

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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WALLED LAKE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
PRESENTS THE 4th ANNUAL
“BILL COMPTON SUPPORT OUR TROOPS 5K RUN”

WALLED LAKE, MI, May 1, 2012 – The Walled Lake Downtown Development Authority (DDA) will hold its fourth annual “Bill Compton Support Our Troops 5K Run and 1M Fun Walk” Memorial weekend on Sunday, May 27, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. at E. Walled Lake Drive and Ferland Street in Walled Lake’s Historic Lakefront District. Named in memory of Bill Compton, a highly decorated WWII veteran and long-time resident of Walled Lake, this event is a fundraiser for two military charities; the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Lawrence A. Sims Wixom Post 2269 and [Operation Hug-A-Hero](#).

The VFW Lawrence A. Sims Wixom Post 2269 and its Ladies Auxiliary’s charity and assistance extend well beyond the realm of veterans helping veterans. Their Community Service programs are designed to encourage community service and increase civic pride, which ultimately enhances education, improves the environment and ensures the availability of health services for our nation’s veterans. Whether providing scholarships to our nation's youth or helping veterans receive the entitlements they have earned, they are here to “honor the dead by helping the living.”

Operation Hug-A-Hero® (OHAH) helps comfort the children of our American heroes working valiantly in support of our nation’s homeland security by providing them with a **free Hug-A-**

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Hero® doll. They ensure that each child in the Hug-A-Hero program has a tangible, available and comforting connection to his/her “hero” while that hero is serving our nation away from home, at home in harm’s way, or if fallen, for a lifetime. For more information on the wonderful work they are doing for the children of our military go to **OperationHugAHero.org.**

The Walled Lake DDA is inviting everyone to come out and enjoy a run or walk along the shores of Walled Lake, while showing their support for our military personnel and their families. The Support Our Troops 5K Run will begin with a grand opening celebration that includes an Honor Guard flag raising ceremony. All runners and walkers will enjoy a healthy brunch after the event provided by Uptown Grille and Great Harvest Bread in Commerce Township.

This event is made possible through generous sponsorships of local businesses and non-profit organizations including: the U.S. Army; VFW Wixom and South Lyon Post; Shuman Chrysler Jeep; Bazonzoes; Green Solutions; Citizens Bank; Modern Floors; Casey’s Irish Pub & Sushi Bar; the Spinal Column Newsweekly, SAIC, Li’l Nel’s Pet Salon and Doggy Daycare; Melvin’s ACE Hardware and Walled Lake Eagles #3492.

The Walled Lake Downtown Development Authority was created in 1990 to ensure the ongoing growth and improvement of Downtown Walled Lake. The DDA area encompasses the city’s commercial district and is home to over 200 businesses. The DDA is responsible for business recruitment, retention and marketing the downtown.

For more information about the Walled Lake DDA and their events go to www.DowntownWalledLake.org or contact DDA Executive Director Charlene Long at 248-926-9004, email charleneklong@att.net.

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