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Sweet Success at this Year's Rouse/Chamberlin Homes Strawberry Festival

COATESVILLE, PA -- This past year has truly been the "Year of the Volunteer". Thousands have responded to the Katrina disaster on a national level, but tens of thousands more have been active in their own communities to respond to local challenges.

In western Chester County, the Brandywine Health Foundation is grateful to the hundreds of neighbors who volunteered at this year's Rouse/Chamberlin Homes Strawberry Festival, and to the many businesses that helped to generously underwrite the event including Rouse Chamberlin Homes, First Financial and Willow Grove Bank, Brandywine Hospital, Coatesville Savings Bank, Gallagher Belmont, and DNB First.

This beloved event could not go so smoothly without the Caln Township Police Department and the surrounding police forces that assisted this year, the Thorndale Volunteer Fire Company, and the Washington Hose Ambulance Service. Frances M. Sheehan, President/CEO of the Brandywine Health Foundation remarked, "When events go off without a hitch, when emergencies are responded to immediately -- or even averted -- we must recognize the preparation and professionalism of our civil servants. Thank you to all who worked and volunteered at the event this year - we are in awe of your dedication and commitment."

This year's Rouse Chamberlin Homes Strawberry Festival raised more than \$85,000 in net income -- all to benefit our community through the Brandywine Health Foundation, Coatesville Rotary Club, Coatesville Public Library, Thorndale Volunteer Fire Company and the Brandywine YMCA.

The Brandywine Health Foundation would like the Strawberry Festival to be even more successful next year -- but needs your suggestions for improvement. **Please visit the Foundation's website at www.brandywinestrawberryfestival.com and enter to win a chance at a brand new iPod by filling out their opinion survey.**

Our nation has over 48 million adults and children who have no health insurance, thousands of them are our neighbors. They have limited access to preventive health care, dental services, and struggle to meet their daily financial needs when costly medical emergencies strike.

The Brandywine Health Foundation is committed to finding local solutions to this national problem by funding new entities like the ChesPenn Health Center and the new Community Dental Center, both in Coatesville. They can be even more effective with your help. Thank you again to all who made this year's event a success and hold May 31 through June 3 for next year's Rouse Chamberlin Homes Strawberry Festival!

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