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Shedding an old unwanted car can be win-win with Red Cross

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MADISON – For anyone who’s been considering clearing the driveway or garage of an old car no longer in use, the Colonial Crossroads Chapter of the American Red Cross has a suggestion.

The Red Cross wants to remind residents that almost any unwanted vehicle can be donated to the chapter, and that an acknowledgement letter and tax receipt will be delivered within two weeks of the donation.

Residents who may be moving and don’t want to ship their car; individuals dissolving a business or a corporation, or even families settling an estate for a loved one, can donate an unwanted car and make a significant contribution to the Red Cross chapter.

“Our Vehicle Donation Program is an important all-year fund-raiser for our chapter,” said Christy Hodde, executive director of the Colonial Crossroads Chapter.

“Proceeds from this program support all of our service areas, and the Red Cross will pick up the donated vehicle from a home, a business - even at the dealership where a new car is being purchased,” Hodde said.

“Our chapter has received cars worth \$700, and as much as \$9,000.”

‘Win-Win’

According to Summit resident Julie Leung, director of the chapter’s transportation programs, “Donating an unwanted vehicle is really a win-win situation for both the owner and our chapter.

“I donated my own car two years ago, and was surprised at how much money it was worth,” Leung noted.

Leung said the donation process is “extremely simple.” By calling a toll free number, 1-877-332-7677, owners may arrange to have their vehicle collected at the location of their choice.



Julie Leung, transportation manager for the Colonial Crossroads Chapter of the American Red Cross, donated her used vehicle to the Red Cross two years ago. As head of the Red Cross transportation department, Leung coordinates the chapter’s volunteer drivers to provide rides for ambulatory senior citizens to medical appointments.

Qualifications for a donation are indeed simple. They include:

- Four inflated tires;
- A set of car keys;
- Clear title;
- No lien on the vehicle;
- Vehicles manufactured before 1992 must be drivable.

If a vehicle is not drivable, it can be towed from its present location. Arrangements can usually be made to have the car picked up within a week, Leung said.

For information about the program, visit the chapter's Web site at www.ccnjredcross.org, click "Make a Donation," and then check "In Kind Gifts/Automobiles."

A complete list of instructions and an application form are available online.

The Colonial Crossroads Chapter of the American Red Cross serves the communities of Madison, Chatham, Chatham Township, Florham Park, East Hanover, Long Hill Township, New Providence, Berkeley Heights, Springfield Township and Summit. The chapter's Madison office is located at 1 Madison Ave., at Kings Road, and its Summit office is located at 695 Springfield Ave.

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