



Eastern Massachusetts Region
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Media Alert **MEDIA ALERT**

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For Immediate Release

Red Cross Organizes Unique Fire Safety Puppet Show for Kids at 10 a.m. on July 20th at the West Barnstable Fire Department

Hyannis, MA, July 14th, 2011 - The Cape Cod and Islands Chapter, American Red Cross will hold a unique Fire Safety Puppet Show for kids on July 20th, 2011. The event will take place on the lawn in front of the West Barnstable Fire Department (or inside if it rains), located at 2160 Meetinghouse Way, West Barnstable, MA 02668. The show will be held from 10 to 10:30 a.m. and is aimed at children between the ages of 4 and 8. Parents are of course welcome. The puppet show is free to the public and registration is not necessary.

This unique Fire Safety Puppet Show has been designed by the AmeriCorps volunteers, working at the Cape Cod and Islands Chapter American Red Cross this past year. The puppets and stage and other items are provided thanks to a grant by the Cape and Islands Youth Community Development Council.

Every year, hundreds of American Red Cross volunteers come to the aid of individuals and families displaced by house fires. In the past three years alone, the local chapter was on the scene and supported more than 100 individuals and families with food, shelter and moral support. It's especially essential for children to know what to do and this Fire Safety Puppet Show will present some key learning to the young public in a fun and educational way, guaranteed to make a positive impact.





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The **American Red Cross** is the nation's foremost emergency response organization, offering neutral humanitarian care to the victims of war and devastating natural disasters as well as local disasters such as fires, Hazardous Materials accidents and more, providing victims of these disasters with shelter, food and emotional support. Today, in addition to domestic disaster relief, the American Red Cross offers compassionate services in five other areas: **community services** for affected victims after a disaster; **support and comfort for military members and their families** including **emergency messaging**; the **collection, processing and distribution of lifesaving blood and blood products**; **educational programs** that promote health and safety; and **international relief and development** programs.

The Red Cross is not a government agency and does not receive federal or state funding. Local Chapters do receive some human resource support from the American Red Cross Headquarters, however, each Chapter is responsible for raising adequate funds to support all of its activities, including recruiting and training volunteers, and teaching life saving skills within its geographical coverage area. It relies on donations of time, money, and blood from the American public to successfully do its work.

To find out more about Fire Safety Puppet Shows for Kids, for disaster preparedness presentations on Cape Cod and the Islands, about volunteering for the Red Cross, for class schedules, for disaster preparedness information in English, Spanish or Portuguese, or to donate, please contact the American Red Cross, Cape Cod Islands Chapter, 286 South Street, Hyannis, MA 02601, call (508) 775-1540 ext. 21 or visit www.cciredcross.org ###