



For Immediate Release: Friday, March 6, 2009

Media Contact: Andy Shobel, 330-726-7787/andy.shobel@mvpoolspa.com or
Director, Tony Spano, 330-728-2669/avspano@hopemv.org

“FOOTBALL GAME OF HOPE” CHARITY EVENT SET FOR APRIL

Mahoning Valley Pool & Spa in combination with The Hope Foundation of the Mahoning Valley, proudly presents the first annual charity flag football, the “FOOTBALL GAME OF HOPE” in conjunction with area television stations 27 First News and FOX 17/62, local radio affiliate 93.3 “THE WOLF,” Defend Youngstown, Inc, and the Mahoning Valley Thunder.

The Football Game of Hope is a celebrity/benefit flag football game with proceeds to benefit the Ava Timko Fund and the Hope Foundation of the Mahoning Valley for chronically/terminally ill children of the valley, so that they may have the experience generally afforded by healthy children.

Ava Timko is a one year-old Canfield resident who was recently diagnosed with AML, a rare form of leukemia and is currently undergoing treatment in Cincinnati Children’s Hospital. The Hope Foundation of the Mahoning Valley (HFMV) is an organization formed to benefit chronically/terminally ill children in the Mahoning Valley and has donated nearly \$10,000 to local charities courtesy of its Game of Hope basketball and softball games.

The FOOTBALL GAME OF HOPE will feature area high school coaches along with other local personalities teaming up for a flag football game with kick-off @ 4PM on Saturday April 4th. There will also be a Tug of War tournament between local high school athletes with the finals being held at half-time of the Thunder game that same evening. One ticket covers the Football Game of Hope, the Tug of War and the Mahoning Valley Thunder vs. Milwaukee Iron in an Arena2 Football match-up starting at 7:05PM.

The day will be plenty of fun for the entire family and to ensure its success, we are asking for your help. Tickets start at \$13 for both games with a donation going to the cause for every ticket sold. Tickets are available at Mahoning Valley Pool & Spa in Niles and Boardman or by calling 330-726-7787. More info can be found @ www.hopemv.org.

