

Guest Column to The Monroe Dispatch  
For the Thursday, April 25, 2019 Edition  
From: Mayor James E. “Jamie” Mayo  
City of Monroe, LA

## **American Red Cross: Sound the Alarm FREE Smoke Alarm Program**

You may have seen or read a recent news story about our local chapter of the American Red Cross taking part in a national effort to help install FREE smoke alarms across north and central Louisiana. Between now and the second week of May, the American Red Cross will be working with officials in Monroe, Shreveport, and Alexandria.

Monroe Fire personnel and community volunteers will be helping them install smoke alarms in east Monroe (April 30), north Monroe (May 2), and south Monroe (May 4). So please inform your neighbors and be on the look out for the “Sound the Alarm” teams.

Public Safety is a key focus area for the City of Monroe. Fire safety and prevention is a very important component in that ongoing effort. Chief Terry Williams and the hard-working men and women of our Class 1 Rated Monroe Fire Department do an outstanding job with educational and outreach efforts to inform men, women, and children about many safety tips – INCLUDING the importance of having working smoke alarms in your home. Over the years, we have been able to install thousands of them in homes throughout the city.

The American Red Cross is a strong community partner who is there when we need them to aid after disaster strikes. However, this nationwide smoke alarm effort is being done to help prevent loss of life, when tragedies like house fires happen. We are proud to partner with the American Red Cross to help spread the word about fire safety; and, we are Monroe Proud to help install even more FREE smoke alarms in homes across Monroe.

By working together, we are making a difference. Monroe is one city, with one future!