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Second-Ever Townie Street Party Partners with The Ark

Ann Arbor, MI – The second ever Townie Street Party, A Kick Off to the Ann Arbor Art Fairs, is pleased to announce its stage partnership with The Ark of Ann Arbor. The Townie Street Party began last year to invite the local community to enjoy the fairs on a smaller scale. The inaugural entertainment included Ann Arbor favorites the Chenille Sisters and RFD Boys. This year, The Ark will book three acts in the same flavor of folk and rock and roll music, with a connection to and celebration of the area's great danceable musical talents.

The Ark is a non-profit organization dedicated to the enrichment and encouragement of folk, roots and ethnic music and related arts, and has been considered Ann Arbor's home for acoustic music since 1965. "In moving ahead with this event, a partnership with The Ark seemed like a natural pairing," said Karen Delhey, Townie Street Party co-chair. "We are so pleased they share our vision for community culture in stage entertainment." added Julie Picknell, co-chair.

Both organizations look forward to a successful partnership. Barb Chaffer Authier, Marketing Director of The Ark, commented, "We are honored that the organizers of the Townie Street Party recognize The Ark as an integral part of what makes Ann Arbor special and have invited us to be their stage partner for the event this year."

The Townie Street Party 2006 takes place on "Art Fair Monday," Monday, July 17, from 5 pm – 9 pm under the big white tents on Washington Street between Fletcher and Thayer, and on the University of Michigan's Ingalls Mall. In addition to live music, there will be townie grub, ice cream, a beer tent, kids activities, street performers, souvenir t-shirts and cups, and a free drawing for "Townie Treats." "Townies" may park free at bagged meters on surrounding streets. The Townie Street Party is a family event and admission is free.

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