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Red Cross

continued from page 1

About 25 bookstores and businesses in Eugene have agreed to carry free bookmarks made by the Red Cross, and the majority of these businesses said they will also allow a canister for donations to accompany the bookmarks.

Red Cross volunteers have been asked to engage in a community pledges campaign, in which volunteers will ask their friends and family members to make pledges and donations.

For the first time, Red Cross organizations from across the nation will be hosting a virtual auction. O'Connell said donations of everything from a fishing trip to a weekend for two have been made by businesses and individuals.

Runyan donated an Olympic running jersey, which she signed, to the auction.

Red Cross Community Campaign Manager Don Jackson said the organization didn't have as much success fundraising last year as it had hoped, raising only \$106,000.

Jackson said many people don't

realize what Red Cross does.

"We serve one in six people in Lane County every year, and 256 people are served by our Meals on Wheels program," said Jackson.

People don't realize what we do for them, and how desperate situations can be until they're in it. It's your neighbors and your community that has made what we do possible.

Ben Masengil
volunteer,
Red Cross

Each year, Red Cross chapters across the country begin fundraising in March, which is "Red Cross Month."

"In 1905, the Red Cross received a charter from the U.S. Congress that lets us do what we do for the community," said Daniel Jud, the Red

Cross emergency services supervisor. "We have to exist to provide disaster services, but we have to come up with our own money to do it."

The Red Cross receives no federal funds and depends on the community to fund the organization so it can continue its service during disasters, Beban said.

"We don't just do blood," said Phillips. "We have programs for every stage of life for free, we respond to every single fire, we serve 67,000 meals to homebound people and train 22,000 people in CPR and first aid."

Ben Masengil, who has been a Red Cross volunteer for more than 40 years, said disaster can happen to anyone.

"People don't realize what we do for them, and how desperate a situation can be until they're in it," Masengil said. "It's your neighbors and your community that has made what we do possible."

Beban said it's the fundraising that keeps people alive, even if they don't realize it.

"It's easy for people to take a non-profit organization like the Red Cross for granted," Beban said. "But as soon as we're gone, they would know it in a heartbeat."

Taxes

continued from page 1

them about lesser-known deductions such as tuition fees and book expenses.

"There are many ways people can save money, and a lot of people still don't know about them," she said.

Heidenreich added that last year she received a lot of positive feed-

back from students who were relieved that they didn't have to tackle their tax forms alone.

"Most people hate doing taxes," she said. "It was fun to help people because they were so thankful."

Vaccination

continued from page 1

through close oral contact, including kissing, sharing utensils, or being close to people when they are coughing or sneezing.

Although no new cases have been confirmed since Dieringer's death, the Lane County Bloodbank is taking preventive measures during its blood drive today in the EMU.

The bloodbank is asking students who had close contact with Dieringer, lived with her in Cloran

Hall or the Kappa Delta sorority, or spent more than four hours with her in a confined space between Feb. 1 and Feb. 8 to not give blood.

Students in close living situations such as residence halls or greek houses are most susceptible to catching the bacteria. But Eyster said the antibiotic is enough of a preventive measure for fellow students in the Hamilton Complex and other residence halls.

But he added all students should receive a vaccination when they come onto campus fall term.

Students and members of the

greek system continue to wear pink ribbons in memory of the 19-year-old. Pink was her favorite color. Many chapters have hung pink banners outside their houses as well.

Eyster said he discussed plans for Dieringer's memorial with her family and friends, but no decision has been finalized. He said there will probably be one memorial in her hometown of Portland, where students will be invited, and possibly a second service in Eugene.

"We want to get a feel from students for what they want," he said.

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