



Greater Kalamazoo Area Chapter
*Serving the people of Allegan, Cass, Kalamazoo
and St. Joseph Counties*
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NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Presidential Honors for Saving a Life

KALAMAZOO, MI, February 2, 2009 – Frank Fey was honored on Thursday, January 29, 2009 by the Greater Kalamazoo Area Chapter of the American Red Cross for his role in saving the life of an infant, a guest at the Holiday Inn West Hotel.

In September 2007, while having dinner with his family, Frank noticed an infant sitting behind him who appeared to be choking. The mother of the infant did not know how to react to the situation. Frank jumped up from his seat and immediately performed chest thrusts on the infant. The infant had food lodged in its throat and with Frank's help the food was dislodged. Without a doubt, the skills learned in the American Red Cross Health and Safety Services course and used by Frank contributed to saving the infant's life.

The **American Red Cross Certificate of Merit** was presented at Frank's place of employment, The Holiday Inn West, at a staff meeting where Frank's co-workers surprised him with a celebration in his honor. Frank and his family attended the ceremony along with Red Cross CPR instructors, chapter Board of Directors members and other Red Cross volunteers and employees.

The **American Red Cross Certificate of Merit**, established in 1911, is the highest award given by the American Red Cross, to an individual or team of individuals who save or sustain a life by using skills and knowledge learned in an American Red Cross Health and Safety training course. The Certificate of Merit is signed by the President of the United States, who has traditionally served as the Honorary Chairman of the American Red Cross. This, our highest honor, has borne the signatures of 14 U.S. Presidents and 9 Chairmen of the American Red Cross. This action exemplifies the highest degree of concern of one human being for another who is in distress.

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, please visit www.redcross.org or www.greaterkzoo.redcross.org

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