



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

M's Gathering Place Partners with Forgotten Harvest to Feed the Hungry

OAK PARK, Mich. – November 16, 2010: On Friday, November 19th, from 5 pm to 2 am, Mary's Farm Market and M's Gathering Place, in support of Forgotten Harvest, will hold its first fundraiser of the 2010 fall and winter season. Located at 32293 Ford Road, in Garden City, Michigan, M's Gathering Place will host a fundraising event complete with food, music, a silent auction and lots of surprises, all in an effort to raise awareness and money for Forgotten Harvest.

Metro Detroit organizations who have agreed to pitch-in for this fantastic event thus far, include John Mason of MasonRadio, 93.1 Doug FM, DJ TNT who will be donating his time from 6 – 9 pm, followed immediately by Big Will and the 360-degree band, also donating their musical talent from 9 -1:30 am.

"It is too easy, through agriculture, to prevent people from going to bed hungry. There is absolutely no reason for it and we intend to do our part," says Mary Hauk, Owner of M's Gathering Place, Mary's Farm Market & Farm.

According to Forgotten Harvest, 4 million households in Michigan live at risk of hunger. Those living in poverty increased from 500,000 to 663,000 in just the last year. Furthermore, studies estimate a 300 million pound food gap for those living at or below poverty level in the Metro Detroit area.

"One billion pounds of food are wasted in metro Detroit each year, and 96 billion pounds of food are wasted every year in the United States. If we were able to rescue just 5 percent of that food, no one would ever have to go hungry again. Hunger is a solvable problem, and Forgotten Harvest is the critical link that denies landfills our good food," said Susan Goodell, president and CEO of Forgotten Harvest.

For this fundraising event, sponsors who have come to the table thus far will match every dollar donated with fifty cents. "We are challenging businesses in the Metro Detroit area to take up a collection of \$1, \$20, \$100, whatever individuals can afford, to support this worthy cause!"

Forgotten Harvest "rescued" 19.4 million pounds of food last year by collecting surplus prepared and perishable food from 455 sources, including grocery stores, fruit and vegetable markets, restaurants, caterers, dairies, farmers, wholesale food distributors and other Health Department-approved sources. This donated food, which would otherwise go to waste, is delivered free-of-charge to 158 emergency food providers in the Metro Detroit area.

Owner Mary Hauk is committed to this event and believes, "It is incredible to see the large number of seniors who cannot afford to buy the basic dietary items like fruits and vegetables after buying their medication. Our seniors are literally starving in silence."

To get involved, contact: M's Gathering Place at (734) 422-9320 or send in a sponsorship pledge via email by logging onto the website: www.msgatheringplace.com and clicking the 'Contact Us' tab.

About Forgotten Harvest

Forgotten Harvest was formed in 1990 to fight two problems: hunger and waste. Forgotten Harvest “rescued” 19.4 million pounds of food last year by collecting surplus prepared and perishable food from 455 sources, including grocery stores, fruit and vegetable markets, restaurants, caterers, dairies, farmers, wholesale food distributors and other Health Department-approved sources. This donated food, which would otherwise go to waste, is delivered free-of-charge to 158 emergency food providers in the metro Detroit area.

Learn more about Forgotten Harvest and how to help drive hunger from our community at www.forgottenharvest.org.

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