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FIRST CPR PARTY IN COLUMBIA TO BE HELD TUESDAY - 5/2/2005

News Release

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Contact: Elizabeth Kraatz
573-441-9945

Or: Jim Muench
573-499-4897

FIRST CPR PARTY IN COLUMBIA TO BE HELD TUESDAY

COLUMBIA, Mo. – Believe it or not, in a town full of doctors, the first CPR party ever in Columbia will start at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 3, at 901 Audubon Drive, the home of Jim and Elizabeth Kraatz.

“Other Red Cross chapters around the country have held CPR parties before, but when I called the Boone County chapter, nobody had ever asked to do one here before,” said Elizabeth Kraatz, a nursing professor at the University of Missouri-Columbia. “So we decided to start a new fad. It’s a great way to have some fun and learn an important skill at the same time.”

The focus of this party, which will last a few hours, will be infant and child CPR. Adult CPR would take another evening. Kraatz said the party is a great way to train six to 12 babysitters and parents in how to handle an emergency and to certify people in CPR who prefer a more relaxed environment than a formal classroom. People interested in hosting a CPR party need at least six, but no more than 12 people, a TV and VCR, party food, and enough empty floor space for the practice mannequins. When hosting a CPR party, there is a cost of \$50 per participant.

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