

Brief profiles of useful websites and online resources

## The American Red Cross Redesigned Website

The American Red Cross recently announced the redesign of its website www.redcross.org. Added features include geo-location to tailor a visitor's experience and make content more relevant (eg, people in flood-prone states may have different content vs people in states impacted by wildfires) and improved financial donation process and online course scheduling experience. Visitors can find available classes by clicking on the "Take a Class" link toward the top. The Red Cross offers classes such as babysitting, blood-borne pathogens, emergency preparedness, caregiving, and HIV/AIDS prevention education. Visitors can search for available courses in their geographic area by selecting their location.

Clicking on the "Get Assistance" link, followed by clicking on the "Disaster or Emergency" tab allows visitors to find an open shelter, obtain disaster recovery guides, and search the safe and well listings to check whether their loved ones are okay or to register and be added to the safe and well listing to reassure family members. Visitors can list their predisaster address and phone number. Clicking on the "Military Family Services" tab allows visitors to access pages for emergency communication for military families, financial assistance, referral services, and deployment support. The Red Cross provides confidential services to all military personnel (active duty, National Guard, Reserves, and veterans) and their families.

## **Comprehensive Grandparents' Website**

Http://www.grandparents.com, a new website tailored to a mature audi-



ence, uses the tagline, "It's great to be grand." Access to health advice and recipes are 2 of the perks of free registration on this website. The "Community Groups" section provides grandparents a way to discuss pertinent issues with other grandparents.

Visitors can access information via the links toward the top of the page, "Grandkids," "Family & Relationships," "Food & Leisure," "Health & Well-Being," and "Money & Work." The "Health & Well-Being" link provides access to articles such as "5 Surprising Health Benefits of Chocolate" and "10 Easy Musts for Staying Healthy and Cancer-Free," as well as a "Health & Well-Being" menu on the right-hand side addressing topic areas such as anti-aging, beauty, diet, emotional well-being, exercise, and general health. The "Family & Relationships" link features articles as well as a "Family & Relationships Menu," which provides information on topics such as caregiving and caring for children. The "Money & Work" link provides access to financial information. including insurance information in articles such as "Long-Term Care: Invest Now, Save Later" and "Raising Money for Medical Musts."

## **Safe Sharps Disposal Info Online**

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recently launched a page dedicated to the safe disposal of needles and other sharps outside of health care settings. The website, http://www.fda.gov/MedicalDevices/Products andMedicalProcedures/HomeHealth andConsumer/ConsumerProducts/Sharps/ucm20025647.htm, discusses safe disposal of sharps, including needles, syringes, lancets, auto injectors, and infusion sets.

Many people use sharps at home, work, or traveling to manage medical conditions such as allergies, arthritis, cancer, diabetes, hepatitis, HIV/AIDS, and migraines. Visitors can read about the importance of safe sharps disposal by scrolling down the page along with instructions on what to do if accidentally stuck by a used sharp.