

Red Cross Connection



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Red Cross Honors Siouxland Heroes

"I just did what anyone else would have done," said Tanner Block, who along with his brother, Dalton, pulled a toddler to safety after discovering her struggling in the water. Both boys were recognized in the Good Samaritan Lifesaving category for those less than 18 years of age. "The attitude and humility of these two young men is very representative of many of the award winners at the Siouxland Heroes Breakfast," said Tammy Lee, Executive Director for the Chapter. "Whether it's saving a life, or adding to the quality of others lives, these everyday heroes are making a difference."

The Siouxland Chapter was proud to recognize and honor those individuals at the 5th Annual Siouxland Heroes Breakfast. Held at the Sioux City Convention Center, the event was hosted by Channel 9 KCAU-TV News Anchors Larry Wentz and Jenna Rehnstrom. The morning awards ceremony included a large screen video-showcase depicting the heroism of each recipient. Also presented at this event was the Red Cross in Action Award, recognizing an individual who performed a life-saving skill as a result of Red Cross training and education.

2008 Siouxland Hero recipients include: Good Samaritan under age 18 (Lifesaving) – Tanner and Dalton Block, Sioux City; Education – Phyllis Prodehl, Merville; Education – Larry Williams, Sioux City; Fire/Rescue – George Fire Dept. and Emergency Medical Services, George; Law Enforcement – Trooper Jerod Clyde, Cherokee; Medical – Carla Peterson, Alta; Military – MSgt Lee Phelps and TSgt Aaron Barge, Sioux City-185th Air Refueling Wing ; Good Samaritan over age 18 (Service) – Rosemary Journey, Sioux City; and Good Samaritan over age 18 (Lifesaving) – Kent Knudson, Marvin Schemmel, Bob Kingsbury, Sioux City

Red Cross in Action Award:
Nicole Spencer, Elk Point

Siouxland Heroes Student Essay Contest Winners:
High School Category- Abbie West and her hero, her friend Karen Linder; Middle School Category- Louis Noel and his father, the late Steven Noel; Elementary School Category- Jacob Van Der Wilt and his grandfather, the late Gerrit Van Der Wilt.

Be Red Cross Ready Poster Contest Winners:
(K-2nd Grade) 1st Place-Gina Gerke, Clark Elementary School, Le Mars; Honorable Mention- Katy Pratt, Clark Elementary School, Le Mars; Jordan Larsen, Le Mars Community Middle School(3rd-5th Grade) 1st Place- Alyssa Collett, Lincoln Elementary School, Sioux City; Honorable Mention- Trina Swanson, Cole Macklem, Winne Kuehl, Max Service, Lincoln Elementary School, Sioux City; (6th-8th Grade) 1st Place-Elizabeth Bixenman, Gehlen Catholic School, Le Mars; Honorable Mention- Yashila Permeswaran, Marissa Marek, Mary Kate Eckstaine, Jake Garrett, Le Mars Middle School. In Addition, Wendy Archer, Onawa, was presented a special merit award for her work in representing the American Red Cross through illustration.

The event was sponsored by KCAU-TV, Long Lines, Cable One, KOOL, KSUX, KLEM, KSCJ, Adventure Staffing, Argosy Casino, First Premier Bank, John Morrell, MidAmerican Energy Company, Siouxland Federal Credit Union, Great West Casualty and supported by many other area businesses.



Board Chair, Joel Steenhoven, presents Red Cross Volunteer, Rosemary Journey a Heroes Award for her work communicating critical messages between military personnel and their families at home.

Open House Celebration & Annual Meeting

You are cordially invited to attend the Siouxland Chapter's Open House celebration and Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 26, 2008. The celebration will be held at the Siouxland Chapter, 4200 War Eagle Drive, Sioux City, Iowa. The agenda for the 91st Annual Meeting will include election of new board members and recognition of key volunteers and donors. Join us in celebrating our accomplishments in our newly remodeled space!

