Non-Profit Agency Efforts and Outreach to General Public

Living on the Faultline

Humboldt County Chapter American Red Cross

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The course was developed by Judy Warren, a volunteer instructor for Humboldt County Chapter, who has been involved with American Red Cross for over 20 years. In addition she holds a lifetime teaching credential at the community college level for geology and geography courses. She is an instructor trainer for the Humboldt County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training program and Red Cross Disaster Services instructor.

This course was adapted from the original Living on the Fault Line created by the Los Angeles Chapter [Version 2.0, Aug. 1990]. Those materials are currently out of print. The 1990-91 Northern California edition was created for Humboldt-Del Norte Chapters which specifically addressed rural area concerns such as the Mendocino Triple Junction earthquake faults in the southwestern area of Humboldt County and the Cascadia Subduction Zone offshore which reaches from Shelter Cove to British Columbia.

Judy taught the original course in the Bay Area when it was released in 1990. Since moving to Humboldt County, she has taken the original course and adapted it to include the most current data and photos. She has also worked with Prof. Lori Dengler, Humboldt State University Geology Department, National Weather Service, Office of Emergency Services, American Red Cross and Redwood Coast Tsunami Work Group members, who needed to have input and approval of course content.

The new Humboldt County course, Living on the Faultline and Along the Coast of Humboldt County, has been reviewed by peers, experts and was first taught for the community on February 28, 2005. Nancy Dean, the Meteorologist-in-Charge at the National Weather Service-Eureka, attended to view the course and answer questions from the audience about the tsunami warning system.

Overall, the material was well received and has generated considerable interest in the community. Several local agencies have expressed a desire to have their employees take the class as preparation for disaster planning. Course materials are currently in a Power Point presentation format. A participant manual has been developed to accompany the course, providing reference material from the lecture as well as expanding information on the slides. Revisions are anticipated as local and world events change the response activities or advice for earthquake and tsunami safety. Additional Red Cross preparedness materials are used as handouts also.

Further information about the course can be obtained from Barbara Caldwell, Executive Director, at the Chapter Office, 707-443-4521 or email: humboldtredcross@paebell.net