

# WWPHSS Red Cross Club

## Club Accomplishments

- Fall Blood Drive - 74 productive units
- Blizzard Bags - 50 bags for our community's homebound elderly
- Scarf Drive - 128 scarves for the veterans in Menlo Park
- Entertainment Books - 51 books sold, proceeds go to the Red Cross of Central NJ
- Lollipops - 1780 individual lollipops sold (\$480.60 to the Red Cross of Central NJ)
- Clothing Drive - 499 articles of clothing



## HALLOWEEN SAFETY

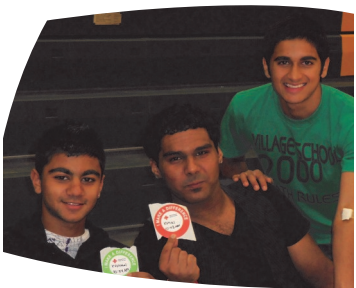
### 2011

*Every year, Red Cross members go to Maurice Hawk Elementary School to help kids understand the possible dangers while trick-or-treating and how to be safe.*

Red Cross members participated in Halloween Safety at Maurice Hawk as a way to kick off the school year. Groups of Red Cross members were chosen to go to Maurice Hawk to teach little kids about Halloween Safety while having fun. Some fun ways to motivate the kids into learning the safety rules were to have them perform skits and do projects such as coloring, drawing, and craft-making. One idea included Halloween-themed pinwheels.

There will be two more trips to Maurice Hawk: F.A.C.T and Whales Tales. Here are some tips to impress the Red Cross officers and to earn more hours! Try to come up with new games for the little kids.

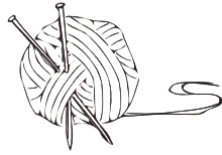
Although kids enjoy playing well-known games such as red light green light and follow the leader, our officers are more impressed by groups that create their own games. Plus, the kids usually have even more fun when they get to play something new! Another way to earn extra hours during Safety Education events is to make the kids laugh while still making the lesson educational. One group at Halloween Safety went the extra mile by using comedy and having their male members wear dresses to teach the rules. Next time, during F.A.C.T. and Whales Tales, keep these tips in mind to earn extra hours.



## 2011 Fall Blood Drive!

The 2011 fall blood drive was another success through the efforts of the Blood Drive Committee and the entire club. Despite encountering some difficulties, the club still collected 74 units of blood and registered over 100 donors. We potentially saved over 200 lives! Blood Drive Chairperson Prawallika Gangidi noticed improvements over past blood drives and said, "The organization of the tables and setup were better, and there was a more even flow throughout the event."

If you plan on volunteering at the spring blood drive, make sure that you take some initiative. There are several ways you can help out during the event; our officers and blood drive committee cannot take care of everything! For example, you can guide donors to the proper location, answer questions, give moral support to nervous donors, and help at the food table. By doing so, you will really impress the officers. Also, you will show that you can handle a leadership role, which is especially important if you plan on running for officer next year.



# Knit-Your-Bit!

*Knitting scarves to help war veterans in Menlo Park have a warm winter*



The SAF Knit-Your-Bit event was new this year, and Red Cross is proud to say that it was a big success! These past few weeks, South's Red Cross members were seen with yarn balls and knitting needles in their hands. Members of all knitting and crocheting skill levels held their needles as proudly as they would hold the Elder Wand. Beginners took lessons with Mrs. Kersch in order to get started. Neha Narayanan (Class of 2014) said, "Without Mrs. Kersch, it would have been pretty hard. She made the learning a lot easier!" It goes without saying that beginners had trouble at first, but they soon got the hang of it. "It was a lot of fun to learn about knitting, because we were able to help the [veterans] by making them scarves," continued Neha.

As for people who already had experience in knitting or crocheting, they were happy to use their skills for a good cause.

They gained immense satisfaction from knowing that their work went to help others. Of course, in order to achieve that satisfaction, Red Cross members put in a tremendous amount of hard work. Asking around, it was apparent that many students spent several hours of their personal time to work on the scarves. So many students working to keep our veterans warm this winter and to show our appreciation for all they've done for us? That will surely put a smile on the faces of the veterans who receive the scarves.



## Dance-A-Thon!

The 2011 Dance-A-Thon will be held on December 10, at South Brunswick High School. Every year, multiple schools in the Central Jersey area, including Notre Dame, Princeton High, WWP South, and WWP North, come together to DAT to have a good time and to raise money for the local Red Cross chapter and the Measles Initiative. Remember, just \$1 can save a child's life! Community service hours will be awarded to everyone who attends, and additional hours will be given to those who fundraise. Fundraisers will receive raffle tickets for a number of prizes, including an iTouch 5G. You can also buy extra raffle tickets (50 cents each) at the door. The top fundraisers in our school also might get the chance to be featured in the following newsletter! Invite all your non-Red Cross member friends to this exciting event that will support 2 great causes!



## Member Spotlight: Jasper Tyan

Two summers ago, Jasper Tyan, a current junior, volunteered for the Red Cross in Nantou, Taiwan. Being Taiwanese, Jasper was eager to go back to Taiwan and give back in a rural town. He was interested in seeing a different side of Taiwan, since he had only visited its cities before.

Jasper spent 10 days volunteering with a group of high school and college students from around the world. Together, they taught children English and cleaned up rural communities. They also visited senior centers to perform skits and to talk to the seniors one-on-one.

Additionally, he volunteered at a coma center, which was an experience that deeply impacted him. He saw about thirty people, ranging from infants to adults, lying in bed. He was especially moved by seeing such young children whose lives had been

taken away from them. He recalled, "I realized how lucky I am to be able to get up each morning with my own power, move my hands, my arms, and my legs without any thought."

All in all, Jasper greatly enjoyed volunteering for the Red Cross in Nantou. He remarked, "It was such a great experience. I had a lot of fun with my fellow volunteers, and I made ever-lasting friendships and memories." The joy that he got from his experience in Taiwan inspired him to be involved with our school's Red Cross club. He was a double red blood cell donor at the fall blood drive, and he enjoys participating in safety education events.

