



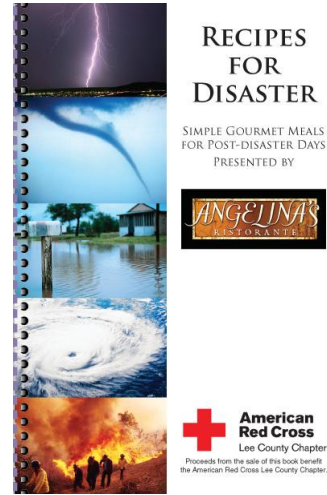
Hometown Heroes

Hometown Heroes Campaign will highlight community partners "Recipes for Disaster" available for purchase

Thursday, February 25, 2010 – In celebration of Red Cross month, the American Red Cross of Lee County will collaborate with local individuals and businesses throughout the month of March to help raise awareness and funds to support local programs and services.

Heroes for the American Red Cross is a grassroots campaign in which local business people, school groups, church groups, civic clubs, and individuals pledge to raise \$1,000, through any legal means they choose, for the Lee County chapter.

One example of a 2010 Red Cross Hometown Hero is Angelina's Ristorante (239-390-3187). Working with the Red Cross, Angelina's created the "Recipes for Disaster" cookbook. This handbook is filled with gourmet recipes that can be assembled using unrefrigerated items such as canned goods and spices. The second half of the book contains helpful preparedness information to help families be Red Cross Ready in case of a disaster. **The cookbook is for sale at the Lee County Red Cross for \$10, with proceeds going to the local chapter (239-278-3401).**



For generations, American Red Cross Heroes have served our communities. In order for the Red Cross to meet our commitments to our communities now and in the future, we need citizens willing to be a Hero for the American Red Cross.

The Lee County community has been generous in its support for the Haitian relief effort. Still, these funds do not help support the programs and services carried out each year by the staff and volunteers of the Lee County Chapter. If you are interested in becoming a Hero for the Lee County Red Cross this March, please call the chapter at 239-278-3401 for more information.

The American Red Cross does not receive any government funding although we are mandated by congress to provide disaster relief and military support. Approximately 91 cents of every dollar goes back to our programs and services and is spent locally. The Lee County Red Cross receives support from United Way, but depends mostly on monetary donations from Lee County residents including planned gifts.

The Red Cross is dedicated to helping make families and communities safer at home and around the world. It provides training in life-saving skills and mobilizes relief to victims of disasters in addition to assisting members of the U.S. Armed Forces and their families. For additional information about the Red Cross and the assistance it provides, making donations, registering for a class or volunteering, call 278-3401, or log on to arclcc.org. The American Red Cross of Lee County is a proud member of the United Way of Lee County.

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