

American Red Cross in Orleans County
News You Can Use
February/March 2008

Upcoming Community Blood Drives:

February 21, 2008; Medina Sacred Heart Club; 12:30-7:00 pm
February 28, 2008; Kendall High School; 11:30 – 5:30 pm
March 25, 2008; Albion American Legion; 12:00 – 6:00 pm
March 28, 2008; Holley American Legion; 1:30-6:30 pm

Health & Safety News

February Training Schedule – Pre-Registration is required.

February 18, 2008; Babysitter Training, 10:00-4:00 pm; \$47
February 19, 2008; CPR/AED – FPR Instructor Training; 6:30; call for pre-requisite info.
February 21, 2008; Adult CPR/AED; 6:00-10:00 pm; \$50
February 25, 2008; First Aid; 6:00 – 10:00 pm; \$40
February 27, 2008; Infant/Child CPR; 6:00 – 10:00 pm; \$50

March is Red Cross Month

“Bring a Friend Free”

The following classes will be offered to the community as a “**Bring a Friend Free**” during the month of March. **Pre-Registration is required.** Call 798-3170 for more information or to register.

March 3, 2008; First Aid; 6-10 pm; Chapter House; 421 Main St, Medina; \$40
March 13, 2008; Adult CPR/AED; 6:00 – 10:00 pm; Chapter House; \$50
March 25, 2008; Infant/Child CPR; 6:00 – 10:00 pm; Chapter House \$50

Now Being Offered – Pet First Aid “

“Help Save the Life of a Best Friend”

Just like people, accidents and emergencies can happen to animals – so being prepared could make a lifesaving difference.

March 29, 2008; 10:00 am – 12:00 noon, 421 Main St, Medina, NY 14103; Pre-Registration is required \$35; includes Pet First Aid manual and Pet First Aid Kit; \$40 includes choice of Dog or Cat First Aid manual and Pet first Aid Kit.

- Space is limited so register early! Call 798-3170 to register today!

Nationwide Insurance has a web site www.HaveTheTalkAmerica.com ; a site for people to “Have The Talk” with their friends and families about any difficult or awkward topic such as disaster planning, personal finances, planning for retirement or safe driving. Visit their website to learn more information regarding these issues.

Volunteers Needed:

Would you like to become involved with the American Red Cross? Many volunteers are needed for our Disaster Programs and Disaster Action Team members; Blood Service volunteers to register and serve our generous blood donors, Health & Safety volunteer instructors to teach the community life-saving skills, fund-raising volunteers to assist with events and planning, and much more. Take a moment today to call the American Red Cross in Orleans County at 585-798-3170 to find out how to become a Red Cross volunteer. All volunteers must fill out an application; the Red Cross will perform a background check on all interested volunteers. We hope to hear from you soon!

Congress Salutes the Service to Armed Forces Program

On January 23, 2008 a resolution saluting the American Red Cross Services to Armed Forces that honors the emergency communications services provided to military members and their families. To view a copy of the resolution in its entirety visit: [Http://www.redcross.org/images/arnettj/H-RES-937-SAF.pdf](http://www.redcross.org/images/arnettj/H-RES-937-SAF.pdf)

Bequests

The American Red Cross in Orleans County would like you to consider reviewing your Estate Plans and remember your **Will** can contribute to a healthier society if you include a bequest to the American Red Cross. A simple amendment often is all that is needed. We hope that you will include the American Red Cross in Orleans County in your estate plan – and that you will inform us of your plans, so we may express our appreciation.

Ways you can help outside your “will”.

- Financial Accounts – People who have financial accounts may direct that their deposits be paid on death to a particular individual or to a charity. In many areas they are referred to as “P.O.D.” (pay on death) accounts.
- Brokerage Accounts – If you have stocks, bonds or mutual fund shares in brokerage accounts, it is possible to name the American Red Cross as “TOD” (transfer on death) beneficiary.
- Retirement plan benefits – Death benefits from IRA’s or a qualified retirement plan such as a 401K or 403B plan, usually result in income taxes for one’s heirs or estate. Because the Red Cross is tax exempt, it may make sense to name us as death beneficiary and bequeath other

assets, not burdened with income tax to family beneficiaries. Spouses consent will be necessary if the donor is married.

- Life Insurance - You might make the Red Cross the primary or partial beneficiary of an old policy that is no longer needed for family security, or we can be named the contingent beneficiary, should your primary beneficiary die before you.
- Revocable Living Trust – May people who have living trusts don't realize that it is also possible to make gifts to the American Red Cross through their trust, both during life and upon death.

Disaster News:

American Red Cross in Orleans County Helps Another Family Affected by a Home Fire this Year. As most know, on January 17, 2008 tragedy struck in Ridgeway that claimed four lives. The American Red Cross responded to provide comfort first to family, friends, and neighbors. When our volunteers responded at approximately 3:00 am the scene was described as "somber". Family was anxiously awaiting the arrival of the father; Dave Hausler, who was driving "over the road"; the Red Cross Disaster Volunteers, Diana Fulcomer, Mike Lonville and Disaster Mental Health Volunteer, Anne Reigle, waited quietly with family at the end of the road for his arrival to bear the tragic news. Immediate assistance of Food and Clothing and counseling were provided to the youngest survivor who was able to seek shelter with neighbors throughout the ordeal and now resides with his mother. Contact with the immediate family has been ongoing with the offer of assistance available when needed and wanted.

"Our chapter is committed to responding to help meet the needs of anyone in our community affected by the devastation of a home fire, and to empowering people with the skills they need to keep their families safe from fire before it happens" However, we rely on the compassion and generosity of Orleans County residents to give us the financial resources to relieve suffering in our community. As the number of fires increase, so does the need for financial support of the Red Cross. Financial gifts to the American Red Cross in Orleans County will allow us to continue to provide help to our neighbors during their time of need.

To become a Disaster Action Team Volunteer call Darla McGill at 585-798-3170 to sign up for "free" training. Disaster Classes are now being held during the month of March. Call for more information and to register.

March is Red Cross Month

Save the DATE!!

March 8, 2008

Chinese Auction and Steak Dinner

**At the American Legion Sheret Post #35
131 S. Main St, Albion, NY 14411**

**Doors open for Chinese Auction at Noon.
Dinner served from 4:00 to 7:00 pm. \$20 Donation
Proceeds Benefits the American Red Cross in Orleans County
Disaster Relief Fund**

Come Celebrate American Red Cross Month With Us!

Our Mission

The American Red Cross, a humanitarian organization led by volunteers and guided by its Congressional Charter and the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross Movement, will provide relief to victims of disaster and help people prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies.

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