



ROTARY CLUB OF STRONGSVILLE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Williams Ford to sponsor Chili Open Golf Classic

BEREA, Ohio – Williams Ford has signed on as a corporate sponsor for the 15th annual Chili Open Golf Classic. The event, hosted by the Rotary Club of Strongsville, with support of other area Rotary clubs, has contributed more than \$800,000 to local charities in the last 14 years.

This year's Chili Open will take place February 25, 2006 from 9 a.m to 4 p.m. at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds, in Berea.

"The Chili Open gives our club members the opportunity to participate with the other Rotary clubs to achieve a common goal - creating a substantial fundraiser for the selected charities," said Scott Hall, president of Williams Ford. "It's a fun event for the participants and it's also a very fun event for Rotarians in getting to put on the event."

The Chili Open Golf Classic has become a Northeast Ohio tradition. The event gives golfers a once-a year opportunity to play outdoor golf in February on three nine-hole courses with 65-yard fairways. Last year's event drew more than 700 golfers.

In addition to brisk February golf, the Chili Open offers a day of family fun. A heated clubhouse gives golfers a place to thaw out and enjoy all the food they can eat. Games, prizes, contests and a lot of fun are also part of the event. A live auction is conducted by local sports and media celebrities.

In addition to benefiting local charities, the Chili Open has raised almost \$100,000 for the Rotary International Foundation. The foundation sponsors such international programs as Polio Plus, a initiative that has nearly obliterated polio worldwide. The

foundation, created in 1917 by Cleavelander Arch C. Klumph, sponsors numerous humanitarian, educational and cultural programs.

Proceeds from the 2006 Chili Open will benefit the following local charities:

- Ronald McDonald House of NE Ohio
- Easter Seals
- Strongsville Youth Commission
- Guardian Ad Litem Project
- Arrupe Neighborhood Partnership
- HELP Foundation
- JD Breast Cancer Foundation
- The Singing Angels
- Ohio Boys Town
- Womankind
- Strongsville Historical Society

Major sponsors for this year's event include:

- B'laster
- Mimi Vanderhaven's Fabulous Buys
- WTAM 1100 a.m.
- Clear Channel Outdoor
- Today's Business Products
- AlphaGraphics
- Wendy's
- Sherwin Williams
- Southwest General Health Center
- Williams Ford
- Cleveland Clinic Strongsville Family Health Surgery Center/Cleveland Clinic Sports Health
- Gene Norris GMC Truck

A variety of corporate sponsorship opportunities are still available for the 2006 event. For information about sponsoring the 2006 Chili Open, contact Andy Motz, at 216-651-9917.

Chili Open is hosted by the Rotary Club of Strongsville with support from the Rotary Clubs of Lakewood/Rocky River and Middleburg Heights.

Rotary is an international organization of business and professional people who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations and strive to build goodwill and peace in the world.

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