



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## **New Bloomington Restaurant Makes Minneapolis Happy with a \$3500 Donation to North Minneapolis Tornado Relief During Happy Hour**

**August 17, 2011 / Bloomington, MN**—RedRossa Italian Grille of Bloomington celebrated its grand opening with a \$3500 donation to benefit *Minnesota Helps - North Minneapolis Recovery Fund* through *The Minneapolis Foundation* after a month-long fundraising effort. Chef Carl Littlejohn wowed attendees at a special Happy Hour mixer featuring delicious appetizers and cocktails, while general manager Bill Bock presented William M. Sternberg, Interim Vice President and Jo-Anne Stately, Director of Grantmaking and Special Projects a giant check. Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak along with Bloomington Mayor Gene Winstead sent letters of congratulations to RedRossa for the fundraising efforts. “The resilience of residents and outpouring of volunteer response to the devastation have been incredible gratifying and made me proud to be a part of the community,” noted Rybak.

Attendees enjoyed a sampling of RedRossa’s exceptional 3/5/6 Happy Hour which offers 27 delicious menu items such as Italian Nachos and Summit Extra Pale Ale for \$3, Wild Mushroom Truffle Arancini, house made Limóncello Martinis and Peroni Drafts for \$5 and Sautéed Mussels for just \$6. Served from 3PM to 6PM and 9PM to close everyday of the week RedRossa Happy Hour has the best value and selection in town! “Along with our affordable menu, and as a thank you to our guests, we like to offer Happy Hour at great prices,” commented general manager Bill Bock. “Today’s celebration extended that “thank you” for helping us raise funds for a great cause.”

Jo-Anne Stately of *The Minneapolis Foundation* shared with the crowd, “over \$1.4 million has been raised through the generosity of the community”. Grateful for the donation from RedRossa Italian Grille, Stately also stress that needs are still significant. “With damages estimated at \$166 million and several families still displaced, experts are predicting a three-year recovery period. FEMA recently denied relief for individuals affected by the storm. The public is still encouraged to contribute either through *Givemn.org* or through “The Minneapolis Foundation.” The *Minnesota Helps - North Minneapolis Recovery Fund* supports the immediate and long-term needs of the individuals and families in North Minneapolis impacted by the May 22, 2011 tornado. Since 1915, *The Minneapolis Foundation* has partnered with generous

individuals and families, effective nonprofits, engaged civic leaders and others to strengthen our community through charitable giving.

**About RedRossa Italian Grille** - RedRossa began in 2005 in Sioux Falls, SD, with a passion for fresh, flavorful and authentic Italian/American dining. RedRossa's signature recipes use only the finest ingredients, in the tradition of old-world Italy, in a comfortable and festive atmosphere. For more information please visit RedRossa's website at: [www.redrossa.com](http://www.redrossa.com) and for more about the recovery relief visit <http://givemn.razoo.com/story/Northminneapolisrecovery>

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**Image Cutline:**

**Jo-Anne Stately and William M. Sternberg of The Minneapolis Foundation accept a check for \$3500 from RedRossa Italian Grille's Executive Chef Carl LittleJohn, Chef Joel Stoesz and General Manager Bill Bock**

