



Together, we can save a life

Lee County Chapter  
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## News Release

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# LEE COUNTY RED CROSS HONORS VOLUNTEERS & PARTNERS

### *Awards Program Highlights Local Activities and Honors Volunteer Commitment*

OPELIKA, AL (April 18) – The Lee County Chapter of the American Red Cross held its annual Volunteer & Community Partners Awards and Recognition Luncheon today. The event, traditionally held during National Volunteer Appreciation Week, is designed to thank and recognize members of our community for their support and outstanding volunteer service in the past year. The American Red Cross is a volunteer lead non-profit organization. Volunteers are so important to the Red Cross that 95% of its workforce is made up of unpaid volunteers.

“There is no way Red Cross services would be available in our community without the time and commitment of our dedicated volunteers,” said Jennifer Ryan, Executive Director of the Lee County Red Cross. “Volunteers perform so many critical duties including responding to local and national disaster; teaching classes in CPR, first aid and disaster preparedness; sending emergency communications to members of our Armed Forces; working at blood drives and so much more,” Ryan added.

Over 80 awards were given out at the recognition event including awards for National Disaster Responders, local disaster responders, health and safety instructors, youth involvement, blood drive volunteers, community program volunteers, community partners, rookie volunteer of the year, board member of the year and the overall volunteer of the year crossing all lines of service. This year John Penick of Auburn was named 2007-2008 Volunteer of the Year.

John Penick has been volunteering for three years with the local chapter. In that time he has become an Instructor for CPR and First Aid, has participated in fundraising and special events and now serves on the Board of Directors. Penick is actively involved in the Chapter and contributes a great deal to its overall success.

A complete list of award winners is listed below:

Awards	Recipient
National Disaster Deployment Award	Linda Barefoot
	Rex Barefoot
	Mary Anne Hampton

	Teddy Hampton
	Susan Jackson
	Shey Knight
	Anne Laband
	Amanda Nelson
	Betty Orrick
	Jennifer Ryan
	Addalinda Davis-Safavi
	Bill Wood
Lines of Service Awards	Services to Armed Forces: Eddie Hamby
	Disaster Services: Anne Laband
	Disaster Action Team: Sue Bankston
Health and Safety	Shirley Ward/ Lee County Youth Development Center
Project Share	Adrienne Jones
Blood Services and Biomedical	Club Red Youth Group
Auburn University Red Cross Campus Club	Natalie Edwards
Rookie Volunteer of the Year	Gayatri Nayak
Community Partner Awards	Alabama Cooperative Extension System
	Alabama Department of Public Health
	The Auburn Network
	East Alabama Medical Center
	Lee County Emergency Management Agency
	Home Depot
	Opelika - Auburn News
	The Rental Center
	Resource MFG
	Sam's Club of Auburn
	Southern Union State Community College
	Tigertown Veterinary Hospital
	United Way of Lee County
2008 Heroes	Sheriff Jay Jones, Chair Awards are given to all participating in the Heroes Program (see full list below)
Outstanding Fundraiser	Chris Hines
Board Member of the Year	Margaret Fitch-Hauser
Volunteer of the Year	John Penick

### **2008 Heroes, Sheriff Jay Jones, Campaign Chair**

Aleem Ahmed	Red Cross Club Red Youth Group
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Auburn University Campus Club	
John Bodiford	Qantum Communications
Richard Byerly	East Alabama Medical Center
Kohlier & Beth Collier	Community Friends
John Cunningham	Big Swamp Harley Davidson
Cade Farris	First Baptist Church of Opelika
Dr. Margaret Fitch-Hauser	Auburn University & Red Cross Board Member
Charles Gaulding	Community Friend
Rex Griffin	Community Friend & Red Cross Board Member
Jim Hadaway	Fun Carts of Opelika
Brian Henderson	Wal-Mart Distribution Center

Blake Henry	BancorpSouth & Red Cross Board Member
Chris Hines	Auburn Network, Inc. & Red Cross Board Member
Bill Hutto	Auburn-Opelika Robert G. Pitts Airport
Robbie Alexander Hyde	Webb & Eley, PC & Red Cross Board Member
Doug Ingle	Community Friend
DeDe Jackson	Four Seasons Federal Credit Union
Reverend Clifford Jones	Greater Peace Baptist Church
Jerry Katz	Marketron Broadcast Solutions
Scott Key	Community Friend
Terri Knight	The Village Mall
Johnny Lawrence	J. Lawrence Photography & Red Cross Board Member
Jackie Lewis	Sign World
Titus Lindsey	Alabama Power
Denson Lipscomb	Community Friend & Red Cross Board Member
Dr. Brad Litkenhous	Auburn Dental Associates
Dianne Lowe	Hilton Garden Inn
Terrie McConnell	Hilton Garden Inn & Red Cross Board Member
Sid Mickle	California Innovations
Gayatri Nayak & Hazma Ahmed	Community Friend
Richard & Mary Patton	Eighth & Rail
John Pawlak	Dixie Home Crafters
John Penick	Community Friend & Red Cross Board Member
Bill Perry	First National Bank of Lee County
Oline Price	Revenue Commissioner, Lee County
Jim Rainey	Opelika-Auburn News & Red Cross Board Member
John & Michelle Reed	Community Friends
Randy Simpson	The Rental Center
Robert & Pam Smith	Flip Flop Foto
JB Stokley	Community Friend
David Strobel	Shannon, Strobel & Weaver
Danny Tankersley	Wide Orbit & Red Cross Board Member
Jerry Teel	City of Opelika
Paula Thigpen	Kroger of TigerTown
Don Turner	Community Friend
Laura Turner	Tiger Communications
Steve Wamick	Adams Beverages
Barry Whatley	Craftmaster Printers, Inc.
Marty Williams	Machen, McChesney & Chastain
Donna Young	Behind the Glass

The Lee County Red Cross appreciates all of our volunteers and supporters. These awards barely scratch the surface in recognizing all of the contributions made by our citizens. For more information on Red Cross services and events, please visit [www.leeredcross.org](http://www.leeredcross.org) or call the Lee County Red Cross at (334)749-9981.

### **About The American Red Cross**

*The American Red Cross helps people prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies. Last year, almost a million volunteers and 35,000 employees helped victims of almost 75,000 disasters; taught lifesaving skills to millions; and helped U.S. service members separated from their families stay connected. Almost 4 million people gave blood through the Red Cross, the largest supplier of blood and blood products in the United States. The American Red Cross is part of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. An average of 91 cents of every dollar the Red Cross spends is invested in humanitarian services and programs. The Red Cross is not a government agency; it relies on donations of time, money, and blood to do its work.*

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