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## **Tasteful Evening Benefits Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeastern Wisconsin**

**GREEN BAY, Wis.** – Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeastern Wisconsin held its 17th annual Taste of the Town event at the Radisson Hotel on Friday, November 6th, 2009. The event raised over \$77,000 for the agency. This year over 550 people gathered to sample delicious dishes prepared by the area's finest caterers and served by local celebrities.

The excitement of the crowd began during the sold out PREMIER Chef Showdown event sponsored by American Foods Group. Guests sipped on wine, while Larry London from Big Tomatoes went head to head in a cook off competition against Abby Steffen from Republic Chophouse. Each chef was given 45 minutes to prepare a delicious dish from a secret ingredient that was revealed just before the cook off began. The audience sampled each chef's dish, while serving as judges by voting for their favorite. This year's secret ingredient was Brazilian Flank Steak. Larry London took the title for the fourth year in a row.

Following the excitement of the Chef Showdown, the main event started as guests had the opportunity to taste food from a variety of the area's finest caterers and restaurants. Local celebrities including Packers Players Daryn Colledge and Ryan Pickett, Murphy in the Morning, Average Joe and Katie, WFRV Channel 5's Tammy Elliott, along with others served the food.

Winners were chosen by judges in each category as the Best of the Town. Those who won the Best of the Town last year were invited to come back as judges for this year's event. The winners for the Best of the Town were as follows:

### **Best of the Town Appetizer:**

- o Savory Artichoke Dip
- o Prepared by a'Bravo Bistro & Wine Bar, Inc.
- o Celebrity Chefs: John Maino & Nick Vitrano

### **Best of the Town Soup, Salad or Side:**

- o UPTOWN Mac & Cheese
- o Prepared by Chefusion
- o Celebrity Chefs: Larry & Debbie Frazier and Tom & Lisa Botsford

### **Best of the Town Entrée:**

- o Jalapeno Lime Turkey Wings
- o Prepared by Radisson
- o Celebrity Chefs: Wayne & Anita Resch and Pam & Chad Schneider

**Best of the Town Dessert:**

- o Chocolate Fountain
- o Food for Chocolate Fountain dsponsored by Festival Foods
- o Celebrity Chefs: Sheri & Marc Prosser

**Best of the Town Decorated Booth:**

Celebrity Chefs Mike & Rocky Calawerts and Pete & Karen Knox – Roman themed with Mike and Pete dressing up as Roman statues. The booth showcased the Roasted Red Pepper Bisque prepared by Marco's.

**Best of the Town People's Choice: (voted on by the audience)**

- o Tomato Bisque
- o Prepared by Plae Bistro
- o Celebrity Chefs: Tammy Elliott & Glen

This year's sponsors included Executive Chef Sponsor: Oneida Nation, Sous Chef Sponsor: Ameriprise Auto & Home Insurance, Chef Showdown Sponsor: American Foods Group, and media sponsors: WFRV TV Channel 5 and WIXX 101.

Over the years, hundreds of children have benefited from proceeds generated from Taste of the Town. Currently the agency serves over 500 children by providing mentors to children in need. Proceeds from the event will go to supporting existing matches along with increasing the number of children served in the area.

***Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeastern Wisconsin*** is the premier youth mentoring organization in the area, serving Brown, Oconto and Door counties. A donor and volunteer organization, the agency's mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of youth through professionally supported mentoring relationships; and has proven to improve children's odds for succeeding in school, behaving nonviolently, avoiding drugs and alcohol, and breaking negative cycles. Since 1972, this non-profit organization has expertly matched children between the ages of 6 and 13 with volunteer Big Brothers and Big Sisters. For more information, visit [www.bbbsnew.org](http://www.bbbsnew.org).