2:00 - 6:00 Open House Celebration
Building Tours & Reception

6:00 91st Annual Meeting

Pizza Ranch Supports the American Red Cross Swim-A-Cross Program

The American Red Cross and Pizza Ranch Restaurants are teaming up to ensure affordable quality swimming lessons are available at area pools. Since 1914 the American Red Cross has been the leader in swimming lessons and lifeguard training. Helping to continue this tradition, Pizza Ranch Restaurants, are proud to sponsor the annual Swim-A-Cross fund-raiser. "We are proud to sponsor the American Red Cross in our communities. The Red Cross touches many people each and everyday through training and disaster response. This fundraiser is a great way to support an agency that serves communities in so many ways" stated Gwen Lahrs, Senior Advertising and Marketing Manager for Pizza Ranch.



The Siouxland Area Chapter in Sioux City and the Iowa Great Lakes Chapter in Spencer will hold this fundraiser at local pools throughout 18 counties. Fund-raising efforts will be throughout the Learn-to-Swim season, from June through August. The Siouxland Area Chapter has held the Swim-A-Cross fundraiser for more than twenty years. "We are very grateful to Pizza Ranch for supporting the Red Cross in our mission to provide quality swimming lessons and water safety," said Tammy Lee, Executive Director for the Siouxland Chapter.

During the 6 week fundraiser, swimming lesson participants will be asked to raise money for the Red Cross programs and they will win prizes for their efforts. A traveling trophy is awarded to the pool that raises the most money throughout their swimming sessions and a Learn-to-Swim banner is awarded to the pool with the highest percentage of participants. Top fundraisers at each pool are entered in a drawing for the grand prize drawing at summer's end. Funds raised help further the American Red Cross' ability to help people prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies.

In 2007 the Swim-A-Cross program generated over \$26,000

Stimulate our Mission

Many of you have received or will be receiving an economic stimulus check from the IRS. What will you be doing with your check? Buying something new? Investing it? How about a charitable gift? The Siouxland Chapter of your American Red Cross would like to take this time to encourage you to think about taking a portion of your stimulus check and investing it into fulfilling the mission of the Red Cross. Your gift could lend comfort to those in need of Red Cross Services. What a way to stimulate the mission of the Red Cross!

from 800 youth through 25 swimming pools in 12 Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota counties. Participating towns in Iowa included: Akron, Alta, Alton, Correctionville, Hartley, Holstein, Hull, Ida Grove, Inwood, Ireton, Kingsley, Mapleton, Onawa, Orange City, Remsen, Rock Valley, Sheldon, Sibley, Sioux Center, and all Sioux City pools; and Alcester and Elk Point in South Dakota.

Culver's and Long Lines Give Back to Siouxland during "Day of Giving"

In conjunction with National Red Cross Month, Culver's Restaurant of Sioux City was among the more than 370 Culver's restaurants that donated 10 percent of their respective sales on Wednesday, March 5 to their local American Red Cross chapter. During the annual system-wide "Day of Giving" fundraising event, guests were greeted and served by Red Cross volunteers. Partnering with Culver's for this year's event, Long Lines sent employees to help throughout the day and also matched Culver's donation, adding up to a total of \$1,200. Building on last year's success, Culver's restaurants in 16 states raised more than \$180,000 to support the American Red Cross.

"The money that was raised during Culver's 'Day of Giving' helps restore hope and dignity to local individuals during their most vulnerable times, such as during a crisis," said Beth Trejo, spokesperson for the Siouxland Chapter. "The donations will help our efforts to get people back on their feet as well as educate local citizens through community programs. We sincerely thank Culver's, Long Lines and the kind people that contributed."



Al and Kathryn Parvu, Sioux City Culver's and Pat McElroy, Long Lines, present Beth Trejo and Tammy Lee of the Siouxland Red Cross with their Day of Giving donation.



Building Renovation & Repair

If you've been to the local Red Cross Siouxland Chapter, you may have noticed that renovation is nearly complete. As a result of the repair and renovation, volunteers and staff will be better equipped to prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies.

Structural Improvements

- The building's cement block structure was damaged allowing water to enter the exterior walls resulting in rotted windows, rusted doors, and substantial interior mold. The building's interior and exterior was repaired, correcting structural problems and extending the overall life of the facility as well as decreasing future maintenance needs.
- The air-conditioning component of the HVAC system failed in 2006. Two air handling units were installed producing a comfortable work environment for volunteers, staff and the general public.
- The entrance to the building was moved to the (north side) the building creating a clear, accessible and secure entrance from the parking lot.

