

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 12, 2006

*For more information contact:
Milton L. Dare, FACHE, Executive Director
St. Joseph Foundation
(979) 774-4087*

Brazos Bash IX-Cowboys & Mushrooms...Texas Grown!

Friends, fans, and volunteers with St. Joseph Foundation are preparing a boot scootin, toe tappin' good time for all as **Brazos Bash IX, Celebrates Cowboys & Mushrooms, Texas Grown** premiers on Saturday, October 21, 2006. Traveling the short distance to Madisonville, Texas, *Windy Hill Ranch* will provide that special setting for the event. In a two-steppin', toe-tapping, grand Texas style, **Brazos Bash VIII** will raise funds and friends for Madison St. Joseph Health Center and St. Joseph Regional Health Center.

This year, we are celebrating in the Mushroom Capital of Texas, Madisonville, and have partnered with the Texas Mushroom Festival (which is an "annual" community event) and you can join in for a full weekend of activities.....from a gourmet dinner, shopping on the square in Downtown Madisonville....**to dancing Saturday night away at the *Brazos Bash!***

Headline Entertainment for this year's event will be Texas born, and Country Music Hall of Famer.....one of America's true "National Treasures".....**Ray Price.**

This Grammy award winning and "Living Legend," is one of American music's truly great stars. After more than a half-century in the business, Ray can still belt out a song with the best of them, whether it's honky-tonk, country, pop, blues, jazz, or anything in between. His timeless music, incredible voice, and innovative genius have yet to be equaled by any other singer in today's country-music world. Get prepared for the thrill of a lifetime!

Opening Acts include **Julia Kay Laskowski** who will perform her rendition of *Always.....Patsy...Patsy Cline that is!* Be prepared to be truly enchanted as her vocal melodies take you back and she will dazzle you with her high standard of artistry. Laskowski will rattle off some of Cline favorites, such as "Crazy," "I Fall to Pieces," "Sweet Dreams," and "Faded Love." You will not want to take your eyes off this Patsy!

For the true musician, music is a part of their soul. It is in their blood, in their heart, and always on their minds. **Chris Austin Martinez** is an "an acoustic master" on the guitar. Critics and reviews say..."he's the real deal; he can play anything; he's a human jukebox!" Chris has recorded four CD's to date and has entertained for such events as small intimate weddings to some of our states largest festivals.

Local Madisonville favorites **Texas Hold 'Em** will provide a home-grown entertainment experience, get your toes tappin' with band members originating from Huntsville, Lovelady, Weldon, Midway and Madisonville.

Proceeds from the 2006 event will support our health care facilities at Madison St. Joseph Health Center in Madisonville and our regional referral center in Bryan, St. Joseph Regional Health Center. As a not-for-profit institution guided by the core values of **Reverence, Service, and Stewardship**, St. Joseph Health System provides a lifeline for 350,000 Brazos Valley residents. Documented charity and uncompensated care totaled more than \$60 million in 2005 alone.

A community planning committee is responsible for helping create this special evening and include Honorary Chairpersons: Ernest & Amy Cannon, Nancy Heath Cole, Mildred Crane, Roger & Dawn Knight, Tom & Caroline McDonald, and Dave & Jan Ward; as well as General Chairpersons: W. C. & Candy Bennett, Jeb & Becky Blair,

John & Toni Hardy, W. R. & Kay Hensarling, Dr. Grover & Janet Hubley, and Sam & Nita Rizzo.

The dedication and commitment of volunteers like these and countless others have created a Bash tradition of support for healthcare in the Brazos Valley and the healing ministry of St. Joseph Health System. Previous events have raised almost \$875,000 and assisted in the expansion of regional cardiac services, expanded cancer treatment services at St. Joseph Regional Cancer Center, development of an Aquatherapy Center at St. Joseph Rehabilitation Center, expanded emergency care at all facilities within the organization and assisted with support of our long term care facilities in Bryan and Caldwell.

Major sponsor tables for ten are available at \$1,500, \$2,500, \$5,000 or \$10,000 with preferred, reserved seating...or invite a group of 10 friends to purchase individual tickets at \$100 each. As Brazos Bash IX promises to be one of the largest events ever, we encourage you to make early reservations as we anticipate a "SELL-OUT" crowd.

VIP guests (tickets of \$250 or more) will be invited to a special advance reception where a GRAND DOOR PRIZE, donated by David Gardner's Jewelers/David & Julia Gardner. This unique door prize features your choice of a selection of David Yurman jewelry valued at \$1,000. You must be present to win!

Watch for more information about this very special event! PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS for SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2006. Please call the St. Joseph Foundation office at (979) 774-4087 or check out our web site at www.brazosbash.org for more information.