

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Bryan Schrepel 913-758-6165

E-mail: SchrepelB@stmary.edu



USM Media Relations Class Hosts "Leavenworth Live: A Showcase of Talent" Benefiting Saint Vincent Clinic

7 p.m. Saturday, May 6, 2006

(Leavenworth, Kan.)—To raise money for a community clinic in desperate need, students enrolled in the University of Saint Mary media relations class banded together to help, planning a charitable benefit, "Leavenworth Live: A Showcase of Talent." The proceeds from "Leavenworth Live" will be donated to Saint Vincent Clinic, Leavenworth, Kan., a community fixture since 1986.

"Leavenworth Live" will take place at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 6 inside the USM Student Union located on the ground-level of Berchmans Hall. Tickets are \$5, and raffle prizes will be awarded. Call 913-758-4377 for details.

"Leavenworth Live" is a completely student-produced, all ages show featuring seven local variety and musical acts. A panel of judges will award prizes for the top acts, including a 27-inch flat-screen television for the first place winner. Second and third place prizes will be awarded as well.

While "Leavenworth Live" is designed to be fun, the event's purpose is to raise as much money as possible for Saint Vincent Clinic. The clinic has helped provide health services for uninsured Leavenworth County residents since 1986. Since its inception, Saint Vincent Clinic has provided health care to more than 66,000 people. In recent years, however, rising medical costs have put Saint Vincent Clinic in a financial bind.

"Rising medical costs and a growing population in need have really strained Saint Vincent's resources," Sister Rosemary Kolich, media relations professor said. "Once we learned about the clinic's situation, we knew we had to help out."

The community wants to help as well. In fact, more than 25 Leavenworth, Lansing and even Kansas City, Kan. businesses lunged at the chance to get involved. Home Depot, Famous Dave's Barbecue, Santa Fe Trails Bike Company, and Applebee's—Village West, to name a few, all donated raffle items.

"I wanted the class to plan, raise the money and promote the event completely on their own," Kolich said. "I think this is a wonderful opportunity for them to learn media relations, and I'm very pleased the community is supporting our efforts."

The University of Saint Mary is a private, co-educational applied liberal arts university founded by the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth. The University of Saint Mary is located at 4100 South 4th Street, Leavenworth, Kan., with additional locations at 11413 Pflumm in Overland Park and inside Providence Medical Center at 8929 Parallel Parkway in Kansas City, Kan.

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