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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 3, 2014

THE 16TH ANNUAL CHOWDERFEST BROKE ALL THE RECORDS!

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. – The 16th annual Saratoga Chowderfest (part of the 17th annual Winterfest Week) set records for attendance, cups of chowder served bringing in new Bureau members and first-time Chowderfest contestants.

The Saratoga Convention and Tourism Bureau's 2014 Chowderfest results:

- **86 outlets (up from 74 last year)** including **8** new Convention Bureau members: Augie's Family Style Restaurant, Fin- your fishmonger, Kilwins/Around the Corner Café, Park Side Eatery, Piper Boutique, Publik House, Saratoga Farmers' Market and Sweet Mimi's Café & Bakery
- **19** First-time Chowderfest contestants including:

Augie's Family Style Restaurant, Caroline Street Pub, Fin-your fishmonger, Hungry Spot Café, Javier's Nuevo Latino Cuisine, Kilwins/Around the Corner Café, Merry Monk, Saratoga, Milton Manor Pet Spa and Resort, Nanola, Park Side Eatery, Piper Boutique, Publik House, Saratoga 5 Points Market & Deli, Saratoga Farmers' Market, Shmaltz Brewing Company, Sweet Mimi's Café & Bakery, The Brook Tavern, The Crown Grill and Thirsty Owl Bistro

- 130,000 bowls of chowder served (up from 115,000 last year)
- 30,000 people on the streets (up from 20,000+ last year)
- Discounted hotel specials were available for the weekend
- Long sleeved t-shirts are available at the Convention Bureau's office
- New this year: The Chowderfest Hat Contest

Chowderfest 2014 Winners:

The winners-by vote of the chowder consumers themselves

- Dog Chow Down Milton Manor Pet Spa & Resort
- Best On Broadway Stadium Cafe
- Best Off Broadway Olde Bryan Inn
- Best Non-Downtown Panza's Restaurant
- Best Newcomer Thirsty Owl
- Most Chowder Served Druthers
- People's Choice Merry Monk

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• Best Chowder-Themed Dessert — Bettie's Cakes

For photos and video from Chowderfest 2014, please visit our Facebook fan page: <u>www.facebook.com/saratogachowderfest</u>

Thank you to all our sponsors! Chowderfest is presented by KeyBank and made possible by the Saratoga Convention & Tourism Bureau and Amtrak, Adirondack Trust Company, Bonacio Construction Inc., Capital Region Living Magazine, Clipper Magazine, Saratoga Springs City Center, DeCrescente Distributing Company and Miller Lite, Fingerpaint Marketing, Fly 92, Nemer (Jeep, Chrysler, Dodge, Ram) Northshire Bookstore, Plan Ahead Events, Price Chopper, Prime at Saratoga National Golf Club, Saratoga.com, Saratoga Living Magazine, Saratoga TODAY Newspaper, The Saratogian, Stewart's Shops, 101.3 The Jockey, Townsquare Media, The Wesley Community and Westminster Cracker Company.

SAVE THE DATE: 17th Anniversary of Chowderfest is Saturday, January 31, 2015!

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The mission of the Saratoga Convention and Tourism Bureau is to market and promote Saratoga Springs and Saratoga County as a world-class destination for meetings, conventions and special events. For information on how to schedule or plan a meeting, conference, convention, wedding, sports tournament of special event in Saratoga, visit the Saratoga Convention and Tourism Bureau's website at <u>www.discoversaratoga.org</u>.