



Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Northeast Ohio

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Pizzi Café Teams With
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Ohio To Raise Funds

***Conneaut Restaurateur Creates Fundraising Campaign
To Support Mentoring Programs For Area Youth***

Painesville, Ohio—November 4, 2009— Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Ohio is pleased to announce that Pizzi Café in Conneaut is kicking off a fundraising campaign that will give back a percentage of every dollar spent in Big Brothers Big Sisters name to the non-profit organization.

To participate supporters can obtain a sign up form that features a special “\$15.00 off on your first visit coupon” by contacting the Big Brothers Big Sisters office in Ashtabula, Pizzi Cafe or at venues located throughout Ashtabula County. When the form is completed and turned in patrons will receive a special Big Brothers Big Sisters/Pizzi Café VIP card. Each time a purchase is made at Pizzi Café and the card is shown, Big Brothers Big Sisters will receive at least 5% of the purchase. The more customers spend the higher the percentage increase.

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“Big Brothers Big Sisters is looked upon as one of the most effective and low administrative cost charities in the world,” say Pizzi Café owners, Patrick and Dawn Griswold. “We believe in the work they do. We believe in helping area children and supporting our community.”

Because of recent cuts in funding from United Way agencies and county mental health boards the agency is very appreciative that Pizzi Café has chosen Big Brothers Big Sisters to be part of their fundraising efforts. “It means a great deal to have a member of the business community recognize the needs we are facing and offer a way to help. This fundraising campaign is a win-win for everyone — the children, the community, Big Brothers Big Sisters and Pizzi Café,” says Lynne Strah, Director of Marketing and Communications for Big Brothers Big Sisters.

The agency encourages all those interested in enjoying some great food and helping area youth to check out Pizzi Café and get their own VIP cards.

For more information about Big Brothers Big Sisters mentoring programs and how you can help the children in your community, call 440-997-9125 or log on to www.bbbsneo.org. To find out more about Pizzi Café and how to get your own Pizzi Café/Big Brother Big Sister VIP Card, call 440-599-8629 or log on to PizziCafe.com.

About Big Brothers Big Sisters

Big Brothers Big Sisters is the oldest, largest and most effective youth mentoring organization in the US. Big Brothers Big Sisters has been the leader in one-to-one youth service for more than a century developing positive relationships that have a direct and lasting impact on the lives of young people.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Ohio is a non-profit organization that has been part of the local community for more than 40 years. They provide mentors to children, ages six through 15, through two separate and distinct mentoring programs in Lake, Geauga and Ashtabula counties.

The programs are available at no cost to the children and their families.

In their traditional “match” program, caring adult volunteers, age 18 and older, are matched with children, in one-to-one relationships. The agency also operates after-school programs that are designed to help grade school children develop positive attitudes toward school, build self-esteem and have fun while improving their natural abilities and social skills. The goal of BBBSNEO is to provide a mentor to every child who needs and wants one.

Independent studies have proven that children matched with a Big Brother or Big Sister are:

- 46% less likely to begin using illegal drugs
- 52% less likely to skip school
- 33% less likely to exhibit violent behavior

For children who participate in an after-school mentoring program:

- 64% have a more positive attitude toward school
- 58% get higher grades
- 60% improve peer relationships
- 64% develop higher levels of self esteem

About Pizzi Café

Pizzi Café, an historical Italian café that was opened in 1934 and recently celebrated 75 years in business, has stood the test of time and still offers its customers the same unique atmosphere, friendly service and made-to-order pizza and Italian dishes its original.

Located in Conneaut, three blocks away from the shores of Lake Erie, the restaurant still uses many of the café’s original recipes and kitchen secrets including the use of the original galvanized pans to bake their pizzas giving them a texture and taste that cannot be duplicated. The café opens at 3 p.m. every day and its historical dining room is family friendly, temperature controlled and smoke free. A full bar including local and Italian wine is available. Carry out service, catering and outside dining is also offered.

Throughout its history, Pizzi Café has believed in supporting its community and is regularly involved in innovative fundraising activities for a variety of local organizations.

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