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BRING A LITTLE COUNTRY HOME AT THE HARVEST FESTIVAL'S RUSTIC FOR THE HOME

BETHEL, NY (August 29, 2008) – BETHEL, NY (August 29, 2008) – Hand-made furnishings and accents crafted by local artisans will be featured at this year's Rustic for the Home festival, Sunday, September 7. An expanded specialty craft area will feature Adirondack style furniture, fine wood cabinets, stone and wood tables, hand-made brooms, photography, and accessories for the home. This event is sponsored by Catskill Regional Medical Center.

Don't miss performances by Janet Burgan at 11:30am, followed by Helen Avakian at 1:30pm. Local author Rilla Askew will sign copies of her novels *Harpson*, *The Mercy Seat* and *Fire in the Beulah*.

Activities in the children's area include making books with the Literacy Volunteers and creating place settings and wall hangings for the home with Matt Sherman. A woodworking demonstration by Mark Nimal (fine wood & stone tables) and a weaving demonstration by the Woodland Weavers and Spinners will also take place throughout the day.

The Harvest Festival at Bethel Woods occurs every Sunday from 11am – 4pm through Columbus Day weekend, rain or shine. Located approximately 90 minutes from New York City at the site of the original 1969 Woodstock festival in Bethel, NY, Bethel Woods Center for the Arts is the perfect day trip or weekend getaway. Admission and parking are free. Harvest Festival attendees can also add a ticket and visit The Museum at Bethel Woods, which explores the 60's and Woodstock, and make a full day of their visit.

This year marks the tenth anniversary of The Harvest Festival, an annual event celebrating the bounty, talent, and beauty of Sullivan County and the region. In ten years, the festival has grown from a small farmer's market with a handful of vendors and a few guest musicians who provided background music, to a full festival featuring close to 100 vendors each week as part of the farmer's market, craft village and festival food areas. The Festival also presents special events and live performances, a children's area with enrichment activities that include arts and crafts as well as corn and hay mazes, pony rides, "gathering of the scarecrows" and more.

A sense of community is reflected throughout the Harvest Festival. The corn and hay mazes are operated by local volunteer organizations that are able to benefit from this fundraising opportunity, as well as the chance to share information about their group and possibly recruit new volunteers. The Children's Area features various activities each week that are presented by community organizations, providing an opportunity to educate others about their mission.

The 10th anniversary season of the Harvest Festival is presented by The Chapin Estate and supported by the Gerry Foundation, as well as event day sponsors; A&J Hometown Oil, Inc., Catskill Regional Medical Center and M&M Auto Group who share the same commitment to the community and regional economic development.

The Harvest Festival schedule is as follows, for more information please visit www.BethelWoodsCenter.org

September 14	Mountain Music Festival
September 21	Earth Day in Autumn (sponsored by A&J Hometown Oil, Inc.)
September 28	The Ag Experience
October 5	Cajun Festival
October 12	Chili Cook-Off (sponsored by M&M Auto Group)

About The Harvest Festival at Bethel Woods:

The Harvest Festival is one of several programs that reflect the commitment to community that serves as the fundamental mission of the Bethel Woods Center for the Arts. The festival reflects our mission to support sustainability and continued regional economic development through this annual commitment to provide a venue for our local farmers, artisans, community organizations and businesses. A visit to the Festival offers the opportunity for people to gather and form relationships in ways that are absent from traditional retail/buyer transactions. We connect local and regional growers and artisans with the community and provide an opportunity for shoppers to buy local and support a regional economy. The benefit of being able to interact with the hard working families who produce and harvest their food and the thrill of watching artisans create their wares keeps Festival goers coming back week after week; year after year. The grown and harvested food and crafted items are acts of personal inspiration, and the festival offers visitors the opportunity to learn more about this process and to better appreciate and understand its value.

About The Chapin Estate

The 2,500± acre Chapin Estate encompasses hundreds of acres of unspoiled wilderness, including two boating and fishing reservoirs, a private trout fishing stream and miles of hiking trails which are also suitable for mountain biking and horseback riding. The Chapin Estate also adjoins more than 13,000 acres of forever wild forestlands owned by the State of New York. The Chapin Estate homes are specifically designed and built to reflect the owners' unique lifestyle and personal desires, while accentuating the natural beauty and balance with its setting. Located just two hours from New York City, The Chapin Estate provides an "Adirondack experience" all year long, offering amenities including a members only Lake Club and a community exclusive Concierge Service. For more information please contact The Chapin Estate at (866) 5834900 or visit www.ChapinEstate.com.

About Catskill Regional Medical Center

Catskill Regional Medical Center is comprised currently of three distinct health care facility centers. The Seelig Division is a 164-bed inpatient hospital centrally situated on 88 acres at their Harris healthcare campus. Also at that facility is a 64-bed Residential Health Center Nursing Home averaging 99% occupancy which reflects the Hospital's efforts to optimize quality of life for geriatric residents. The 25-bed Grover Hermann Hospital Division located in Callicoon is designated by NYSDOH as an approved Rural Critical Access Hospital. Catskill Regional Medical Center's mission is designed to meet the evolving healthcare needs of the Sullivan County community and has long recognized the critical importance of collaboratively networking with other local health and human service agencies throughout Sullivan County to enhance the coordination of high quality and cost-effective primary care services. Catskill Regional Medical Center offers a broad array of primary and secondary acute inpatient, emergency and outpatient services. The inpatient hospital services at CRMC include medicine, routine surgery, pediatrics, obstetrics, psychiatry as well as limited critical care capabilities. CRMC's recent affiliation with the Greater Hudson Valley Board of Directors will facilitate enhanced coordination of services throughout Sullivan County as well as improve accessibility to specialty care services currently being expanded at Orange Regional Medical Center. CRMC offers a comprehensive array of services which include Diabetes care, Obstetrics, Women's healthcare, Oncology and Cardiology which are based on meeting Sullivan County's healthcare priorities.

www.bethelwoodscenter.org