

Taste of Northwest 2007

Northwest Youth and Family Services showcases local restaurants

by **Stephen Harding**
Staff Writer

SHOREVIEW — The Taste of the Northwest is a showcase for local restaurants and an event to help those in need — all rolled into one.

The fundraiser, sponsored by Northwest Youth and Family Services (NYFS), will be held Thursday, Sept. 27 from 5:30 to 9 p.m. at the Shoreview Community Center. Last year's Taste raised more than \$14,000 and drew about 225 people, according to NYFS spokeswoman Sandra Bahr.

The Taste will feature 18 restaurants from around the metro area showcasing their food and wine via samples. They include Red Lobster, Kozlak's, Green Mill and Keys Cafe. It will also offer a silent auction for such items as sports memorabilia, vacations, restaurant gift certificates and artwork. The memorabilia includes an autographed Joe Mauer glove and baseball, and an issue of Sports Illustrated magazine that featured him on the cover, as well as a Vikings jersey and football.

"Last year, I was outbid for an autographed Joe



— Submitted photo

Kozlak's Restaurant, one of the many restaurants on hand, served samples of their entrees to guests of last year's Taste.

Money raised for the event will supplement programs offered throughout the organization, since many are offered free to clients with low incomes.

Mauer bat by Ramsey County Sheriff Bob Fletcher," said Bahr.

The event will also include raffles. In a wine raffle, everyone who participates wins a bottle of wine valued between \$10 and \$100. In a Lottery Tree raffle, \$100 worth of lottery tickets will be up for grabs.

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The NYFS is a non-profit social service agency that's been working for the northern suburbs since 1976. Each year, more than 3,000 individuals and families are served by its programs, which include services for at-risk-youth, mental health counseling for all ages, senior chore services, community social worker services and juvenile delinquency intervention.

For more information about NYFS, call 651-486-3808 or visit www.nyfs.org.

Taste of the Northwest

Thursday Sept. 27 from 5:30-9 p.m. at the Shoreview Community Center. Tickets are \$25 in advance or \$35 at the door. Advance reservations are recommended. For more information, call Sandra Bahr at 651-379-3422.

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