## NEWS RELEASE From Dean DePiero

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Wednesday, April 6, 2011 Contact: Jack P. Marschall (440) 885-8181 or (216) 346-9935 (cell)

## TWO GROUPS NAMED BENEFICIARIES OF DEAN DEPIERO'S 5K CHARITY RUN AND 2K FUN WALK FOR 2011

**(Parma)** – Parma Mayor Dean DePiero has named Lifebanc and the Parma Community General Hospital Foundation as beneficiaries of his 8<sup>th</sup> Annual 5K Charity Run and 2K Fun Walk at Byers Field on June 18. All proceeds from the race will benefit programs administered by the Hospital Foundation and Lifebanc. In addition, Country Radio Hall of Fame broadcaster Chuck Collier of WGAR will again be the official celebrity starter of the race.

"The race has proven to be one of the biggest events in our great city," said Mayor DePiero. "While providing fun and excitement, the race allows us to give back to the community and help those organizations that help Greater Clevelanders year after year. The icing on the cake is having the legendary Chuck Collier join us – a celebrity known for his talent as well as his community involvement and volunteerism that has made his career something special for everyone in northeast Ohio."

"This generous contribution by Mayor DePiero will heal and save lives in our community," said Gordon Bowen, Lifebanc Chief Executive Officer. "This gift will help provide bereavement support to grieving families and educational programs so that more residents will become registered organ, eye and tissue donors."

Lifebanc saves and heals lives through organ, eye and tissue donation for transplantation in northeast Ohio. Lifebanc is responsible for coordinating the organ, eye and tissue recovery process, increasing registration rates by providing public and professional education services and offers bereavement support to donor families. To become a registered organ, eye and tissue donor and help save a life, say yes at the Bureau of Motor Vehicles or visit <u>www.lifebanc.org</u>.

"We appreciate Mayor DePiero's generous contribution, directly helping to improve and build our medical and educational community-based programs," said Marcia Ferguson, Parma Hospital Health Care Foundation Executive Director. "This helps us provide hunger relief and care for the disabled as part of our Safety Net mission as well as assisting the Parma Health Ministry and other organizations provide medical care for uninsured individuals." Since 1987, the Parma Hospital Health Care Foundation has provided more than \$4 million of philanthropic support of Parma Hospital's mission, expanding services and medical, health and wellness care outreach in the community. Foundation funds helped to create the Tri-C Nursing School at Parma Community General Hospital, Season of Life Residential Hospice and growth and development of programs at the hospital's Elder Center.

Over the past seven years, more than \$50,000 has been collected in donations from Dean DePiero's Charity Race. Once again, this year's 5K Run and 2K Fun Walk will feature giveaways, raffles, refreshments, timers and water stops. The course is flat, and extends around Parmatown Mall and Ridgewood Lake. The race will be managed by Hermes Road Racing of Cleveland.

"I couldn't be happier that this event provides a quality race for runners across the area while helping two top quality community organizations," said Mayor DePiero. "It's that helping spirit which makes me proud of the race and the willingness of all the volunteers who make it happen."

The 5K run and 2K Fun Walk begins at 8:30 a.m. You can register online at <u>www.deandepiero.com</u>. Call 216-623-9933 if you have any questions.

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