



**American
Red Cross**



Northwest North Carolina Chapter
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News Release

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For Immediate Release

90 Years of Service to Our Community

WINSTON-SALEM, NC, May 4, 2007 – The Northwest North Carolina Chapter of the American Red Cross will celebrate its 90th Anniversary on May 9, 2007. The Chapter received our official Charter on this date in 1917 and was organized to prepare and send "Comfort Kits" including wool socks to the soldiers in battle. The Chapter no longer knits socks to send to the soldiers, but still provides the service as liaison between a soldier's family and the branch of military he/she serves in, forwarding important communications to those serving our country.

The American Red Cross continues to serve the community through times of war and peace with disaster assistance, blood collection, safety training, and countless other community assistance services. From inception, the organization's actions have been guided by its dedication to humanity and a desire to promote mutual understanding, friendship, cooperation and a lasting peace.

In our community, the chapter was founded by prominent community leaders who saw the great value of the organization. These pioneers perceived a need to provide those services that the Red Cross provided to their community. Today, under the same trusted symbol, the American Red Cross has helped save and improve the lives of millions. Through the dedication and self-sacrifice of employees and volunteers, as well as the generosity of the American public, the Red Cross is there to help people - across the street, across the country and across the world- prevent, prepare for, and respond to life's emergencies.

In recognition of this major milestone, the Red Cross will commemorate with an anniversary-day luncheon to be held at the Chapter, located at 690 Coliseum Drive, W-Salem. Family members of the original founding members of the chapter are invited, along with previous board chairs, long-standing volunteers and loyal supporters.

In addition to the luncheon, the NWNC Chapter will celebrate the entire week by handing out donuts and coffee, donated by Krispy Kreme, from our Emergency Response Vehicle (ERV) in strategic places all over our four-county jurisdiction, including Davie, Forsyth, Stokes and Yadkin Counties. The purposed agenda is below:

Date	County	Location	Time
May 7	Davie County	Downtown Mocksville	8:30 a.m.
May 8	Yadkin County	Yadkin County Courthouse	8:30 a.m.
May 9	Forsyth County	On Third Street Between Main & Liberty Street	8:30 a.m.
May 10	Stokes County	Danbury Government Center	8:30 a.m.

Last year, the Northwest North Carolina Chapter responded to **177** single family disasters and **eight** multi-family disasters. We educated **744** people in community disaster response and prevention and trained **9669** people in First Aid, CPR and other health & safety courses. We supported **782** blood drives yielding over **27,000** units of blood and briefed over **402** military families and/or service members. We provided **399** emergency communications for military families. None of this would have been possible with the support of our **717** local volunteers.

Even though the chapter is mandated by Congress to provide specific services, Red Cross receives no government funding. All Red Cross assistance and services provided are made possible through generous private and corporate donations and from the support of donations made to the United Way/United Fund.

About the American Red Cross

The American Red Cross has helped people mobilize to help their neighbors for 125 years. Last year, victims of a record 72,883 disasters, most of them fires, turned to the nearly 1 million volunteers and 35,000 employees of the Red Cross for help and hope. Through more than 800 locally supported chapters, more than 15 million people each year gain the skills they need to prepare for and respond to emergencies in their homes, communities and world. Almost 4 million people give blood—the gift of life—through the Red Cross, making it the largest supplier of blood and blood products in the United States. The Red Cross helps thousands of U.S. service members separated from their families by military duty stay connected. As part of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, a global network of more than 180 national societies, the Red Cross helps restore hope and dignity to the world's most vulnerable people. An average of 91 cents of every dollar the Red Cross spends is invested in humanitarian services and programs. The Red Cross is not a government agency; it relies on donations of time, money, and blood to do its work.

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