

Proclamation

AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH

Whereas, Each year during the month of March we formally recognize the American Red Cross Alabama Gulf Coast Chapter and its essential humanitarian role in our communities. We honor the role of the Red Cross's contribution to making the Alabama Gulf Coast a better place. Every day, Red Cross volunteers and employees carry out the mission by providing essential services to people in their communities with the help of generous donors in the area.

Whereas, For more than 90 years, southwest Alabamians have relied on the expertise of the American Red Cross in disaster relief. Throughout fiscal year 2008, the Alabama Gulf Coast Chapter responded to an average of two to three emergencies per day—whether they are house or apartment fires, hurricanes, and other natural and human caused disasters. Nationally, the Red Cross set up almost 900 shelters; served more than 16.5 million meals and snacks; distributed close to 275,000 comfort and clean-up kits, and deployed more than 27,000 Red Cross workers while responding to Hurricane Dolly, Hurricane Gustav, Hurricane Ike, the flooding in the Midwest, and the tornadoes which devastated Indiana. These numbers do not include the many other disasters which struck across the country, large and small.

Whereas, The Alabama Gulf Coast Chapter makes every effort to save lives long before tragedy strikes by helping individuals and entire communities learn to prepare for disasters. It prepares people to save lives through first aid and CPR training, water safety, and use of automated external defibrillators to save victims of sudden cardiac arrest. Over the past year, over 9,000 people enrolled in American Red Cross of Health and Safety Courses in the area.

Whereas, The Alabama & Central Gulf Coast Blood Services Region serves as the bridge between more than 130,000 generous blood donors and millions of patients in need each year. The Alabama & Central Gulf Coast Blood Services Region located in Mobile serves more than 100 hospitals and transfusion centers throughout Alabama, the Florida panhandle and coastal Mississippi and delivers a wide range of high quality blood products and blood donor and patient testing services.

Whereas, Under its charter, the American Red Cross is entrusted with providing volunteer aid in time of war to the sick and wounded of the armed forces. Staff members deploy with our Armed Forces to provide emergency communications and a caring presence to service men and women separated from their families. Last year, Alabama Gulf Coast Chapter staff and volunteers made over 2,500 contacts with military personnel and their families, the local chapter also reaches out to the members of the National Guard and Reserves and their families who reside in nearly every community in Baldwin County.

Whereas, Without the help of the Alabama Gulf Coast Chapter volunteers the local chapter would not be able to fulfill the humanitarian mission that is the cornerstone of the organization. We are grateful for the tireless work of the volunteers and employees of the Alabama Gulf Coast Chapter and during this month, we pay tribute to this remarkable organization and all those who have answered the call to serve a cause greater than self and offered support and healing in times of need.


NOW, THEREFORE, I, Charles Houser, Mayor of the Town of Magnolia Springs, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the Town of Magnolia Springs do hereby proclaim March 2009 as American Red Cross Month. I encourage all residents of Magnolia Springs to support this organization's noble humanitarian mission.

Date: this the 27th day of January, 2009



Charles S. Houser – Mayor

ATTEST:



Karen S. Biel – Town Clerk