



**American
Red Cross**

Cape Cod and Islands Chapter

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Media Alert **MEDIA ALERT**

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Local Volunteers to Support Shelters Off-Cape

Hyannis, Mass, December 30th, 2010 - The American Red Cross, Cape Cod and Islands Chapter, has sent several local volunteers to support shelters in Whitman-Hanson and Scituate, where people are still without power since the blizzard last Sunday.

Jonathan O'Neil of Hyannis, Sue Cashman of West Yarmouth, Ted Smith and Harry Watling of Dennisport, Len Solomon of South Dennis and Sandi Litchfield of Sandwich have been deployed so far. All volunteers are well trained and have deployed to other disasters before.

The Red Cross encourages the public to be prepared for the next winter storms. A special winter storm checklist with tips on how to dress for and prepare homes for storms, as well as information on what to do after a storm hits is available on the web site at www.cciredcross.org.

A few important tips: Please ensure you have a battery operated radio to receive updates on possible shelters opening and other pertinent information from emergency management officials. Also, please use flash lights rather than candles because of the danger of house fires. Please make sure to have adequate supplies of medication on hand.

During a winter storm, the Red Cross remains committed to its core services of maintaining a safe blood supply, educating the public on preparedness, and providing disaster relief to those in need.

For the winter storm check list or more information on how to be prepared for winter season or for volunteer opportunities, visit cciredcross.org

All American Red Cross disaster assistance and shelter support are free, made possible by voluntary donations of time and money from the American people. You can help victims from disaster such as the recent floods, by making a financial gift to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund, which enables the Red Cross to provide shelter, food, counseling and other assistance to those affected by a disaster. *On those rare occasions when donations exceed Red Cross expenses for a specific disaster, contributions are used to prepare for and serve those affected by other disasters.* Contributions to the Disaster Relief Fund may be sent to the American Red Cross chapter at 286 South Street, Hyannis, MA 02601. Tel. (508) 775-1540. Internet users can make a secure online contribution at cciredcross.org

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Note; not for publication: Ted Smith is available for interviews at (508) 776-7073 or Jonathan O'Neil can be reached at (774) 836-7343