

Hamilton ON – October 9, 2008
MEDIA RELEASE

Local business giving thanks by giving back

Thanksgiving dinner for one local family this weekend will take on a different meaning. At a time when many are passing the turkey and giving thanks for past blessings and hoping for future good fortune, Kari and Dave Patterson are thankful for one more day with their son Tucker, who was diagnosed with rare and fatal disease known as Leigh's syndrome. It is a rare disease that affects 1 out of 500,000 children. The Patterson's learned of the diagnosis in August that their son's life expectancy will be less than 3 years from onset of the disease. It was devastating news for the parents of twins, one of whom is Tucker.

As a Thanksgiving gesture – one local business has teamed up with their employees and suppliers to raise funds for the family – to ensure that Tucker in his short life will have the opportunity to experience many of the pleasures that young children experience with their families. On October 18th, Ladies Choice Auto Care on Main Street West in Hamilton will close their business for regular activities and host a full day event with profits of each sale going to Tucker and his family. The Driving Divas will host a car check event during that day and accept donations towards Tucker's fund. In addition, the staff has donated their time to do oil changes to the public with all profits going towards Tucker's fund.

"Our staff and suppliers have been wonderful" says Tara DeBruin, owner of Ladies Choice Auto Care. "We have had products donated by suppliers and none of our team members are taking a wage that day so the profits of each oil change will be larger. It is our way of giving back". DeBruin, a mother of twins has known the Pattersons since the birth of their son Tucker – also a twin. Tucker's father, a local firefighter will also be donating his time assisting with the oil changes.

Local media and the general public are invited to attend the event and take advantage of the car check event and get an oil change while they are there. All profits will be donated to Tucker's Fund. For more information about this event please contact Tara DeBruin at 905-524-9853 or email info@ladieschoiceautocare.com.

About Leigh's syndrome: It is a rare neurometabolic disorder that affects the central nervous system which usually affects infants that are between the age of three months and two years, but in rare cases, teenagers and adults, as well. In the case of the disease, mutations in mitochondrial DNA or in nuclear DNA cause degradation of motor skills and eventually death.