

2024 Frontline Hero of the Year Finalists

JUSTIN HARRISON – Justin Harrison of New Castle-Henry County EMS has played a pivotal role in advancing emergency medical care in Henry County. Alongside Scott, he spearheaded the research, planning, and grant application process to bring the Red Initiative to the county, making it the first of its kind in Indiana. This life-saving program has equipped EMS teams to handle critical emergencies more effectively. In the summer of 2024, Justin’s quick response and use of the Red Initiative’s blood transfusion kit saved a woman’s life following a severe accident. His dedication and foresight have made Henry County a leader in emergency medical innovation.

CHRIS MCCARTT – Chris McCartt has dedicated 28 years of service to the City of New Castle as a firefighter, paramedic, and coach. Hired on May 4, 1997, he has gained extensive expertise in fire and rescue disciplines, including rope rescue, ice rescue, confined space rescue, Haz-Mat, EMS, and fire investigation. He has performed heroic rescues, including saving a man from a water tower tank, conducting ice rescues, and entering floodwaters to save lives. Known for his unwavering dedication, he is currently the assistant fire chief and continues to give back to the community by coaching Little League baseball. His commitment and compassion make him an invaluable asset to both the fire department and New Castle.

JOHN THOMPSON - Mr. John Thompson has been a pillar of New Castle High School for 36 years, inspiring generations of students with his passion for chemistry and commitment to education. More than just a teacher, he is a mentor, science club supporter, and curriculum contributor, making complex concepts accessible and engaging. His impact extends beyond the classroom as he actively supports students in athletics, music, theater, and other extracurricular activities. Known for creating a safe and welcoming environment, he has remained a trusted confidant to students, attending their graduations, weddings, and life milestones. His dedication to student success and community engagement makes him a true Frontline Hero.