***News Release/Feature Story***

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**Laziza Partners with The Ben Curtis Family Foundation for the Holidays!**

 *Mediterranean restaurant hosts benefit to help feed needy this December*

KENT, Ohio – As the holidays are fast approaching it is time once again to reflect on the year past, give thanks and help those who are not as fortunate. Laziza will be hosting an event to help benefit The Ben Curtis Family Foundation’s “Very Merry Dinner”, a special event to help achieve the family’s mission of alleviating childhood hunger by providing an evening of holiday cheer for the children and families.

To help raise money for this special event, Ben Curtis, PGA professional golfer and Kent State graduate will be appearing as a celebrity bartender at Laziza Friday, December 4 from 6-9 p.m. Laziza encourages the community to come in and order a signature “Curtis Cocktail” made by Ben Curtis himself. All will be donated to the Very Merry Dinner.

“Come eat, drink and be Merry for a great cause,” said Kyle Chaboudy, manager of Laziza. Laziza will also be choosing a different entrée and drink on the weekends where all proceeds will also be donated to the Very Merry Dinner event-taking place December 20.

The Ben Curtis Family Foundation was developed in 2011 by husband and wife Ben and Candice Curtis. The couple had first sparked interest in creating the foundation after watching a television special on hunger. The program led the Curtis’s to research the problems of hunger not just in America but also in their own backyard.

 Inspired by that need, the couple believed in connecting local communities to help children succeed. The Foundation has created many opportunities and programs to help the kids and families in the Kent area.

The Ben Curtis Family Foundation is debuting their very first annual Very Merry Dinner.

“What we hope will become a holiday tradition is a magical evening of Christmas cheer for local food-insecure children and their families during the holiday season –a night of friendly smiles, warm hugs, a hot meal and fresh baked cookies,” said Ben Curtis.

The children and their families will be picked up by the elves (community volunteers) and taken to the Overlook restaurant at Twin Lakes. The Overlook is a fine dining restaurant that is under the same ownership of Laziza, Michael Awad. Since Overlook and Laziza are sister companies, employees from both companies will be volunteering and working together with the Overlook employees to help with the Very Merry Dinner event.

Once the families arrive at the events destination, they will be treated to a sit down dinner, photos with Santa and have the experience to enjoy milk and cookies with Mrs. Claus. Afterward the families will be returned home with a Christmas meal and gifts for Christmas morning. For more information on the Very Merry Dinner visit the Ben Curtis Family Foundation website linked at the bottom of the page.

One hundred percent of all donations will be used to serve needy children and families in the Kent City School District. The Ben Curtis Family Foundation is in need of generous and selfless support of local individuals, community organizations and businesses.

For more information on Laziza visit [www.yourLaziza.com](http://www.yourLaziza.com)

For more information on The Ben Curtis Family Foundation visit <http://www.bencurtisfoundation.org/>

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For more information on upcoming events, or reservations, please check out Laziza’s social media sites on Facebook, Twitter- @yourLaziza and Instagram- @yourLaziza