Programmatic Improvements

- The building previously lacked private meeting space. New areas were created to accommodate confidential conversations such as those between volunteers and victims of disasters.
- Due to the need for additional classroom space, a large classroom was created by reconfiguring previously under utilized area set for administrative support allowing more classes to be held and more enrollees to attend classes. This will benefit the Chapter and the community.
- The space formerly used to clean manikins was a makeshift wash area.. In the newly remodeled space, an area has been specifically designed for the cleaning and storing of manikins used for CPR and AED (Automated External Defibrillator) training. The new space is centrally located in the building near existing utilities. The new location maximizes efficiency and will prolong the life of the equipment.

- Floor and wall coverings as well as kitchen furnishing and appliances were original to the building and were showing almost 20 years of wear. Through the renovation, floor and wall coverings have been updated to create a safe and professional space for volunteers and community organizations.

What's left!

- An electronic key system is needed to increase access to the building for volunteers and community groups without compromising security. This system will increase the security of the building as well as increase the hours of availability that volunteers and community organizations have access to the building. Needed - \$5,000
- The phone system is original to the building and can no longer be updated with new equipment when it fails. System limitations require payment to another vendor for voicemail and message notification. Needed - \$15,000
- The computer system is mostly comprised of used equipment donated after meeting someone else's needs for 4 or more years. Updating this equipment will allow future technological advancements and maintenance to be made as well as increasing mobility of volunteer and paid staff and the efficiency of administrative functions. Needed - \$10,000
- Exterior Signage, preferably lit for nighttime, is needed for the building making it easy to recognize the Red Cross from the road. Needed - \$15,000



Building Renovation & Repair

We would like to thank those individuals that have already contributed to this project. Without your support, the renovation would not have been possible.

CONTRIBUTORS

- Gilchrist Foundation
- Siouxland Federal Credit Union
- Wells' Dairy, Inc.
- Premier Bankcard
- Carolyn (Zellmer) Ellwanger
- Ted & Chrystl Roman
- Great West Casualty Company
- Pinnacle Bank of Sioux City
- Jensen Imports
- Siouxland National Bank
- Dakota County State Bank
- Iowa-Nebraska State Bank
- Long Lines
- Brown Construction
- CW Suter Services
- Diamond Vogel Paints
- Knova's Carpets Inc
- Modern Kitchen Design
- Schroder Engineering PC
- Fiber Comm LC
- Foulk Bros. Plumbing & Heating
- Heeney Electric
- WR Tilton
- Kollman Appliance
- Cash & Inkind Support Exceeding \$200,000



Wanted: Red Cross Historical Items

The Siouxland Chapter is looking for historical Red Cross items to use temporarily or permanently for display during the Annual Meeting. If you have something you would like to contribute, contact Beth Trejo at 712-252-4081 or email beth.trejo@siouxlandredcross.org.

"I was helping and making a difference one family at a time"

The storm season has just begun, however tornados, strong storms, and flooding have kept local volunteers at the Siouxland Chapter busy helping those in need. Twenty-five volunteers from the Chapter received hands-on training feeding, sheltering and providing assistance during a disaster drill in Storm Lake. The drill, which simulated a tornado affecting the Storm Lake region, involved numerous community organizations, including the Red Cross. "Disaster Drills are a great way to prepare volunteers and to streamline the collaboration of those involved," said Bob Bartling, Director of Emergency Services at the Siouxland Chapter. Recently, volunteers from the Chapter traveled to Tennessee to provide Red Cross assistance after a line of thunderstorms and tornadoes swept across the midsection of the United States volunteers.

While assisting in Tennessee, one local volunteer recalls a particular family who had lived in their home for 17 years and now had lost everything. "It's hard to know where to begin after something that devastating happens," said Linda Korthals a Red Cross Volunteer from George, IA. The couple, in their mid-sixties, raised cattle in a rural community just outside Nashville. "You don't realize how attached you grow to your home unless you have to face the decision of what to do next, do they move, stay, rebuild?" she noted with a sigh, "At that point, the couple was really just trying to salvage a few things from what was left of their home, a few memories."

