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News Release



7th Annual Taste of Hudson Scheduled for this Labor Day Weekend

March 1, 2011 – Hudson, Ohio –The 7th Annual Taste of Hudson will be held once again this year, on Labor Day Weekend, Sunday, September 4 and Monday, September 5, 2011. The festival will present perennial Taste of Hudson favorites such as over 20 local restaurants offering delicious selections from their restaurant menus, a wide variety of live entertainment from seven stages, family and children exhibits and activities, dozens of exhibitors, a fine arts and crafts fair, a luxury automobile showcase and the very popular wine & beer garden. As one of the most popular and largest festivals in NE Ohio, Taste of Hudson takes place throughout the historic downtown district of Hudson, Ohio.

Akron Children's Hospital and Windstream Communications will once again be Co-presenting sponsors along with Co-promoting sponsors Laurel Lake Retirement Community and ACME Fresh Market. Andy Malitz, Executive Director of Taste of Hudson announced that "Taste of Hudson receives wonderful support from the regional business community and we are very grateful that these excellent institutions continue to partner with Taste of Hudson to present this great festival. The commitment of our sponsors reflects the success of The Taste, now established as a major regional attraction helping to prove that Hudson is indeed a destination location!" Additionally, Hudson based Little Tikes, Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft Stores, North End Restaurant and Wine Bar, Henning Software and First & Main shopping district return as sponsors of The Taste. These are in addition to sponsorship by the local offices of national companies PNC Bank, UBS, Pepsi and Anheuser Busch which will all continue to support The Taste as well. Malitz noted "We anticipate that most of last year's sponsors will return and we have created several other exciting sponsorship opportunities for companies and

organizations of any size for the 2011 festival. We customize sponsor/partner packages to meet the client's needs and to enhance the overall festival experience for the attendees."

"Taste of Hudson has become one of the finest community events in northeast Ohio, so far raising \$175,000 for a variety of local charities, including the festival's primary beneficiary, the Safe Kids Coalition of Summit County," Malitz said. "To support the festival's charity fundraising, The Taste of Hudson attracts over 35,000 people into our beautiful downtown area, showcasing the many fine shops and restaurants that Hudson has to offer. This festival does a lot to boost awareness of Hudson as a shopping and dining destination," Malitz said.

This year's Taste of Hudson is slated to be bigger than ever, according to Debra Sherman, Associate Director. "We anticipate hosting about 25 best-in-the-area restaurants and more than 100 entertainment acts on seven stages throughout the two-day festival. We are also expanding the wine and beer garden to meet attendee interests," she said.

All Hudson area restaurants and businesses are invited to participate in Taste of Hudson. "This is an excellent opportunity to showcase restaurants and businesses to thousands of people from not only Hudson and its surrounding communities but also from throughout the entire region and beyond." Malitz said. For more information on all Taste of Hudson activities and opportunities visit www.tasteofhudson.com.

6th Annual "Hail to the Chefs" Fundraising Gala scheduled for Friday, May 20, 2011

Taste of Hudson's preview fundraising party, "**Hail to the Chefs**", which features many of the chefs who will participate in Taste of Hudson, is also being planned and will be held on Friday, May 20, 2011, from 7:00 – 11:00 p.m., according to event chairwoman Carrie Gynn. "We encourage everyone to save the date on their calendars for this event," held this year at a new location, beautiful Lake Forest Country Club in Hudson. "This year will mark the 6th Annual "**Hail to the Chefs**" and each year the event has grown in attendance. Moving the event to Lake Forest Country Club will allow us the opportunity to expand the event to meet the ever increasing demand." In becoming one of the "must attend" social fundraisers of the year, "**Hail to the Chefs**" offers attendees great food selections from numerous cooking stations, fine wines and crafted beers, dancing to the music of Fabulous Voices, an amazing silent auction and presentation of the annual "Children at Heart" award. "**Hail to the Chefs**" ticket information is available at www.tasteofhudson.com

Taste of Hudson and Hail to the Chefs are events produced by Taste of Hudson, Inc. a non-profit corporation organized by volunteers within the community in order to promote the Hudson downtown restaurant and retail district and to showcase the Hudson community. Funds from the event support The Safe Kids Coalition of Summit County and several Hudson-based agencies and programs. For sponsor and exhibitor information contact Andy Malitz, Executive Director @ amalitz2@yahoo.com or Debra Sherman, Associate Director @ debra@debrasherman.com. For restaurant information contact Lisa Sands at lisa.a.sands@gmail.com. Artists, entertainers, advertisers and volunteer information is available at www.tasteofhudson.com.