



Together, we can save a life

Lee County Chapter
206 26th St.
Opelika, AL 36801
www.leeredcross.org

News Release

Contact: Jennifer Ryan
Phone: (334)749-9981
Cell: 334-744-1965
Fax: (334)749-8299

For Immediate Release

Email: jryan@leeredcross.org

DONT MISS THE 7TH ANNUAL HEROES TAKE FLIGHT FLY-IN *Saturday, May 15 at the Auburn University Regional Airport*

April 20, 2010 - Opelika, AL – The countdown to the 7th Annual Heroes Take Flight Fly-In has begun. The event will take place Saturday, May 15, Armed Forces Day, from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at The Auburn University Regional Airport. The fly-in offers fun and activities for the whole family. This year the fly-in will feature a special guest, Astronaut Jim Voss. Retired Major General Ted Mallory of the Air National Guard is serving as the Chairman for the 2010 Fly-In.

The fly-in always proves to be one of the most unique and exciting events in East Alabama. Tickets are \$5 in advance or \$8 at the gate. Children 10 and younger are just \$2. Advance tickets are available through Friday, May 14 at Auburn and Opelika Kroger locations; Auburn University Regional Airport, Auburn Chamber of Commerce, Village Mall; Flip Flop Foto; The Opelika-Auburn News; and the Lee County Red Cross office or online at www.leeredcross.org. All proceeds benefit our local Lee County Red Cross.

The American Red Cross operates under a Congressional Charter to provide Armed Forces Emergency Services and disaster services to the American people. “Red Cross workers live and die with our military personnel in times of war and peace and know first hand the sacrifices they make to keep our country free”, said Jennifer Ryan, Executive Director of the Lee County Red Cross. “This fly-in is about enjoying and learning about all types of aircraft, honoring our military and veterans and making sure our local Red Cross has the funds it needs to continue serving the residents of Lee County”, Ryan said.

“We invite aviation enthusiasts of every age and interest to come out and enjoy the events and activities at the fly-in,” said Beth Witten, Development Officer for the Lee County Red Cross. “We have a terrific line up of aircraft scheduled from Warbirds to experimental planes and active military vehicles,” Witten added.

“There’s really something for everyone at the fly-in,” said Airport Director Bill Hutto. “It’s an event in which the entire family can participate and enjoy.” Ongoing entertainment will be offered during the fly-in this year including music by Master of Ceremonies and local pilot John Bodiford from Quantum Communications, parachutist Buddy Blue from Skydive Opelika, a children’s area with face painting, ponies and inflatables from Party Depot, and more. Local police, fire and EMS will have vehicles on display, military vehicles will be on display and K-9 units will give demonstrations. The Army Aviation Heritage Foundation will also be on hand offering helicopter rides for an additional fee. Special commemorative t-shirts and event programs will be for sale along with military memorabilia and Red Cross merchandise.

Lee County Red Cross Health and Community Services Manager Leigh Warren emphasizes the commitment and involvement of fly-ins volunteers and sponsors. “None of this would be possible without our dedicated volunteers and sponsors,” she said. “There is no way we could put on an event the size and scope of fly-in without their time, talent and enthusiasm. We appreciate all of their contributions, which play a part in our chapter’s ongoing success and ability to serve our community.”

Parking has been arranged at Lakeview Baptist Church, Winn Dixie and the former Bruno’s location on the corner of University and Glenn in Auburn. LETA shuttles will run continuously during the event to ride patrons to and from the parking areas and the airport. **For safety reasons, no pets will be allowed.** Political and religious solicitations and outside coolers and alcohol and weapons are also prohibited.

Volunteers and sponsors are still needed for the Heroes Take Flight Fly-in. For more information call (334)749-9981 or visit www.leeredcross.org.

The American Red Cross, Lee County Chapter provides disaster education and 24 hour a day response, services to the armed forces, health and safety education, blood collection and supply and utility assistance for elderly and disabled citizens. We are not a governmental agency. We are a non-profit 501(c) 3 agency that proudly partners with the United Way of Lee County to serve the residents of our county.

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