



**American
Red Cross**

Cape Cod and Islands Chapter

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Media Alert M E D I A A L E R T

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First Red Cross Emergency Preparedness Fair with Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts Great Success

Hyannis, Mass, February 12th, 2008 - The American Red Cross, Cape Cod and Islands Chapter first Emergency Preparedness Fair, held on January 19th was a great success.

The fair was aimed at helping Webelos and Cub Scouts earn their Readyman badge for the Emergency Preparedness Award and the Junior Girl Scouts at earning their Safety Award pin.

Various displays and 'stations' were set up, teaching scouts water safety, basic first aid procedures and general disaster preparedness skills. The skills taught will follow the guidelines for the Readyman Webelos Scout activity pin requirement and the Safety Award available to Junior Girl Scouts.

The Emergency Preparedness Fair was organized by volunteers from the Cape Cod and Islands Red Cross chapter, the Barnstable Sheriff's CERT team, Barnstable Police Department, West Barnstable Fire Department, Boy Scout Troops 44 from Bourne and Troop 50 from Yarmouth and AmeriCorps Cape Cod. In addition, a local Girl Scouts troop 708 from Hyannis presented their Winter Safety puppet show, which helped them earn their Silver Award.

Over 120 scouts attended the fair with parents and troop leaders, who were invited to participate. The event was free to all scouts, as the disaster services personnel volunteered their time on a Saturday and the Hyannis Elks Lodge #1549 donated the facility for the morning.

During the fair, scouts also wrote over 75 letters of encouragement to armed forces and their families from the Cape. The event was a great success, and contributed to the partnership between the local Red Cross chapter, the Boy Scouts Council of Cape Cod and the Islands and the Girl Scouts of Southeastern Massachusetts.

The American Red Cross strives to train communities and individuals to be prepared for any disasters. It offers multiple health and safety courses, including First Aid and CPR and AED. More information on the classes organized by the Cape Cod and Islands Chapter, American Red Cross can be found at the website, www.capecodandislandsredcross.org or by calling our Hyannis office at (508) 775-1540.

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