



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, March 12, 2002

Council Session

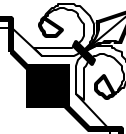

Item C3

Proclamation, "American Red Cross Month" March 2002

Whereas, the American Red Cross is one of the nations' oldest most recognized humanitarian organizations providing compassionate care when disasters and other crises threaten to overwhelm and destroy families within our community and around the world, the Mayor has proclaimed the month of March 2002 as "American Red Cross Month" and encourages all citizens, especially during these trying times for our country to support the Central Plains Chapter's noble humanitarian mission with a gift of time, blood or money. See attached PROCLAMATION.

Staff Contact: RaNae Edwards





THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
City of Grand Island
State of Nebraska

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, one of the nations' oldest, most recognized humanitarian organizations, the American Red Cross is woven tightly into the fabric of Grand Island, Nebraska, providing compassionate care when disasters and other crises threaten to overwhelm and destroy families. When our nation experienced a grievous tragedy on September 11, the people of the Central Plains Chapter gave of their time and their hearts in unprecedented ways to help bring comfort and peace to those in need, and help Grand Island, Nebraska prepare for or prevent the occurrence of further tragedy. We are indeed fortunate in our community to have this organization with over 800 volunteers and 5,917 blood donors dedicated to relieving suffering and saving lives; and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross was founded in 1881 by a visionary women named Clara Barton and chartered by Congress in 1905 to act in times of need. Now, each year, the Central Plains Chapter responds to more than 70 disasters in our community alone: high profile natural disasters, single-family fires that rarely even make the news, and other man-made emergencies. At such times, Americans trust and rely upon their local Red Cross chapters to provide services for families robbed of their loved ones, homes, livelihoods or dignity; and

WHEREAS, other Red Cross services include recruiting 9,453 people annually to donate blood, ensuring its safety and providing hospitals with half the nations' supply of blood and blood products for lifesaving medical treatments and routine medical procedures; and

WHEREAS, our military men and women join the effort to fight terrorism a world away, Red Cross workers in the Central Plains Chapter are working around the clock to fulfill a historical role: keeping service members and their families in touch and offering other small comforts to ease the strain of being far from home; and

WHEREAS, residents of Grand Island, Nebraska get information they need to maintain safe and healthy lives through Red Cross courses in lifesaving skills – first aid, CPR, water safety and much more; and



WHEREAS,

the Red Cross also responds to international emergencies. The Red Cross helped create and administer America's Fund for Afghan Children, with money donated by thousands of children right here in our community and across the nation who were asked to donate one dollar. Already, a million dollars' worth of essential supplies and medicine has been shipped to Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS,

last year, the Red Cross rushed immediate cash aid and supplies to other countries rocked by natural disasters and helped people in more than 40 nations get access to safe drinking water and battle malnutrition and life-threatening diseases such as measles; and

WHEREAS,

through its work, the Red Cross, an enduring American institution, restores hope at home and throughout the world every day, and its vital services would not be possible without generous contributions from the American people.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ken Gnadt, Mayor of Grand Island, Nebraska, by the virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby proclaim March 2002 as

AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH

in the City of Grand Island, and request that each member of our community support the Central Plains Chapter's noble humanitarian mission with a gift of time, blood or money. Together, we can save lives and make our world a safer, better place.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Grand Island to be affixed this 12th day of March in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Two.

Mayor of Grand Island, Nebraska

Attest:

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk