

For Immediate Release
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**Proclamation From The State Awarded to Local Restaurateur James Ricciuti
Declaring Sunday October 5th As 'James Ricciuti Day' in Maryland!**

Who: James Ricciuti of Ricciuti's Restaurant

What: Proclamation from the state of Maryland honoring James Ricciuti

Why: To acknowledge Chef Ricciuti for his efforts in promoting public awareness for the importance of supporting our local farmers and for his generosity and enthusiasm of supporting the local community and economy.

Where: Olney Farmers Market in Olney, Maryland

When: Sunday October 5, 2008

Olney, MD (October 5, 2008) – With much gratitude and sincere thanks the Olney Farmers Market awarded Chef James Ricciuti with a Proclamation from the state of Maryland declaring Sunday October 5th as '***JAMES RICCIUTI DAY***' in Maryland. The proclamation was presented in tribute to Chef Ricciuti's on going commitment to the support and promotion of Maryland's small farmers and Montgomery County agriculture. The proclamation was awarded at a surprise ceremony Sunday, October 5th as Chef Ricciuti finished shopping the farmer's market with his group of ***Shop With the Chef / Farmer's Market Cooking Party*** participants. Surprised and delighted, Chef Ricciuti humbly accepted and thanked the farmers for bringing their produce to the market for the community to enjoy and encouraged the crowd to continue supporting the local economy.

Contents of Certificate:

On the occasion of October 5th being declared 'James Ricciuti Day' by the Olney Farmers and Artists Market, saluting your unique contribution to the community through your culinary skills, educational efforts and advocacy of homegrown products.

Your efforts, providing wonderful cooking parties while using the Market's outstanding, locally grown produce, have been invaluable in promoting the rich agricultural heritage of Montgomery County. With deep appreciation for your dedication and commitment, best wishes for continued success.

Signed by Peter Franchot, Comptroller

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*Janet Terry of the Olney Farmers Market (right) Presenting Proclamation
To Chef James Ricciuti (far left) on Sunday October 5, 2008.*

Ricciuti's plans on continuing it's very popular *Shop With the Chef / Farmer's Market Cooking* program next summer. Until then the restaurant will highlight the areas bountiful produce while showcasing the farms from which their ingredients are sourced through the restaurant's **100 Mile Plate Program**. This program distinguishes dishes created from ingredients within a 100-mile range of the restaurant and recognizes the farms. All of the local farmers and purveyors that supply Ricciuti's Restaurant are endorsed on their web site www.ricciutis.com

For more information, photos and recipes created during the summer *Shop With The Chef / Farmer's Market Cooking Parties* visit www.ricciutis.com/press or call James at 301.570.3388. Be sure to visit their Blog on the web site! Ricciuti's is located at 3308 Olney-Sandy Spring Road, Olney, MD 20832.

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