

TOP PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHEFS TEAM UP AT SALISH LODGE & SPA TO END HUNGER IN WESTERN WASHINGTON

Iconic Pacific Northwest lodge to host "The Falls Come to Life" dinner and auction to benefit Food Lifeline

Snoqualmie, Wash. (December 7, 2009) – Salish Lodge & Spa announces "The Falls Come to Life" dinner and auction taking place on Friday, February 19, 2010 to benefit Food Lifeline, the largest hunger relief organization in Washington and local Feeding America member.

Salish Lodge's Chef de Cuisine of The Dining Room **Jack Strong** will host some of Seattle's most renowned chefs for an evening to celebrate some of the region's finest cuisine while raising money to feed hungry families in Western Washington. Each of the chefs will prepare a signature menu item to present a unique multi-course dining experience, which will include wine pairings from many of Washington State's celebrated wineries. The chef lineup includes:

- **John Howie**, chef and owner of Seastar Restaurant & Raw Bar, Sport Restaurant & Bar, Adriatic Grill and John Howie Steak
- **Brian McCracken and Dana Tough**, co-chefs of Spur Gastropub and Tavern Law
- **Kerry Sear**, executive chef of ART Restaurant & Lounge
- **Jason Stratton**, executive chef of Cascina Spinasse
- **Jack Strong**, chef de cuisine of The Dining Room at Salish Lodge & Spa

"Since arriving at Salish Lodge in Spring 2009, I've been amazed at the level of culinary talent here in the Seattle area," said Chef de Cuisine Jack Strong. "I am honored to welcome some of our region's most talented chefs to Salish Lodge & Spa in order to raise money for such a worthy cause."

The evening will be co-hosted by Q13 Fox News Anchor, **Mark Wright** and Auctioneer **Tim Leahy**. Kicking off with a reception, the event will also include a live auction with all the proceeds to benefit Food Lifeline. Each participating chef will donate an auction item featuring an intimate culinary experience at his or her restaurant, or at another exclusive location. The remaining auction items will feature high-end, hard-to-find culinary and travel experiences.

"Now in its third year, The Falls Come to Life has been an outstanding collaboration between Food Lifeline and the stars of Seattle's culinary community," said Linda Nageotte, president and CEO of Food Lifeline. "We are so grateful to Salish Lodge & Spa and the efforts of these guest chefs in their support of our mission to end hunger in Western Washington."

The Falls Come to Life will take place in The Dining Room at Salish Lodge & Spa on Friday, February 19, 2010. The evening will begin with a 6 p.m. reception followed by a 7:30 p.m. dinner. Space

is limited to 125 guests. Tickets are \$195 per person. For more information or to make a reservation visit salishlodge.com or call 800-2-SALISH. In addition, Salish Lodge & Spa will extend a special \$229 rate for overnight accommodations on that evening.

Salish Lodge & Spa

Consistently ranked among the best small resorts in the world, the AAA Four Diamond Salish Lodge & Spa overlooks the 268-foot Snoqualmie Falls. This iconic Pacific Northwest lodge has a world-renowned spa offering regionally inspired treatments, Chef Jack Strong's indigenous Northwest cuisine, an award-winning wine list and a variety of nearby recreational activities. Nestled in Washington's picturesque Cascade Mountains, each of its 89 guest rooms has a wood-burning fireplace, two-person whirlpool tub, goose-down comforter, feather bed and balcony or window seat. The resort is located 30 minutes east of downtown Seattle and within 40 minutes from Seattle-Tacoma International Airport. Salish Lodge & Spa is managed and operated by Seattle-based Columbia Hospitality, Inc. For more information or reservations, please call 800-2-SALISH or visit salishlodge.com.

Columbia Hospitality, Inc.

Columbia Hospitality, Inc. (Columbia), a Seattle-based hospitality management and consulting firm with a growing portfolio of award-winning hotels, spas, conference centers and unique hospitality venues, was founded in 1995 by John Oppenheimer. Columbia creates memorable experiences for guests and team members while achieving phenomenal results for owners. The company's continued success has led to an international expansion of the consulting division and more than 80 hospitality development projects worldwide. For more information about Columbia and a full list of properties visit columbiahospitality.com.

About Food Lifeline

Food Lifeline is a local hunger relief organization, efficiently serving the Western Washington area by using 95% of revenue to directly feed hungry people. Last year the organization delivered more than 19 million meals to hungry people through its network of more than 300 neighborhood food banks, hot meal programs, shelters and other food providers. Food Lifeline is also a member of the national organization, Feeding America. For more information about Food Lifeline or to make a tax-deductible donation, log onto www.foodlifeline.org or call 206-545-6600.

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MEDIA CONTACTS:

Erin Petrie / Kristin Riefflin

greenrubino

Direct: 206.957.4248 / 206.452.8172

erinp@greenrubino.com / kristinr@greenrubino.com