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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## SARATOGA'S 2013 CHOWDERFEST RESULTS

**SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y.** - The 15<sup>th</sup> annual Saratoga Chowderfest (part of the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Winter Weekend) 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 Chowderfest results:

- **73 outlets** including 6 new Bureau members: Bullpen, Bon Ton Fish Market, Moby Rick's Seafood, Starting Gate Bar & Grill, Thirteen and Total Tann.
- First-time Chowderfest contestants: American Red Cross, Boca Bistro, Bon Ton Fish Market, Celtic Treasures, Chez Pierre, Comfort Kitchen, Druthers Brewing Company, Henry Street Taproom, Izumi Asian Bistro & Lounge, Moby Rick's Seafood, Nove Italian Restaurant, PJ's BAR-B-QSA, Putnam Market, Starting Gate Bar & Grill, Uno Chicago Grill
- 115,000 bowls of chowder served
- 20,000+ people on the streets
- Large crowd for the Dog Chow Down contest between Dawgdom, Impressions of Saratoga and Sloppy Kisses. Celebrity judge, Chase...Mayor Johnson's pooch, chose the winner of the Chow Down, Impressions of Saratoga
- Long sleeved t-shirts are available at the Convention Bureau's office and Impressions of Saratoga store
- Official Chowderfest Chugs are available at participating retailers

## **Chowderfest 2013 Winners:**

The winners-by vote of the chowder consumers themselves

- Dog Chow Down Impressions of Saratoga
- Best On Broadway Druthers Brewing Company
- Best Off Broadway Seven Horse Pub
- Best Non-Downtown Longfellows Restaurant
- Best Newcomer Druthers Brewing Company
- Most Chowder Served The Parting Glass
- People's Choice Seven Horse Pub
- Best Chowder-Themed Dessert Ben & Jerry's of Saratoga
- New Category this year: People's Choice Under 1,000 Bowls Served The Local Pub & Teahouse

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Todd Garofano, President of the Saratoga Convention & Tourism Bureau, explains, "The turnout for this year's Chowderfest was amazing. To have over 20,000 people pack the streets of Saratoga on a cold and sometimes snowy February day is a testament to how this event has grown, to the chef's that get so creative and competitive with their chowder's and to all of the business owners and community members that volunteer and participate. We could not be more pleased and are already looking forward to next year's chowderfest on Feb. 2, 2014!"

**Thank you to all our sponsors!** Chowderfest is presented by KeyBank and made possible by the Saratoga Convention & Tourism Bureau and Adirondack Trust Company, Bonacio Contruction Inc., Clipper Magazine, Saratoga Springs City Center, D.A. Collins Company, DeCrescente Distributing Company, Fly 92, Local Living In, Plan Ahead Events, Price Chopper, Prime at Saratoga National Golf Club, Saratoga.com, Saratoga Living Magazine, Saratoga Bank & Trust Company, Saratoga TODAY Newspaper, The Saratogian, Star 101.3, Stewarts Shops, Townsquare Media (WGNA), US Foods, The Wesley Community and Westminster Cracker Company.

**SAVE THE DATE:** 16<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Chowderfest is Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014!

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The Saratoga Convention and Tourism Bureau bring meetings and special events to Saratoga. For information on how to schedule or plan a meeting, conference or convention in Saratoga, visit the Saratoga Convention and Tourism Bureau's website at <u>www.discoversaratoga.org</u>.