



Written by [Raven Clabough](#) on October 10, 2016

Published in the October 10, 2016 issue of [the New American](#) magazine. Vol. 32, No. 19

The Goodness of America

Hats in Hospice

Ninety-one-year-old Morrie Boogart of Grandville, Michigan, has been knitting hats for the homeless for over 15 years, and his residence in hospice care is not about to stop him.

CNN affiliate WXMI reported that Boogart stopped counting the number of hats he has made once he reached 8,000. Boogart's hats are meant for the particularly brutal Michigan winters, as they feature a rim to cover people's ears and are reportedly thick and warm. Boxes of his hats have been delivered throughout the Grand Rapids area for years, and Boogart seeks to continue to produce as many hats as he can for as long as he can.

His drive to keep making hats continues despite being in hospice care with skin and kidney cancer and being virtually immobile. He continues to make one hat every two days, a speed that Boogart has claimed is "awfully slow," compared to what he was capable of producing in the past.

According to Boogart, the only time he is not knitting a hat is when he is sleeping.

Boogart is incredibly humble about his wonderful deed. "Why do I do it? It just makes me feel good," Boogart told WXMI. "It means a lot to me."

Winning Isn't Everything

When American Olympic runner Abbey D'Agostino collided with New Zealand's Nikki Hamblin on August 16 during the 5,000-meter race they were running, she did something extraordinary. She helped Hamblin up so they could finish the race together.

The collision was severe, with D'Agostino tearing her ACL (anterior cruciate ligament), and the runners still had a mile left to go in the race. But that did not stop her from continuing the race, and helping Hamblin make it to the finish line.

D'Agostino attributes her drive to finish the race in such a classy fashion to God's grace. "The thing about that moment was everything happened so fast. And it's just, all I know is I got up and my first instinct was 'OK, turn around, we gotta finish this,'" D'Agostino, who hails from Topsfield, Massachusetts, told Today.com. "I don't think that was me, I think that was literally the spirit of God in me, like, 'Let's go.'"

D'Agostino, who had to have surgery on her knee when she arrived home, is thrilled to learn that her simple act of kindness meant so much to so many people. "It's encouraging that a simple act of kindness just resonates with people," she said. "We see it and we know that that's what this is about. That's what the Games is about."

Both women received the Pierre de Coubertin Medal, also known as the International Fair Play Committee Award, for demonstrating such good sportsmanship.

Floods of Volunteers

The flooding that took place in Baton Rouge in August tragically claimed lives and destroyed thousands upon thousands of houses. Despite the devastation that accompanied the flooding, however, it has also



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proven to be an opportunity for many people to showcase their goodness.

A group of Louisiana natives formed the “Cajun Navy,” a band of volunteers that sailed each morning to rescue whoever was trapped by the floodwaters, along with their pets. “We’re just out here trying to help,” said one of the Cajun Navy volunteers, Warren Holmes of Ascension Parish. “What are we supposed to do: Let them die?”

Another Cajun Navy volunteer, Kyle Page, lost his own house in Denham Springs during the flooding, but put aside his own struggle and helped others who were in need.

Elsewhere, another volunteer, David Phung, plunged into murky waters to save a woman and her dog. Both were trapped under the water in the woman’s vehicle. WAFB captured video footage of the intense rescue. Three men in a boat, Phung among them, were scanning the floodwaters in search of people needing rescue when they came upon the woman. They heard her screaming from her vehicle, “Oh my God, I’m drowning!”

Phung dove into the water and saved the woman, who then begged him to find her dog. Without hesitation, Phung dove back into the water and emerged moments later with the woman’s dog.

Phung, the woman, and her dog all survived unharmed.

In addition to courageous stories of rescue, multiple stories of kindness and generosity have come out of the region.

An anonymous stranger who overheard a flood victim tell a Walmart cashier that she’d lost everything in the flood pulled out his credit card and paid \$350 for the woman’s merchandise. The website Love What Matters reported that she was there to purchase basic necessities such as a toothbrush, toothpaste, clothes, and shoes.

NBA coach Avery Johnson, an alumnus of Baton Rouge’s Southern University, sent a semi-truck full of supplies to the city when the floods hit, according to NCAA.com. Fox News reported that pop singer Taylor Swift donated \$1 million to Louisiana flood relief.

First-day Entourage

Police officers with the Amarillo Police Department in Amarillo, Texas, made the first day of school a little less scary for the children of a fallen officer by showing up to walk with them to school.

Jackson Scherlen, four, and his two older siblings lost their father, Justin, while on a family trip this past summer. His death is believed to be the result of an automobile accident that took place while he was in the line of duty, after which he required numerous surgeries and significant rehabilitation.

The children have been having a hard time dealing with the loss, as the first day of school approached.

This is Jackson’s first year at school, and the officers wanted to serve as stand-ins for the little boy’s father, who could not be there to put his son’s mind at ease. On August 22, Jackson and his two siblings were escorted to their school by two dozen police officers.

Today.com reported that Jackson was so happy that he hugged each officer individually to show his thanks for what they did.

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