



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 Sweepstakes for Summer Blood Donors

**KALAMAZOO, MI, - May 29, 2008** – The kids are out of school, summer fun has begun in earnest! The summer season has also been 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. 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, the American Red Cross announces a new incentive to give. Beginning **May 26 through September 11**, all presenting donors will have the opportunity to enter a **summer sweepstakes** to win race tickets to one of several **NASCAR events** or a **\$500 gas card**.

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 June 2008. The schedule is subject to change; please call 353-6180 to confirm dates and times.

#### Kalamazoo County – June 2008

Mon., June 2	Noon-5:45 pm	Gilmore Center for Health Ed., <b>Appts: 1-800-GiveLife</b>
Tues., June 3	10:15 am-4 pm	Kalamazoo Psychiatric Hospital, 1312 Oakland Dr., <b>Appts:1-800-GiveLife</b>
Thurs., June 5	Noon-5:45 pm	ARC Chapter " <b>O</b> " Drive, 5640 Venture Court. <b>Appt. Call 353-6180.</b>
Fri., June 6	10:30 am-4:15 pm	Parchment Community Library, 401 South Riverview Drive.
Mon., June 9	Noon-5:45 pm	Portage Community Center, 325 E. Centre Street.
Mon., June 9	10:15 am-4 pm	Kalamazoo Valley Community College, 6767 West O Ave.
Tues., June 10	1-6:45 pm	Portage Free Meth. Church, 1715 W. Centre Ave.

Thurs., June 12	Noon-5:45 pm	ARC Chapter House, 5640 Venture Court. Appt.s: 353-6180 ext. 0
Fri., June 13	Noon-5:45 pm	Borgess Health/Fitness Ctr, 3025 Gull Rd. Appts: 522-2200
Fri., June 13	Noon-5:45 pm	Fourth Reformed Church, 6339 Atlantic Ave.
Sat., June 14	9:30 am-3 pm	Portage Fire Department, 7830 Shaver Road
Mon., June 16	Noon-5:45 pm	Westwood Church of God, 811 Gorham Lane.
Tues., June 17	10:15 am-4 pm	Greater Kalamazoo Area Board of Realtors, 5830 Venture Park
Tues., June 17	10:15 am-4pm	Salvation Army, 1700 S. Burdick St. Online appts: <a href="http://www.givelife.org">www.givelife.org</a>
Wed., June 18	12:30-6:15 pm	Oshtemo Township Hall, 7275 West Main St.
Fri., June 20	Noon-5:45 pm	Lighthouse Community Church, 4321 South 11 <sup>th</sup> St.
Sat., June 21	10:30 am-4:15pm	Glowing Embers Girl Scout Council, 601 W. Maple St.
Sat., June 21	10:30 am-4:15pm	Portage Fire Department, 7830 Shaver Rd.
Mon., June 23	Noon-5:45 pm	Lawrence Ed. Ctr., 1701 Gull Rd.
Thurs., June 26	Noon-5:45 pm	North Park Reformed Church, 1316 Barney Rd.
Thurs., June 26	1-6:45 pm	ARC Chapter House, 5640 Venture Court. Appt.s: 353-6180 ext. 0
Fri., June 27	Noon-5:45 pm	Gull Lake United Methodist Church, 8640 Gull Rd., Richland.
Mon., June 30	11 am-4:45 pm	Western Michigan University, Miller Auditorium.

## Cass County – June 2008

Fri., June 20	Noon-5:45 pm	Pleasant View Church of Christ, 60550 Crooked Creek Rd, Cassopolis
Fri., June 27	Noon-5:45 pm	Holy Maternity/Mary Catholic Church, 210 North Front St., Dowagiac

## Allegan County – June 2008

Tues., June 3	1-6:45 pm	United Methodist Church, 969 E Allegan Rd., Martin
Tues., June 10	Noon-5:45 pm	Douglas Community Church, 6780 Wiley Rd., Douglas
Wed., June 18	11:30 am-5:15 pm	Allegan Genl Hospital, 555 Linn St., Allegan Appts: 686-4231
Thurs, June 19	Noon-5:45 pm	Hamilton Reformed Church, 3554 M-40. Hamilton
Fri., June 20	Noon-5:45 pm	Open Door Reformed Church, 1683 142 <sup>nd</sup> Ave., Dorr.
Thurs., June 26	Noon-5:45 pm	Plainwell Community Center, 798 E. Bridge St.

## St. Joseph County – June 2008

Tues., June 3	Noon-5:45 pm	Firm Foundation Ministries, Route M-86, Centreville.
Fri., June 6	Noon-5:45 pm	Mendon United Methodist Church, 320 West Main Street, Mendon.
Sat., June 7	10 am-4:15 pm	ARC Bloodmobile @Walgreens, 301 S. US 131, Three Rivers.
Mon., June 9	Noon-5:45 pm	Sturgis Wesleyan Church, 907 North Nottawa. Appts: 800-382-6382
Wed., June 25	11:30 am-5:15 pm	JoCo Center, 805 Wood Street, Three Rivers.
Wed., June 25	Noon-5:45 pm	Pioneer Hi-Bred Intl., Inc., 1365 South Washington St., Constantine.

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**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).*