When asked about how she stayed positive despite hearing numerous stories of devastation Korthals said, "All of the disaster victims were so grateful that the Red Cross was there to help. I knew that I wasn't just sitting there and doing nothing, I was helping and making a difference one family at a time."

The following Siouxland Red Cross volunteers assisted clients in the Nashville area: Dorothea Bochmann, (Mapleton); Daryl Cleveland, (Odebolt); Henry Addink, (Orange City); Bob Bartling, (Sioux City); Linda Doran, (Sioux City); Linda Korthals, (George).

Additionally, local Red Cross volunteers provided relief to those affected by disaster after a destructive combination of torrential rainfall and melting snow caused many rivers in



Arkansas, Illinois and Missouri to overflow their banks and submerge hundreds of homes in murky brown water. Red Cross Volunteers Linda Doran (Sioux City) Dorothea Bochmann (Mapleton). Gerry Neuroth (Le Mars) Daryl Cleveland (Odebolt) all provided assistance in the damaged area.

Special Thanks...

We would like to express our gratitude to Gelita North America for hosting an employee lunch provided by the Chapter Disaster Volunteers. Funds raised from this lunch will help the Chapter prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies and disasters.

The Gift that Gives

To friends of the Siouxland Area Chapter of the American Red Cross who wish to help assure the continuation and growth of our programs by means of mention in their will, the following general form is suggested:

"I give, devise, and bequeath to the Siouxland Area Chapter of the American Red Cross the sum of _____ dollars (or otherwise describe the gift or specify a percentage of the estate).

For inquiries about bequests contact the Siouxland Chapter.

The Siouxland Area Chapter includes the counties of Monona (IA), Plymouth (IA), Sioux (IA), Woodbury (IA), Dakota (NE), and Union (SD). Also serving: Lyon, Osceola, O'Brien, Sac, Ida, Buena Vista and Cherokee Counties.

Mission Statement

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.

CONTACT US

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Mon-Fri)
Emergency Services Available 24 hours

Phone: (712) 252-4081 or (800) 340-4081

Fax Number: (712) 252-0837

Website: <http://www.siouxlandredcross.org>

Address: Siouxland Area Chapter
4200 War Eagle Drive • Sioux City, IA 51109-1700

Eighth Annual Awesome Biker Nights to Benefit the Siouxland Chapter

Awesome Biker Nights, a fun-filled event for motorcycle enthusiasts and friends, will be held Friday, June 20 and Saturday, June 21 on Historic Fourth Street in Sioux City. The eighth annual event includes live music, contests, raffle drawings and more. This year's Winner's Choice Raffle includes a 2008 Harley Davidson Heritage, 2008 Yamaha Raider S, 2008 Victory Hammer or \$12,000 cash. A portion of proceeds from this raffle will benefit the Siouxland Chapter of the American Red Cross. Funds will be used to support vital services provided by the Chapter including emergency assistance to victims of disaster, emergency communications for members of the armed forces, first aid and CPR training, water safety instruction, lifeguard training, and youth safety education programs in schools. Motorcycles featured on the 2008 raffle are being displayed at local businesses prior to the event, including Siouxland Federal Credit Union, Pioneer Bank, MidAmerican Energy and Great West Casualty.


Raffle tickets are available at the Siouxland Red Cross office for \$25. Come join the fun on Historic Fourth on June 20 and 21!

18th Annual Holiday Tour of Homes

The 18th Annual Holiday Tour of Homes will be held November 19-22, 2008.

St. Johns Lutheran Church, located at 2801 Jackson Street in Sioux City, will be the gathering area for tour goers. Luxury coaches will again be used for transportation. As a special feature, the Chapter will be pre-selling tickets to social groups and those wishing to buy tickets in groups of ten or larger. Interested participants are encouraged to contact the Chapter at (712) 252-4081 about special pricing and early scheduling options.



American Red Cross 
Together, we can save a life
Siouxland Area Chapter
4200 War Eagle Drive
Sioux City, IA 51109

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