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Immediate News Release

Invitation to Cover

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“Everything Eighties” aims to maintain locally funded recreation program

Horseheads, NY — Elmira Savings Bank will be sponsoring Chemung ARC’s eighth annual signature fundraiser, Dancin’ with my Friends, “Everything Eighties” on May 7, 2011. The event, which is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. at the American Legion in Horseheads, will feature a menu catered by 5th Street Deli, cash bar, door prizes, a variety of raffle gift baskets, and the evening highlight, musical entertainment by The Cats.

"We’ve had such great success with Dancin’ With My Friends these past seven years and are excited about having The Cats perform an 80’s tribute. The Cats have performed for Chemung ARC in the past and were very well-received by the people we support. The band is equally excited about performing for us and supporting people with disabilities," remarks Chemung ARC Community Relations Director Allison Monnell.

Chemung ARC would like to invite the public to come listen to The Cats and attend the agency’s signature fundraiser. The proceeds will benefit the Chemung ARC recreation program that is 100% state-funded and could potentially face funding cuts. The Recreation and Family Respite program serve hundreds of people in Chemung County. “The loss of programs such as our Recreation and Family Respite program would leave hundreds of people we support without the realization of one of our primary goals, **community acceptance through inclusion and socialization**. Recreation is funded wholly through local assistance and is our most vulnerable program to these impending cuts,” states Executive Director Mike Doherty.

Some of the activities provided by Recreation and Family Respite: Special Olympics, bocce, bowling, basketball, dances, arts & crafts, chorus, film making, badminton, volleyball, just to name a few. Recreation also coordinates community outings to First Arena to Elmira Jackals Games, Binghamton and Elmira to baseball games, racing events, theatrical presentations, Special Olympic invitationals and regional tournaments.

Chemung ARC is looking to raise \$15,000 this year.

Tickets are \$30 per person and are available at the agency’s main office at 711 Sullivan Street, Elmira or by calling 734-6151. Tickets will also be available at the door for the same price.

Founded in 1953, Chemung ARC is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization devoted to the well being of Chemung County residents who have developmental disabilities. In its fifty-eighth year of operation, the agency serves more than 700 people and their families annually.

Members of the media are invited to cover the event itself.

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