



**American
Red Cross**

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

Spring into a New Habit – Donate Blood!

KALAMAZOO, MI, - April 1, 2009 – The American Red Cross urges area residents to celebrate spring by developing a new habit – volunteer to become a lifelong blood donor. Residents in Allegan, Cass, Kalamazoo, and St. Joseph counties can donate at one of the 43 Community Blood Drives that are scheduled throughout the area in April. Blood donation only takes about an hour, and each donation can be used to save up to three lives. The American Red Cross recommends donors get on a set schedule because they are eligible to give blood every 56 days.

Many people do not realize that blood products have a limited shelf life and the supply must be constantly replenished. Patients in Michigan hospitals use some 2,000 units of blood daily, and the Red Cross urges all eligible donors to help meet the demand of maintaining a constant blood supply that saves lives.

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 April 2009. The schedule is subject to change; please call 353-6180 to confirm dates and times.

Kalamazoo County – April 2009

Wed., April 1	10:30 am-4:15 pm	Kalamazoo Valley Comm. College, 6767 West O, Theater Rm. 4240
Thu., April 2	Noon-5:45 pm	ARC Chapter "O" Drive, 5640 Venture Ct. Appt.: call 353-6180 ext. 0
Thu., April 2	1:00-6:45 pm	Second Christian Reformed Church, 3015 Nichols Rd
Mon., April 6	Noon-5:45 pm	Bronson Gilmore Cntr for Health Education Appts online www.givelife.org
Mon., April 6	1:00-6:45 pm	WMU Britton/Hadley Residence Hall, Appts online www.givelife.org
Tue., April 7	11 am-4:45 pm	WMU Bernhard Center, South Ballroom
Tue., April 7	1:00-6:45 pm	Portage Free Methodist Church, 1715 W. Centre
Thu., April 9	Noon-5:45 pm	ARC Chapter House, 5640 Venture Court. Appt.: call 353-6180 ext. 0
Thu., April 9	11:00 am-4:45 pm	WMU School of Engineering, East Wing, Parkview Campus
Thu., April 9	10:15 am-4:00 pm	Air Zoo, 6155 Portage Rd
Fri., April 10	Noon-5:45 pm	Borgess Health/Fitness 3025 Gull Rd. Appts call 1-800-Givelife
Mon., April 13	Noon-5:45 pm	Portage Community Ctr, 325 E. Centre St. Appts call 1-800-Givelife
Fri., April 17	10:30 am-4:15 pm	Oshtemo Township Hall, 7275 West Main St. Register to win free dinner.
Mon., April 20	Noon-5:45 pm	Westwood United Methodist Church 538 Nichols Rd.
Thu., April 23	1:00-6:45 pm	ARC Chapter House, 5640 Venture Court. Appt.: call 353-6180 ext. 0
Fri., April 24	Noon-5:45 pm	Richland Bible Church, 8643 Gull Road
Mon., April 27	Noon-5:45 pm	Borgess Health Alliance 1701 Gull Road Lawrence Ed. Ctr.
Mon., April 27	1:30-7:15 pm	Winchell Elementary, 2316 Winchell

Allegan County

Wed., April 8	Noon-5:45 pm	Christian Reformed Church, 6591 Old Allegan Rd., Saugatuck
Fri., April 17	8 am-1:45 pm	Fennville High School, 4 Memorial Drive
Tue., April 21	Noon-5:45 pm	Church of God, 112 Kalamazoo St., Otsego
Thu., April 23	Noon-5:45 pm	Plainwell Community Center, 798 E. Bridge St.
Wed., April 29	Noon-5:45 pm	United Church of Wayland, 411 Superior St, Wayland
Wed., April 30	11:30 am-5:15 pm	Allegan General Hospital, 555 Linn St., Allegan Appointments: Please call 686-4231 or go online: www.givelife.org

Cass County

Fri., April 24	Noon-5:45 pm	Dowagiac: Site to be determined
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St. Joseph County

Fri., April 3	Noon-5:45 pm	Mendon United Methodist Church, 320 West Main Street, Mendon. Appts:1-800-Givelife
Tues., April 7	Noon-5:45 pm	Firm Foundation Ministries, 651 E. Main, Centreville Appts:1-800-Givelife
Mon., April 13	Noon-5:45 pm	Sturgis Wesleyan Church, 907 N. Nottawa Appts:1-800-382-6382 x 0
Fri., April 17	8 am-1:45 pm	White Pigeon High School, 410 E. Prairie
Sat., April 18	10 am-3:45 pm	St. Joseph Catholic Church, 16603 US 12 East. Appts:1-800-Givelife
Wed., April 22	11:30-5:15 pm	JoCo Center, 805 Wood Street, Three Rivers. Appts: 1-800-Givelife
Mon., April 27	Noon-5:45 pm	Pioneer H-Bred Intl., Inc., 1365 S. Washington St., Constantine. Appts: 1-800-Givelife

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.greaterkzooedcross.org.

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