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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Greater Akron Chamber's 104th Annual Meeting
Will Showcase Akron's Advancement

The ongoing revitalization of Akron will take center stage on **Thursday, March 24, 2011**, at Akron's preeminent "must-be-there" event: the Greater Akron Chamber's 104th Annual Meeting.

Economic progress, civic pride and innovative projects will be celebrated and advanced, as members and friends (typically some 800 regional business and civic leaders) convene at 5:00 p.m. for an evening of socializing, reports on 2010 accomplishments, election of board members and other business. The event, sponsored by BCG & Company, will be held at the John S. Knight Center, 77 East Mill Street in Akron.

For more than 100 years, the Greater Akron Chamber's Annual Meeting has been one of the most popular gatherings of business and community leaders. Each year, decision-makers from private and public sectors convene to commemorate the many successes of the past year, share plans for the future and enjoy excellent company and camaraderie.

For the past six years, the Chamber has presented the H. Peter Burg Award to a business leader who has demonstrated extraordinary leadership in promoting economic development in the Greater Akron Region. This year, **Joseph S. Kanfer**, Chairman and CEO of GOJO Industries, will be the sixth recipient of the **H. Peter Burg Business Leadership Award**.

Joe Kanfer is Chairman and CEO of GOJO Industries. With headquarters in Akron, Ohio, GOJO is a world leader in the field of hygiene and skin care products for institutional markets and known as the inventor of PURELL Instant Hand Sanitizer. Among many other activities, Mr. Kanfer is involved in the Akron and Ohio communities including Chair of Akron Tomorrow and is past Vice Chair of The University of Akron Board of Trustees.

Back by popular demand, there will be a silent auction with a limited number of unique items. Proceeds from the silent auction will benefit the Chamber's educational programming. Tables of ten are available and table and patron sponsorships are available. Individual reservations are \$85 for Chamber members and \$100 for non-members.

Reservations for the 104th Annual Meeting should be made by **Thursday, March 17, 2011**. Registrations can be made online at www.greaterakronchamber.org, by e-mail to Tony Rinella at rinella@greaterakronchamber.org or by calling (330) 237-1250.

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The mission of the Greater Akron Chamber is to drive economic development and prosperity for the people of the Greater Akron Region.

Serving Medina, Portage & Summit Counties

Fact Sheet: H. Peter Burg Business Leadership Award.

The H. Peter Burg Business Leadership Award is given each year by the Greater Akron Chamber to a business leader who has served as a role model and who has enhanced local and regional economic and community development.

The highlight each year of the Chamber's popular and hugely attended Annual Meeting, the award was established in 2004 by the Greater Akron Chamber's Executive Committee and Akron Tomorrow trustees. It carries much prestige and its honorees have reflected the intense commitment to civic life and the shared community that is distinctive to the Greater Akron area.

The award is named in memory of H. Peter Burg, late chairman and chief executive officer of FirstEnergy Corporation, who was a business leader and preeminent supporter and cheerleader of Akron and Northeast Ohio.

H. Peter Burg

Mr. Burg balanced an honored professional career with passionate community involvement. His service included serving as a board member at Akron Children's Hospital, United Way of Summit County, the American Red Cross of Summit and Portage County, and Akron Tomorrow, as well as many other civic and community organizations.

Mr. Burg grew up in the working-class neighborhood of Goodyear Heights in Akron, Ohio, and attended Saint Vincent High School, where he starred in football and basketball. He earned a BA and MBA from the University of Akron. In 1968, while he was still in college, he began his career with Ohio Edison electric power company in Akron. Over the three-and-a-half decades of his career, H. Peter Burg rose from being a financial analyst trainee with an Ohio-based electric power company to chairman and CEO of the fifth-largest power system in the nation.

He was a tireless supporter of many community and industry organizations, serving as chairman of Team NEO, and on the boards of the Ohio Business Roundtable; Akron Tomorrow; Cleveland Tomorrow; Ohio Foundation of Independent Colleges; Catholic Diocese of Cleveland Foundation; Musical Arts Association; Akron Children's Hospital; United Way of Summit County, and the Summit County Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Mr. Burg's many community awards included the prestigious 2003 American Red Cross National Volunteer Fundraiser of the Year in recognition for his leadership in raising funds to build the new Red Cross Service Center in Akron; The University of Akron's Dr. Frank L. Simonetti Distinguished Business Alumni Award; and The University of Akron Alumni Honor Award.

Career: Ohio Edison, 1968–1973, financial analyst trainee, associate financial analyst, economic analyst, and director of financial studies; 1974–1985, treasurer; 1985–1989, vice president; 1989–1996, senior vice president; 1994–1995, Pennsylvania Power (Ohio Edison subsidiary), interim president; 1996–1999, Ohio Edison, president; 1997, CEO and CFO; FirstEnergy Corporation; 1999–2000, president and CEO; chairman and CEO, 2000–2004.