

COLUMBIA COUNTY

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PROCLAMATION Recognizing March 2026 as American Red Cross Month in Columbia County, Oregon.

In times of crisis, people in Columbia County come together to care for one another. This humanitarian spirit is part of the foundation of our community and is exemplified by American Red Cross Cascades Region volunteers and donors.

WHEREAS, in 1881, Clara Barton founded the American Red Cross, turning her steadfast dedication to helping others into a bold mission to prevent and alleviate suffering. Today, we honor the kindness and generosity of Red Cross volunteers here in Columbia County, who join the millions of people across the United States who volunteer, give blood, donate financially, or learn vital life-preserving skills through the Red Cross.

WHEREAS, in the Cascades Region, serving Oregon and SW Washington, the contributions of more than 2,500 local Red Cross volunteers give hope to the most vulnerable in their darkest hours. The Red Cross does so by providing relief and comfort to more than 900 households devastated by local disasters, such as home fires. Through the generosity of those donating more than 166,000 units of essential blood for accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and those receiving treatments for leukemia, cancer, or sickle cell disease. Or by supporting over 5,000 service members and veterans, along with their families and caregivers, through the unique challenges of military life. And by training over 50,000 people in first aid, CPR, and other lifesaving skills.

WHEREAS, in Columbia County, the Red Cross works with local agencies and faith-based organizations to support emergency shelters by providing shelter training, coordinating resources, and integrating into local mass care planning efforts.

WHEREAS, the Red Cross's work to prevent and alleviate human suffering is vital to strengthening community resilience before, during, and after a disaster. The month of March is dedicated to all those who continue to advance the noble legacy of American Red Cross founder Clara Barton, who lived by her words, "You must never think of anything except the need, and how to meet it or not, whether it is bearable or not; you must never think of anything except the need and how to meet it.

NOW, THEREFORE, Columbia County, Oregon, does hereby proclaim the month of March 2026 as AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH.

Dated in St. Helens, Oregon, this ____ day of March 2026.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON



By: _____
Kellie Jo Smith, Chair

By: _____
Casey Garrett, Commissioner

By: _____
Margaret Magruder, Commissioner