

Non-Profit News

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Give your valentine a gift with “heart”

I am pleased to announce that the “Dipped In Love” Chocolate Tasting will be back again this year. The Lee County Red Cross is proud to present this fundraiser and to offer an opportunity for you to do something unique for Valentine’s Day. Richard and Mary Patton of Eighth and Rail in downtown Opelika have graciously agreed to host us for the evening. Thanks to the generosity of our host and sponsors, the chocolate tasting will once again be held on February 14.

The most common question I get about this event is “What is a chocolate tasting?” I hope I can paint an accurate picture for you, but really you must experience it for yourself. Eighth and Rail will be filled with treats and surprises in every corner. From truffles to desserts to a wonderful chocolate fountain, there will be so many delectable creations, you really won’t want to miss it. Chef Brian of Kimble’s Food By Design will be preparing wonderful sweet sensations right before your eyes. We also have liqueurs, coffees, cheeses, wines and other beverages and a wide array of confections. The event will run from 6:30 – 10:00 p.m. and you can drop in anytime, before or after dinner perhaps, though some of our guests come and stay for the entire time.

Whenever you decide to come, I am sure your sweetheart will be impressed not only with your gift of chocolate, but with a gift with “heart” since the event also helps to fund local Red Cross programs. Tickets are limited and this event has sold out every year. We will be adding a heated tent out back this year to help us accommodate more people, but we are expecting to sell out in advance, so tickets will probably not be available at the door. Be sure and get yours early! Tickets are \$35 per person or \$50 per couple. They can be purchased at the Red Cross, Flip Flop Foto or Eighth and Rail and are also available online at www.leeredcross.org.

I would be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to thank our Dipped In Love sponsors which are Eighth and Rail, Kimble’s Food By Design, Flip Flop Foto, The Fun Stuff Chocolate Company, Premium Beverage, The Auburn Network, The Opelika-Auburn News, WRBL-TV and Qantum Communications. We are still accepting sponsors, so please contact the Red Cross if you want to get involved with this delicious event!

The Child Advocacy Center of East Alabama will be hosting a Healthy Family Expo on Saturday, March 1 at the Health Resource Center in Opelika. I hope you will make plans to attend. The project is being presented with the support of the Auburn Kiwanis Club and the day will be filled with helpful workshops for parents and children as well as exhibits by area non-profits and agencies, games, food and door prizes. For more

information of the Healthy Family Expo, call Emilyn Gipson at The Child Advocacy Center at 334-705-0770.

Thanks to everyone who came out for the Heroes for Red Cross kick off reception this Thursday. It was a great turn out and The Hilton Garden Inn did an excellent job providing fabulous food and a wonderful atmosphere for everyone to mix, mingle and learn about the Heroes program. Campaign Chair Sheriff Jay Jones needs your help with the campaign. If you want to participate and help to raise funds for local Red Cross programs, please call the Red Cross at 334-749-9981 or visit the website at www.leeredcross.org.

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