

**MEDIA ADVISORY**

**AMERICAN RED CROSS, GREATER CLEVELAND CHAPTER**

**For more information, call**

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**AMERICAN RED CROSS, GREATER CLEVELAND CHAPTER TO UTILIZE  
ROCKY RIVER CIVIC CENTER WEDNESDAY**

**Residents of Heritage House Condominium Fire Encouraged to Access the Red  
Cross at the Don Umerley Center from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

Cleveland, Ohio -- June 6, 2006 -- The American Red Cross, Greater Cleveland Chapter will continue to run a reception center on site in Rocky River at the Don Umerley Civic Center from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesday, June 7. The Civic Center is located at 21016 Hilliard.

The Red Cross staff will be available at the Civic Center for affected residents tonight (Tuesday) until 5 p.m., and will then re-open tomorrow at 9 a.m. to provide food, counseling, medical referral assistance and other services for the residents of the Heritage House Condominiums displaced by fire early this morning. The Red Cross will remain on site until 5 p.m. this evening and will re-open for families affected by the fire tomorrow.

The Chapter encourages families affected by the fire who have not yet made contact with the Red Cross to call 216.431.3010 or to come directly to the Civic Center tomorrow to access assistance.

The Civic Center was transformed to a reception center today following the fire for residents wait for news updates from the fire department and to begin to access services. More than 25 Red Cross staff and volunteers were at the Civic Center as well as at the site of the fire, 2885 Pease.

Michelene Holland, the Chapter's disaster preparedness manager, also encourages the Greater Cleveland community to review their own fire safety plans with their families, and, most importantly, to make sure there are working fire alarms and functional batteries in place in their homes. "Smoke alarms save lives," said Holland. "This is such a simple but important message and we cannot stress it enough."

Few realize that the Greater Cleveland Chapter responds to an average of a fire per day, every single day of the year. The best way to assist families affected by this fire and other disasters is to make a financial contribution to the American Red Cross, Greater Cleveland Chapter at [www.redcross-cleveland.org/donate](http://www.redcross-cleveland.org/donate) or by calling 216.431.3010. No in-kind donations are being accepted by the Red Cross for this emergency.

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