



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Local restaurants serve up fun for Hospitality House

BOONE, NC (April 15, 2009) – Despite frigid, snowy weather conditions, community members came out in force to participate in the 2009 Celebrity Serve. Proceeds from this year’s event were awarded to Hospitality House Combined Campaign. The campaign has reached 77 percent of the \$3 million goal to build and operate a new shelter in the High Country.

An estimated \$35,000 was raised in restaurant revenues, tips, individual gifts and raffle ticket sales. The funds will be combined with money raised from the Hearts of Hospitality Valentine’s Ball for a total donation of \$75,000 to the campaign. These funds will be used to build the commercial kitchen in the new shelter.

Hearts of Hospitality, a group of volunteers, partnered with Celebrity Serve committee members to make the event a success. “We are grateful to the committee for choosing Hospitality House as the recipient of the funds from this year’s event,” said Ann Spinetto, Hospitality House board member. “Numerous restaurants, church groups and individuals in our community came together to make this event a success,” reports Spinetto. “We are excited to be able to contribute to the new shelter in this way.”

2009 participating restaurants included; Bandana’s, Beef “O” Brady’s, Bistro, Blimpies, Capone’s, Casa Rustica, Char, Chetola’s Manor House, Chick-fil-A, Gadabouts, Glidewell’s, Los Arcoiris, Makato’s, Mast Farm Inn, Mr. Original Gyro, Peddler, Pepper’s, Red Onion, Six Pence Pub, Sledgehammer Charlie’s, Storie Street Grille, Sunrise Grill, Troy’s 105 Diner, and Woodland’s BBQ. The Grandview Restaurant of Foscoe also sent in a contribution.

Area church leaders and members added to the success of Celebrity Serve by selling raffle tickets, volunteering as “celebrity” servers and filling restaurants with enthusiastic congregations. Participating churches included; Boone United Methodist, Deerfield United Methodist, Faithbridge United Methodist, First Baptist Blowing Rock, Grace Lutheran, Holy Cross Episcopal, High Country Church of Christ, Mt Calvary Baptist Banner Elk, Mt Vernon Baptist, Oak Grove Baptist, Perkinsville Baptist, Rumble Presbyterian, St Elizabeth’s Catholic, St Luke’s Episcopal, St Mary’s Episcopal, and the Unitarian Fellowship of Boone.

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Area businesses were incredibly generous, offering donations of over \$6,000 in products and services for the raffle. Five baskets were raffled along with a \$250 cash award. Hearts of Hospitality would also like to recognize the support from Kappa Delta sorority for their assistance with Celebrity Serve.

Hospitality House is a non-profit crisis intervention program that provides shelter and services to the homeless, operates the community soup kitchen and administers WeCAN - the local crisis assistance program. Hospitality House is a United Way agency.

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