



DATE: September 11, 2009

CONTACT: Rebecca J. Guzy Woodford
Senior Vice President

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Chamber Sponsors Trip of a Lifetime China Tour in April 2010

China, a 5,000-year-old civilization, has always been one of the most exotic and intriguing destinations for travelers. Its rich cultural heritage – which includes the invention of moveable type, astronomy and spaghetti – has shaped world history. Today, China is an economic powerhouse that will continue to shape the world's future. Its unique business systems are ever evolving; its influence on the global markets grows daily. Any true understanding of China must encompass both its cultural history and its contemporary position as a business leader.

In April 2009, seventy-three people traveled to China through the first trip sponsored by the Greater Akron Chamber. The inexpensive and all-inclusive opportunity allowed participants to experience beautiful attractions filled with the richest cultures China has to offer, as a hands-on experience to learn their customs and culture. "China is a fascinating country which is propelling itself into the 21st Century," said one participant. Jeff Murphy, who went on the trip, added, "Our group learned a tremendous amount of the remarkable history of the country, its people and the nature of its economy and culture."

Due to the overwhelming success of our Spring trip, the Greater Akron Chamber scheduled two trips this Fall, from October 15-24, 2009. Once again, the Chamber is offering its members, family, friends, and others an opportunity to immerse themselves in the study of both the culture and business life of this unique country. Two trips are being offered in the Spring of 2010: **April 9-17, 2009, and April 10-18, 2009**. The 9-day excursion promises to be the educational adventure of a lifetime. Under the guidance of Citisinc International Inc., the Chamber has designed this trip to include not only sightseeing at some of the world's most famous landmarks – including The Great Wall, Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City and the Ming Emperor's tombs – but also the country's centers of commerce. Participants will visit not only Beijing, the capital and home to the most recent Olympics, but also Suzhou, Hangzhou and Shanghai, the mainland's financial and business center. There, travelers will tour the Pudong Economic Development Zone to learn about the manufacturing and financial models that fuel its worldwide success.

-more-

Serving Medina, Portage & Summit Counties

This 9-day tour is only \$2,099 per person (based on double occupancy). The price includes round-trip airfare from JFK airport, three full meals a day, English-speaking tour guides, 4-star and 5-star hotel accommodations, fees for all attractions and any applicable taxes.

The registration deadline is **November 25, 2009**. Your registration must include your non-refundable fee of \$200, payable only by check, which will be deducted from your \$2,099 fare. A current passport, valid through October 16, 2010, and a Chinese Visa are required.

Informational pre-tour orientation briefings are scheduled for **Wednesday, September 30, 2009**, from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m., at Cambria Suites (I-77 Exit 118/Massillon Rd./OH-241), 1787 Thorn Dr., Green (Uniontown), Ohio 44685, and **Tuesday, November 3, 2009**, from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m., at the downtown Akron-Summit County Public Library meeting room. The briefings will include discussion of an optional two-day trip to Xi'an to see the Terra Cotta Warriors. Please direct any questions to Tony Rinella at (330) 237-1250, rinella@greaterakronchamber.org or Becky Guzy at (330) 237-1227, guzy@greaterakronchamber.org.

For additional information about the China Trip, photos or upcoming trips, visit the Greater Akron Chamber's web site at www.greaterakronchamber.org.

###

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