the news of his father's killing had left him "in shock." He said he will never forget the early morning call he received from his mother letting him know his father had died.

"Firemen aren't supposed to get shot," he remembered telling himself. "I cried that day for about 10 hours. When I did stop, it wouldn't be because I was in pain, or I ran out of tears. It was because my body was numb and it physically hurt to continue to cry," Alec Rosa said.

Rosa is survived by his wife Lynley, his two sons, Alec, 26, and Sam, 15, his parents, Paul and Jean Rosa, and his sister, Julia Hensley.

We also remember Hero Ron Helus, a 29 year veteran sergeant in the Ventura County Sheriff's Office, who was mortally wounded by 'friendly fire' when he responded to the horrific shooting at Borderline Bar & Grill, a popular nightspot in Thousand Oaks, California.

It is important to remember the sacrifices made on a daily basis by these Heroes and their families. Their willingness to stand on the frontlines of our Nation in harm's way is something that should humble us all. Furthermore, it is vital to remember that we still have men and women in harm's way, whether that is here in our country or overseas.



Pastor Shane had a great day with the brave warriors from Long Beach Fire station 11 otherwise known as Elevenworth...located on the edge of Compton. Much to share about that day and our time together! Also Shanes meeting with the widow of Capt. Rosa went very well.

Just a few days ago in November 2018, we received the sad news of three American Soldiers who were killed in a roadside bombing in Afghanistan's eastern Ghazni province while fighting for our freedom and for the freedom of Afghanistan against the tyranny of the Taliban. The military says three other service members and a contractor were wounded.

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3300 Bridger Canyon Rd., Bozeman, MT 59715
P.O. Box 18839, Anaheim, CA 92817

(844) 756-4376 ■ <http://taskforceheroes.org>
Email: heroes@taskforceheroes.org

How often do we think of our Nation's Heroes?

From 2001 through November 2018, we have lost 2,409 American soldiers in Afghanistan and the fight continues on. But the question remains; how often do we as a Nation think of these Heroes? How often do we remember those that have gone before and those still fighting? It is easy to become involved in our own world and our own desires, at times forgetting how and why we are free. We are free because of the sacrifices of many families whose sons and daughters go off to war with them not knowing if they will make it back. The sleepless nights that these families have, kids missing their Mom or Dad, not being at their baseball or football games, is all a part of the sacrifice.

So why do they do it? Having served with our Nation's finest I can say they do it for their families, the service members to their left and right, to teach their kids the importance of freedom and sacrifice, because they don't want terrorist here, and because they truly love this great country we call America.

So the next time you're in line at Starbucks, or out for a nice dinner relaxing safely, or going to a movie, or even voting at the booth, remember this: We get to do those things because of the sacrifices of our nation's finest, our Veterans and First Responders! This is why Task Force Heroes exists. To thank these Heroes and their families for their sacrifice. We don't charge for our retreats so sponsoring a Hero is a great way to say 'thank you.'



Task Force Heroes Highlights

WILLING TO SERVE

Tim Melan, Troy McCleery and Josh Krueger (U.S.M.C.), volunteers from Wisconsin and California, drove and flew to help out at the Heroes Renewal Center - on their own dime.

They assisted in building a new bridge to replace one that was damaged by extreme flooding from the spring snow melt. This bridge is used for retreat attendees to walk the trails to find solitude and peace. The flood forced water 300 meters into some areas onto the property causing culverts and affecting walking trails.

They also made a bike rack as well from old barnwood that was buried on the property for years.



Troy McCleery, Josh Krueger and Tim Melan with the equipment rack they built from scratch.

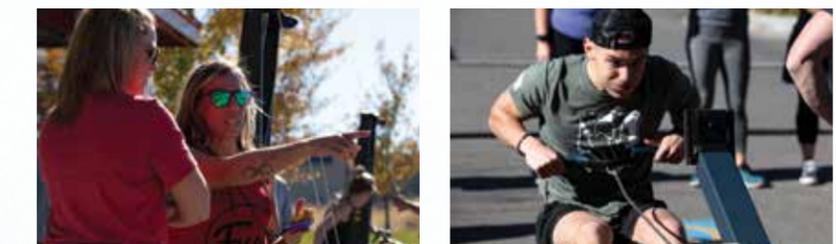
These guys sacrificed their time, money, and worked very hard to accomplish so much in a 4 day period.

TASK FORCE HEROES CHALLENGE 2018 HELD IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FUEL FITNESS, BOZEMAN, MT

Tons of gym enthusiasts came out on October 20, 2018 to support Task Force Heroes as they participated in a grueling fitness challenge. Teams from all over the Gallatin Valley gathered at Fuel Fitness in Bozeman, Montana to run a gauntlet of timed exercises that included a run, team carry, SkiErg machine challenge, weights, rowing and pulling a military vehicle, weighing over 10,000lbs, across a parking lot.

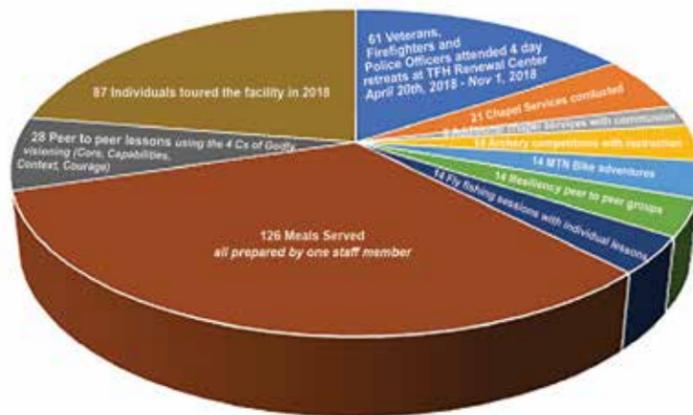
Task Force Heroes CEO Shane Yates was 'blown away' by the community support and said, "It is so humbling to see that people still support our first responders, they still support the military service member and combat veterans and those that are sacrificing so much every day. I am thankful that despite the fact that there are many big issues happening in the world people still recognize that we still have uniformed citizens in harm's way. It is awesome to see that while we still have first responders, firemen and police dealing with serious issues daily, they are at the forefront of people's minds."

Our thanks go to Heather Sipes and Josh Cary from Fuel Fitness for their vision all their and hard work in getting this event kicked off. All money raised was donated to Task Force Heroes.

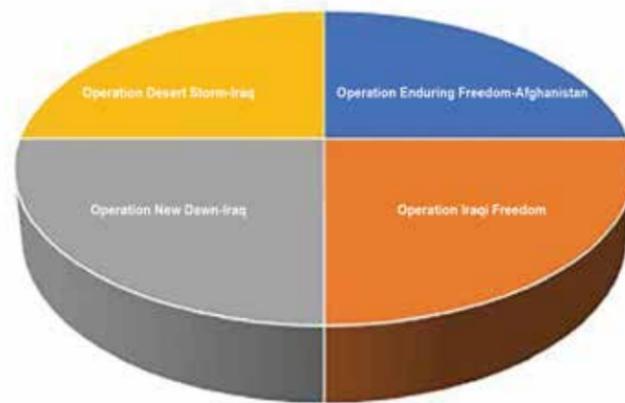


HERE IS A SNAPSHOT OF ACTIVITIES, PARTNERSHIPS, AGENCIES AND CONFLICTS SERVED BY ATTENDEE HEROES

TFH Renewal Center Activities



Our Hero attendees served during these conflicts



Partnerships



Agencies represented by individual attendees



Please mail your gifts to:
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