



Eastern Massachusetts Region
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Media ALERT

Mary Ellen McCarthy of Bourne Named 2010 American Red Cross Community Impact Hero

Hyannis, Mass, February 23, 2011 –The American Red Cross Cape Cod and Islands Chapter is pleased to announce that Mary Ellen McCarthy of Bourne has been named a Community Impact hero and will be honored at the 9th Annual Heroes Breakfast at the Resort & Conference Center in Hyannis on March 31, 2011 from 7:00-9:00 am. Tickets are available on-line at www.cciredcross.org, by calling (508) 775-1540 ext. 21 or at American Red Cross, Cape Cod and Islands Chapter, 286 South Street, Hyannis, MA 02601.

Elyse Perry of East Falmouth nominated Mary Ellen for a number of reasons including her gracious hospitality and generosity in donating space at her restaurant, The Trowbridge Tavern and Ale House in Bourne, to the community. She asks nothing in return and offers to help in other ways when the need arises.

McCarthy is also a proud supporter of the armed forces. She has continually supported Cape Cod Cares for the Troops, holding raffles and opening her restaurant as year-round drop-off point for donations. For the past three years, McCarthy offered the space of her function facility the weekend before Thanksgiving so that several hundred packages may be assembled and shipped to our troops overseas.

While there is always a community group using her facility for meetings or a raffle ongoing for the Jimmy Fund, for which she's raised more than \$50,000, Mary Ellen identified yet another need in the community.

In 2010, the Trowbridge hosted the first "Bourne's Thanksgiving Table." The restaurant was open to those in need or those who didn't have a place to spend the holiday. McCarthy's staff also prepared and delivered Thanksgiving meals to those unable to make it to the restaurant. Food deliveries were also made at Christmas, including to two families with children whom McCarthy learned wouldn't be able to provide "Christmas" for their children this year. Without any fanfare, McCarthy and some key staff provided Christmas presents, trees and food to these grateful families.

For her spirit of generosity to the community, Mary Ellen McCarthy deserves to be honored as a 2010 Red Cross Community Impact Hero.

To find out more about the 9th Annual Red Cross Heroes Breakfast, Red Cross training schedules, volunteering for the Red Cross, for disaster preparedness information in English, Spanish or Portuguese, or to donate, please contact the American Red Cross, Cape Cod Islands Chapter, 286 South Street, Hyannis, MA 02601, call (508) 775-1540 or visit www.cciredcross.org

The Red Cross is not a government agency and does not receive federal or state funding. Local Chapters do receive some human resource support from the American Red Cross Headquarters, however, each Chapter is responsible for raising adequate funds to support all of its activities, including recruiting and training volunteers, and teaching life saving skills within its geographical coverage area. It relies on donations of time, money, and blood from the American public to successfully do its work.

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