

Dear Editor:

March is Red Cross Month and the American Red Cross recognizes our Everyday Heroes who help their community by giving of themselves—the volunteers, blood donors, class attendees and financial supporters who help us assist those in need.

March is also a great time to become part of the Red Cross by doing such things as developing a preparedness plan for the household, becoming a volunteer, giving blood, or taking a Red Cross class. People will have an opportunity to become an Everyday Hero by registering for one of the Disaster Boot Camp Classes, downloading the Red Cross Apps or attending a Red Cross event in their community.

Last year the Nebraska/ SW Iowa Region assisted 17,838 military families, trained 24,649 people in lifesaving skills, and helped 607 families live through a devastating fire, flood, or severe storm and counted on the Red Cross for mental health counseling, shelter, food and/or clothing.

The Red Cross responds to nearly 70,000 disasters a year in this country. It provides 24-hour support to members of the military, veterans and their families; collects and distributes about 40 percent of the nation's blood supply and trains more than seven million people in first aid, water safety and other life-saving skills every year.

We thank those whose generosity enables us to continue our work, and encourage everyone to become an Everyday Hero during Red Cross Month by helping their neighbors.

Sincerely,

Shelly Penner

Mid-Plains Red Cross

North Platte