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**HOMETOWN BANK'S TASTE OF FOND DU LAC
IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER**

(2/14/08) Come hungry to Hometown Bank's Taste of Fond du Lac! As the time frame for the event continues to close in, three more restaurants have thrown in their lot and joined the list of nearly 30 other participants. Rocky Rococo Pizza & Pasta and Moraine Park Technical College Culinary Arts will be attending this year's event. They will be joined by newcomer It's About Thyme to deliver delicious treats to Hometown Bank's Taste of Fond du Lac attendees.

The event, which will take place from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 24 at the Fond du Lac Fairgrounds Expo Building, has been a growing staple in the surrounding community.

If it's a taste of Italy that you are craving, you will be happy to hear that Rocky Rococo Pizza & Pasta, located at 774 W. Johnson St., will be returning to serve up its version of Cheese Slice Pizza, Sausage Slice Pizza and tasty Breadsticks.

Tim Schoeder of Rocky Rococo said that he is most looking forward “To seeing all the people, the regular customers, as well as meeting new customers, and being able to show off our cooking talents.”

Moraine Park Technical College Culinary Arts, 235 N. National Ave., will also be returning to the event to show off its students’ cooking ability with an appetizing Soup with Fresh Bread. They will also top off the evening with a Cream Puff and Chocolate Torte dessert.

“It provides the opportunity for our students to showcase their talents and interact with the community,” said James Simmers of the MPTC Culinary Arts program. “Also, this event helps to raise funds to be able to send more students to Chicago and Germany; many of these students have never had the opportunity to travel,” Simmers continued.

Students at MPTC are also excited for the upcoming event. Tiffany Elliott, a student in MPTC’s culinary arts program, says that she is most looking forward to “Showing off a little bit (wink), the public gets to view and taste our accomplishments!”

Guests will be thrilled to hear that newcomer It’s About Thyme, a personal chef service located at 130 E. 11th St., will be serving up Mom’s Macaroni & Cheese along with “Make a Friend” Chocolate Chip Cookies.

“I chose to join the event this year after receiving encouragement from one of the other participants, and from my friends and family. I think that this will be a wonderful opportunity for me to promote my business because it is unique to the area,” said Sue Elms, owner of It’s About Thyme. “I am looking forward to seeing people from the community that I have lived and worked with for many years,” she continued.

These are just a few of the local restaurants that will be bringing a host of appetizers, entrées and desserts to this fun filled event. Along with all the delicious reasons to attend, Hometown Bank's Taste of Fond du Lac will also feature live music and a silent auction.

Advance admission tickets are \$1.50 and are available at all Hometown Bank locations, Wegner's Office Supply, and the Fond du Lac Area Convention and Visitor's Bureau. Tickets can also be purchased for \$2 at the door and children five and under are admitted for free. Food tickets are only \$.50 each. For more information, visit www.fdlfest.com.

Hometown Bank's Taste of Fond du Lac is sponsored by Hometown Bank, Charter Communications, Hopper's Silk Screening and All Star Trophy, 312 Urban Wheat Ale, WFRV CBS 5, Pepsi Americas, News-Talk AM 1450 KFIZ, K107.1 FM and The Reporter.

Fond du Lac Festivals, Inc. is a non-profit organization founded in 1983 with a mission to direct, promote, and support festivals and special events that showcase the Fond du Lac community. The organization, with a great deal of help and support from the community, is responsible for Walleye Weekend, Light Up the City, and Hometown Bank's Taste of Fond du Lac. These events benefit more than 100 local non-profit organizations.