

**For Immediate Release:** Wednesday, December 16, 2009

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**Nominations Sought for Community Philanthropy Event**

The Hope Foundation of the Mahoning Valley is announcing the **NOMINATE-A-PLAYER Award** for the 6<sup>th</sup> annual "Game of Hope Charity Basketball Classic." The Game of Hope Classic is a charity basketball game that benefits chronically/terminally ill children in the valley, so that they may have the experience generally afforded by healthy children. The event will take place on Saturday, January 23, 2010 at Beeghly Center on the campus of Youngstown State University with the teams being comprised of local celebrities, community leaders, dignitaries and media, from the area, which tip-offs at 4:00 p.m.

This award is given out to the person that donates there time & effort to the valley. The winner gets to participate in the event along side the local politicians, community leaders & other notables. This award is a way to give back to that person and what they have accomplished, by recognizing them for their involvement for the great work they do in the community. In addition, it gets people involved that might not otherwise be involved.

The day is plenty of fun for the entire family and over the past five years, the Game of Hope events have raised nearly \$40,000. To ensure the continued success, however, we need your help. If you would like to nominate someone for this award, please go to the Hope Foundation website at [www.hopemv.org](http://www.hopemv.org) and click the NOMINATE-A-PLAYER link on the right side of the page and follow the instructions. All entries must be received by **Wednesday, January 6, 2010.**

The Hope Foundation of the Mahoning Valley's is a non-profit organization, which its mission is to furtherance of charitable and financial support and volunteer services to and for chronically/terminally ill children.

**The Hope Foundation of the Mahoning Valley proudly presents the Game of Hope Charity Classic in conjunction with TV stations 27 First News & FOX 17/62; WYTV & MyYTV; radio stations 95.9 KISS-FM, MIX 98.9, & News Radio 570 WKBN, Accent Media, UAW Locals 1714 & 1112, NEOEA (North Eastern Ohio Education Association) and the Lamar Advertising Company.**