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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**AMERICA'S TOP 10 PASTRY CHEFS HONORED BY
CHOCOLATIER & PASTRY ART AND DESIGN MAGAZINES AT
BENEFIT FOR AMERICAN RED CROSS**

***11th Honorary Humanitarian Chef(s) Also To Be Recognized --
Six "High-Risk" Area Teens Also Lauded For Baking for Tsunami Relief***

New York, New York, May 2, 2005 – A dessert-lovers extravaganza will benefit the American Red Cross of Westchester County and the American Red Cross in Greater New York in honor of America's Top Ten Pastry Chefs as selected by *Chocolatier* and *Pastry Art and Design* Magazines.

"The Academy Awards of Dessert," the event will be held on Monday, May 16 from 5:30 – 9 p.m. at Wallace Hall, St. Ignatius Loyola Church, 980 Park Avenue at 84th Street. Tickets cost \$125 per person. For reservations and more information call (914) 946 6500 x503, or go online to westchestercounty.redcross.org.

"We are particularly excited this year to be working with such a wonderful charity as the American Red Cross, which will receive the net proceeds from ticket sales and a silent auction," said Libby Hall, Associate Publisher of both *Chocolatier* and *Pastry Art and Design* Magazines.

This is the first year the event will be open to the public and the first time it will be held as a fundraiser, but the twelfth year the magazines are honoring the talented pool of chefs from around the country including Jean François Bonnet of Restaurant Daniel, Pichet Ong of Spice Market and Kate Zuckerman of Chanterelle.

"Each chef was selected based on overall talent, the impact his or her style has on the industry and the manner in which they give back to the industry," explained Hall. Nearly 1,000 dessert, wine and food aficionados are expected to attend the event that was previously only open to industry insiders.

An 11th Honorary Best Chef(s) will be honored for their humanitarian cake baking efforts to raise money for the American Red Cross International Disaster Relief Fund. Six young men, ages 13-16, from Hawthorne Cedar Knolls, a residence for “high-risk” adolescents, who utilized their own money to buy cake mix, bake and sell \$1,700 worth of cakes for Tsunami relief will be recognized.

When Mike Schneider, publisher of *Chocolatier Magazine*, heard the boys’ story, he wanted to do something special for them and decided that this year he would add an 11th Honorary Chef (s) to the awards to include **The Hawthorne Baker Boys**. “When I met the boys, I broke down,” he said.

Honored Chefs include: Jean Francois Bonnet, Restaurant Daniel - NYC; Gina DePalma, Babbo - NYC; Claude Escamilla, Bellagio Hotel & Casino – Las Vegas; Elizabeth Katz, Fiamma Osteria & B.R. Guest Restaurants – NYC; Jody Klocko, Godiva Chocolatier – Reading, PA; John Kraus, French Pastry School - Chicago; Sam Mason, wd-50 – NYC; Pichet Ong, Spice Market & 66 - NYC; Sherry Yard, Spago - Beverly Hills; Kate Zuckerman, Chanterelle – NYC. Winners will receive a commemorative plaque, a gift basket from Godiva and engraved bowls from KitchenAid.

The event will also feature an online silent auction, including vintage wines by the case and items from companies including: Le Creuset, Lenox China, Cuisinart, Godiva Chocolatier, Calphalon, Henckels, Lenox China, Taylor Golf Clubs, Tiffany, and KitchenAid. To submit a bid and browse the items in advance visit www.westchestercounty.redcross.org.

Chocolatier is America's most popular magazine for dessert/chocolate enthusiasts. Published four times per year, it focuses on the newest and tastiest dessert and includes hundreds of delicious, easy to follow recipes for both recreational and professional cooks. *Pastry Art & Design* is published six times a year and reaches professionals in the baking and pastry industries. Both magazines are published by Haymarket Group Ltd. and are available at bookstores and by subscriptions.

The American Red Cross in Westchester County is a humanitarian organization, founded in 1898 and led by volunteers, that provides relief to people affected by disaster—whether local, national or international in scope. In addition, we promote health and safety in the community. *During the past year, the American Red Cross in Westchester County touched the lives of 103,000 residents with these various services.*

The American Red Cross in Greater New York, now in its Centennial Year, helps people avoid, prepare for and respond to emergencies. ARC/GNY responds to an average of eight emergencies a day such as fires, blackouts, water main breaks and building collapses. For more information visit www.nyredcross.org or call 1-877-REDCROSS.

Hawthorne Cedar Knolls is located on 200 wooded acres in Hawthorne, New York. HCK is a residential treatment center for 104 emotionally troubled boys and girls, ages 9 to 18. Since 1906, HCK has earned a national reputation for its innovative and individualized treatment approach.

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