



NEWS RELEASE

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For additional information, contact: Duane Carey

410-312-0081 email: duane@milkyourmarketing.com

Melting Pot Restaurant Announces Fundraiser for St. Jude's

Columbia, MD: The Melting Pot restaurant in Columbia has raised more than \$10,000 each of the last three years for the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital to help fight childhood cancer. The restaurant owners hope to match that feat again with a fundraiser on Thursday, August 30, 2007. The public is invited to attend and sample each of the Melting Pot's dishes - from cheeses, to entrees such as chicken, shrimp, tuna, filet mignon, and chocolates - all prepared fondue style. The cost is \$35 per person for adults and \$15 for children under 18. Cocktails are included. All proceeds will be donated to St. Jude's.

Nationwide, Melting Pot restaurants have donated more than \$2,000,000 to St. Jude's to date. During each of its three years in business, the Columbia franchise has been one of the top fundraisers in the country, and its servers have been flown to the Memphis headquarters of St. Jude's each year in recognition of their achievement. This year's fundraiser is even more impressive, because even the servers and support staff are donating their earnings from the evening. "We always donate 100% of the revenue for the evening and then pay the staff out of our pockets, but this year they came to me and volunteered to donate their earnings as well. It's really touching when you think that some of these kids only work a couple nights per week, so that's half their weekly salary", beamed Dana Snyder, owner of the restaurant.

"The Melting Pot has provided us a wonderful opportunity to increase the awareness of childhood cancer and the research being performed at St. Jude," said Dave McKee, COO of ALSAC/St. Jude, the fundraising arm of the hospital. "We deeply appreciate the dedication of everyone involved in our mission of finding a cure and saving the lives of children."

The event is from 5 pm to 9 pm and food will be served buffet style, giving patrons the opportunity to try many different items throughout the night. Patrons can come and go at their leisure, but reservations are recommended. "This is a great opportunity for people to stop in for an hour and try our food at a discount, knowing that they are supporting a very worthy cause", commented Snyder. The Melting Pot is in the Wilde Lake Village Center at 10451 Twin Rivers Rd in Columbia. For reservations, call (410) Melting Pot.

About St. Jude's

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, in Memphis, Tennessee, was founded by the late entertainer Danny Thomas. The hospital is an internationally recognized biomedical research center dedicated to finding cures for catastrophic diseases of childhood. The hospital's work is supported through funds raised by ALSAC, the fundraising arm of St. Jude. ALSAC covers all costs not covered by insurance for medical treatment rendered at St. Jude Children's Research

Hospital. Families without insurance are never asked to pay. For more information, please visit us on the Web at www.stjude.org.

About the Melting Pot

The Melting Pot provides a unique, upscale and intimate dining experience with its assortment of fondue cooked at the table by the guests. It is the perfect location for a romantic evening, corporate dinner party or friendly gathering. Guests enjoy a choice of four flavorful fondue-cooking styles and a variety of tasty entrees combined with special dipping sauces. The menu also includes creamy cheese fondues, fresh salads, fine wines and mouthwatering chocolate fondue desserts.

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