

## NEWS RELEASE -- JULY 1, 2006

RICHMOND, VA – Officials of the 2006 *Rainmaker Festival* have announced that The Harvey Family Memorial Endowment, Positive Vibe Café, Motherwise, Operation Hope, and The Noonan Syndrome Support Group will share proceeds from this year's day-long fundraising event.

"We're honored to be supporting these great local organizations," said Ian Danielsen, who is leading the organizing efforts. "Through our learning about their missions, and getting to know the good folks who direct those missions, we're encouraged by the important work being done in the Richmond area, and beyond. They are all about having a real impact."

The festival will take place Sept. 10 at the Legend Pub and Brewery, 321 West 7<sup>th</sup> Street in Richmond, and will feature several area bands, including Page Wilson with Reckless Abandon, Brad Spivey and the Honky Tonk Experience, The Gary Gerloff Band, The Slack Family, Big Boss Combo, The Squalor Hollow Boys, Tinker's Dam, and Blue Line Highway.

"We've added a few new acts as well," Danielsen said, "including the Jackie Frost Ensemble and NRG KRYSYS with The Goodfellas. And with serious upgrades planned for stages and festival menu, as well as the addition of a kids' area, we think this is going to be the most enjoyable Rainmaker Festival yet."

The Rainmaker Festival began as a tribute to the late Alvin Reynolds, a Richmond-area musician who died in 2001 following complications from an organ transplant, leaving his family with significant medical bills.

The event is staffed entirely by volunteers, including Deirdre Ownby. "I attended Rainmaker as a bystander two years in a row and as I sat in the crowd, watching all the action and feeling all the good vibes coursing through, I felt an intrinsic pull to be more involved," she said. Music is the healer and Rainmaker's goodness is two-fold: your community and your soul."

Danielsen added. "I think the lesson is that as a community we can stand together, whether it be in the wake of great tragedy or in response to others in need, and make a positive difference, all the while enjoying each other's fellowship and musical gifts."

For more information and volunteer interviews, call Ian Danielsen at (804) 398-8488, Deirdre Ownby at (804) 677-2835, or visit *The Rainmaker Festival* website at [www.rainmakerfest.com](http://www.rainmakerfest.com)