

ers, donations, counselors

cost to sort, package, and distribute these items is greater than what they could purchase them for in bulk. Please give your donations in large, organized groups or bulk quantities.)

(Contact the Red Cross before donating any item NOT listed above to find out if they will accept that type of donation.)

Anyone interested in becoming a Red Cross Volunteer must:

- Complete volunteer training through the Red Cross (licensed RN's, LPN's, physicians, and EMT's may be deployed immediately through the Red Cross as a volunteer without Red Cross training);
- Able to commit to a deployment of 2 to 3 weeks minimum;
- Be 18 years of age;
- Understand that they will face a hardship deployment (extreme conditions and limited resources); and
- Meet volunteer health requirements (no sutures or stitches, no cast or restricted movement, not been hospitalized or in the ER in the last 6 months, no medical or lab tests scheduled in the next month, not begun or changed medications in the last 14 days, not have any symptoms of illness now or in the past 3 days).

The Red Cross will schedule several accelerated volunteer training classes in the evenings. Contact the Red Cross for dates and times.

Volunteer training includes a crash course in mass care, sheltering, and feeding; a question and answer session of what it is going to be like, and an individual appointment to enter the volunteer's information into the database and schedule deployment.

Volunteers are given a per diem allowance for food and laundry. Currently, the Red Cross gives most volunteers \$500 plus an extra \$50 to buy items before deployment to take with them, a tent, for example. The Red Cross will also pay for travel to and from deployment location.

If you decide to go through Volunteer training, please pick up a volunteer application packet at the Red Cross and fill it out before going to the training.

If you want to volunteer, but are unable to do so *now*, please wait to go to a training session until closer to the time you are able to be deployed.

Also, please note that there is a blood shortage. They will accept donations of any blood type, but are in particular need of "O" negative. Contact the Red Cross at 828-884-4530 to schedule your appointment.

If you have any questions, please contact the Transylvania County Chapter of the American Red Cross at 828-884-4530. The chapter headquarters is located in College Plaza across from the College (office is in the interior of the building). Their web site is webtransylvania.com/redcross.



On Sept. 1, the Houston Astrodome was not yet at capacity, but by the next morning it was. Photographer: Daniel Clima/American Red Cross

President Van Horn calls for service, fuel conservation

Editor's Note: President Van Horn agreed to let us reprint this email sent to the student body on Sept. 2.

I wanted to take a moment to draw your attention to the situations surrounding the recent devastation in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama from Katrina. While many of us have gone about our lives with little impact from this event, the reality is that families and individuals have been and continue to be hurt in the aftermath of the hurricane. In reality, we have students, faculty and staff who have families in these hard-hit areas. Knowing this, I would like to suggest we do a few things as a family:

Be aware that we have people who have been affected. Keep your eyes and ears open to see what we can do to help. If you know of a student who has a need, please share that information with the Campus Life Staff.

If you are a person whose family is affected by this tragedy, and you have a need, please make that need known to someone. We cannot help, if we are not made aware.

With our motto, "Learn in Order to Serve", please begin to ask, "What can I do to help?" I know that there are oppor-

tunities to volunteer and to help raise funds for organizations assisting those in need.

Stay up-to-date on what is happening in the areas hit by Katrina. While we may not be able to be of direct assistance, knowing about the situation helps us in learning for the future.

Finally, we are all beginning to feel the effects of this disaster through the shortage of gasoline. I ask that if you do not need to drive or buy gas, to please cut back. There are many in our community and in our country who must have gas to work and to help those who have been displaced by this disaster. We can do simple things. We can leave our vehicles parked and walk to class and the cafeteria. We can walk to the markets. While we may be slightly inconvenienced, we can help during this "crunch" time we are facing as a community and a country.

Over the next few days and weeks there will be opportunities for discussion and service. I encourage you to take part and to serve when and where you can. I also ask that we remember those affected in our thoughts and prayers.

Drew L. Van Horn, Ph.D.
President