



Greater Kalamazoo Area Chapter  
*Serving the people of Allegan, Cass, Kalamazoo  
and St. Joseph Counties*  
5640 Venture Court, Kalamazoo, MI 49009  
(269) 353-6180, (800) 382-6382 (269 area code only)

## NEWS RELEASE

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**For Immediate Release**

### Summer Blood Drives

**KALAMAZOO, MI, - July 9, 2008** – The summer season is a traditionally slow period for blood donations for the American Red Cross. Trends indicate that **blood donations** statewide may **drop by 10 to 15 percent** from Memorial Day through September. **Blood shortages** are typical during the summer because people—particularly regular donors—get busy with summer vacations and activities and don't take time to donate blood. But the **demand for blood can rise** with increased roadway travel and vacation related accidents. In previous years, supplies of **Type O** have dropped to **low levels**, with a day or less available for transfusion. The American Red Cross considers a three-day supply of blood safe and adequate for meeting the ongoing and emergency needs of hospital patients, with five to seven days optimal for responding to disasters.

To encourage donors to come out for community blood drives, all presenting donors will have the opportunity to enter a **summer sweepstakes** to win race tickets to one of several **NASCAR events** or one of five **\$500 gas card** through **September 11**.

Eligible donors must be at least 17 years old, weigh 110 pounds or more, and be in good general health. Listed below is the community **blood drive schedule for Allegan, Cass, Kalamazoo and St. Joseph counties for July 9 through August 10**. The schedule is subject to change; please call 353-6180 to confirm dates and times.

#### Kalamazoo County

July 9, 2008, **Prince Of Peace Lutheran Church**, 1747 W. Milham, Portage, 1:00 PM - 6:45 PM  
July 10, 2008, **American Red Cross**, 5640 Venture Court, Kalamazoo, 12:00 PM - 5:45 PM  
July 10, 2008, **WMU - Bernhard Center**, 1903 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, 11:00 AM - 4:45 PM  
July 14, 2008, **Portage Community Outreach Center**, 325 E. Centre, Portage, 12:00 PM - 5:45 PM  
July 16, 2008, **Portage School Admin. Building**, 8111 S. Westnedge, Portage, 12:00 PM - 5:45 PM  
July 17, 2008, **Westwood Christian Reformed Church**, 620 Northhampton, 12:00 PM - 5:45 PM  
July 17, 2008, **Portage School Admin. Building**, 8111 S. Westnedge, Portage, 11:00 AM - 4:45 PM  
July 18, 2008, **Haven Reformed Church**, 5350 N. Sprinkle Road, Parchment, 12:00 PM - 5:45 PM  
July 18, 2008, **St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church**, 5855 E. W Ave., Vicksburg, 11:00 AM - 4:45 PM  
July 21, 2008, **Westwood Church of God**, 811 Gorham Lane, Kalamazoo, 12:00 PM - 5:45 PM  
July 22, 2008, **Everest Institute**, 5177 W. Main, Kalamazoo, 10:30 AM - 4:15 PM  
July 22, 2008, **St. Catherine Catholic Church**, 1150 W. Center St., Portage, 1:00 PM - 6:45 PM  
July 24, 2008, **American Red Cross**, 5640 Venture Court, Kalamazoo, 1:00 PM - 6:45 PM  
July 26, 2008, **Chapel Hill United Methodist Church**, 7028 Oakland Drive, 10:15 AM - 4:00 PM  
July 28, 2008, **Borgess Medical Center**, 1521 Gull Road, Kalamazoo, 12:00 PM - 5:45 PM

August 1, 2008, **Air Zoo**, 6151 Portage Road, Portage, 10:30 AM - 4:15 PM

August 2, 2008, **Air Zoo**, 6151 Portage Road, Portage, 10:30 AM - 4:15 PM

August 4, 2008, **Bronson Hospital**, Gilmore Education Center, Kalamazoo, 12:00 PM - 5:45 PM

August 5, 2008, **WMU - Bernhard Center**, 1903 W. Michigan, Kalamazoo, 11:00 AM - 4:45 PM

August 7, 2008, **American Red Cross**, 5640 Venture Court, Kalamazoo, 12:00 PM - 5:45 PM

August 8, 2008, **Borgess Health and Fitness**, 3025 Gull Road, Kalamazoo, 12:00 PM - 5:45 PM

August 8, 2008, **St. Michael Lutheran Church**, 7211 Oakland Dr., Portage, 1:00 PM - 6:45 PM

## **Allegan County**

July 11, 2008, **Borgess-Pipp Hospital**, 411 Naomi, Plainwell, 12:00 PM - 5:45 PM

July 15, 2008, **St. Margaret's Catholic School**, 736 S. Farmer St., Otsego, 12:00 PM - 5:45 PM

July 16, 2008, **United Church of Wayland**, 411 Superior St., Wayland, 12:00 PM - 5:45 PM

July 23, 2008, **Fennville Golden Orchards**, 2464 55<sup>th</sup>, Fennville, 12:00 PM - 5:45 PM

July 24, 2008, **Griswold Auditorium**, 401 Hubbard St., Allegan, 12:00 PM - 5:45 PM

July 29, 2008, **Martin United Methodist Church**, 969 E. Allegan Road, Martin, 1:00 PM - 6:45 PM

## **Cass County**

July 22, 2008, **First Church of God**, 21083 Spencer Road, Cassopolis, 1:00 PM - 6:45 PM

July 28, 2008, **Our Lady of the Lake**, 24832 US-12 E., Edwardsburg, 1:00 PM - 6:45 PM

## **St. Joseph County**

August 1, 2008, **United Methodist Church**, 320 W. Main, Mendon, 12:00 PM - 5:45 PM

August 5, 2008, **Firm Foundation Church**, 651 E. Main, Centreville, 12:00 PM - 5:45 PM

### **About the American Red Cross:**

*The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and counsels victims of disasters; provides nearly half of the nation's blood supply; teaches lifesaving skills; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a charitable organization – not a government agency- and depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its humanitarian mission. For more information on the Greater Kalamazoo Area Chapter of the American Red Cross, please visit [www.greaterkzooredcross.org](http://www.greaterkzooredcross.org).*