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Hotel Monteleone Raised \$15,000 for Louisiana Troops During Tailgating Block Party

Party featured tailgating cook-off during Saints v. Falcons football game

New Orleans, LA (November 2011) – On November 13, the <u>Hotel Monteleone</u> raised more than \$15,000 for Louisiana service members and wounded warriors from <u>Operation Homefront Louisiana</u> (OH) at its tailgating cook-off party during the Saints v. Atlanta football game on the 200 block of Royal Street.

While the event was free to get in, fans purchased tickets for food and drinks. With the help of eight of the city's top chefs and a number of sponsors, the Hotel raised enough money to purchase Thanksgiving turkeys, Christmas trees and other essential need items for the troops and their families during the holiday season. OH provides emergency financial support and other assistance to the families of current and inactive service members and wounded warriors.

"The Hotel Monteleone family and staff are extremely grateful to the men and women of our country who sacrifice their lives and time with their families for our freedom," said Andrea Thornton, director of sales and marketing for Hotel Monteleone. "We were ecstatic at the number of people who came out to show their support for our troops and cheer on the New Orleans Saints with us. We look forward to making this an annual event and raising even more money next year."

The party featured a tailgating food cook-off from famous New Orleans chefs including Chad Barbato from Café Adelaide, Tory McPhail from Commander's Palace, Kristen Preaux, aka "Jambalaya Girl," from Cook Me Somethin' Mister, Chef Alon Shaya from Domenica, Randy Buck from Hotel Monteleone, Matt Regan from Lüke, Michelle McRaney from Mr. B's Bistro and Chad Richardson from Pier 424. The chefs prepared classics off of the Ultimate Cooking Experience – the Big Green Egg. A few dishes included swordfish tacos; gumbo ya ya; grilled fennel sausage over polenta; grilled peach, red chili and wild boar brats; and chipotle barbecue pork shoulder. The Hotel served barbecue alligator and crawfish sausage over hot creole potato salad with Cajun brown butter and gooey artichoke bread.

The local Fox affiliate broadcasted the pre-game commentary live from the front of the Hotel Monteleone to show viewers the true spirit and devotion of New Orleans Saints fans. The block party included a 9 foot by 12 foot screen that showed the football game. Additionally, "Chef and the Fatman," the popular talk radio program hosted by Executive Chef Fred Genovese and Kevin Jenkins, recorded live during the event.

Event sponsors included Anheuser Busch, Baumer Foods, Inc. and Crystal Hot Sauce, Big Green Egg, Chef and the Fatman, Coca-Cola, Demo Diva, EFFEN® Vodka and EFFEN® Cucumber Vodka, F.H. Myers Construction, Finest Call Bloody Mary, FSC Interactive, WVUE Fox 8, Hornitos, Hotel Monteleone, Jambalaya Girl and Cook Me Somethin' Mister, Limousine Livery, Operation Homefront Louisiana, Rouses, Royal Productions, Shuman Produce and RealSweet onions, Skinnygirl, Whole Foods, Zapp's Potato Chips and Zatarain's.

For more information about Hotel Monteleone or to make reservations stay at the hotel, please visit www.hotelmonteleone.com or call 504-523-3341. Become a fan on Facebook and help the Hotel reach its 125th Anniversary goal of 12,500 fans! Follow the Hotel Monteleone on Twitter @hotelmonteleone and @carouselbar.

Since 1886, the Hotel Monteleone, www.hotelmonteleone.com, has proudly stood as one of the first landmarks in the famous French Quarter. The hotel is the Quarter's largest full-service hotel, featuring 600 comfortable, luxurious guestrooms and suites. Hotel Monteleone is within walking-distance of some of New Orleans most famous attractions and is conveniently located 11 miles from the Louis Armstrong International Airport. Hotel Monteleone is a member of the Preferred Hotels® & Resorts, a consecutive AAA Four Diamond award-winner, and has won the J.D. Power and Associates Upscale Hotel Award for "An Outstanding Guest Experience." The Hotel Monteleone is celebrating its 125th anniversary in 2011.

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