

MEDIA ALERT

FIRST ANNUAL KITSAP WINE FESTIVAL SELLS OUT AND DELIGHTS GUESTS FROM AROUND THE REGION

Second annual event to take place Saturday, August 14, 2010



(Photo Caption: Photo #1, L-R, Cary Bozeman, CEO for the Port of Bremerton, and Scott Bosch, president and CEO of Harrison Medical Center, pose for the camera while taking in the first Annual Kitsap Wine Festival. Photo #2, Guests meander through Harborside Fountain Park sipping and savoring the region's food and wine.)

Bremerton, Wash. (November 9, 2009) – The Kitsap Wine Festival at Harborside Fountain Park, a celebration of food and wine on Bremerton's scenic waterfront, took place on Sunday, August 23, garnering 400 guests from the Kitsap Peninsula, Seattle and beyond. On the heels of a sold-out inaugural event, plans are already in the works for the Second Annual Kitsap Wine Festival that will take place on Saturday, August 14, 2010.

A collaboration between The City of Bremerton, The Port of Bremerton, Kitsap Conference Center at Bremerton Harborside and Harrison Medical Center Foundation, the event delighted guests with bites from local purveyors, sips from Pacific Northwest wineries, scenic views and live music.

"The success of the First Annual Kitsap Wine Festival is a testament to the community's great achievement in making the Bremerton waterfront a destination for visitors from around the region," said Terry Halvorson, general manager of Kitsap Conference Center at Bremerton Harborside. "The event was a true team effort between our local businesses and community groups who came together to showcase the talent and bounty of local purveyors and wineries from around the state."

More than 25 wineries from around the state poured wine while guests meandered through the spectacular Harborside Fountain Park, enjoying live music while taking in views of Puget Sound and the Port of Bremerton Marina.

Cuisine was provided by Chef Marsha Henry of Kitsap Conference Center, Chef Shawn Walker of Anthony's at Sinclair Inlet and a variety of local artisan food producers like Townsend Creamery from Port Townsend, Amy's Chocolates from Bremerton and Crimson Cove Smoked Specialties from Poulsbo.

Proceeds from the event benefitted Harrison Medical Center Foundation and its mission to make a positive difference in people's lives through exceptional medical care.

About Kitsap Conference Center at Bremerton Harborside

Kitsap Conference Center at Bremerton Harborside is a high-tech conference center on the waterfront of Bremerton, Wash. The conference center is available for professional conferences and retreats, banquets, weddings and other special events. Kitsap Conference Center can accommodate groups of 10 to 750 guests. The center, which is a one-hour ferry ride from downtown Seattle, offers views of Sinclair Inlet and is literally 100 steps from the Seattle-Bremerton ferry terminal. Amenities include free Wi-Fi service, videoconferencing, teleconferencing and on-site catering. The conference center is owned by the City of Bremerton and managed and operated by Seattle-based Columbia Hospitality, Inc. For more information, visit kitsapconferencecenter.com.

About Anthony's at Sinclair Inlet

Anthony's at Sinclair Inlet is part of the Anthony's family of waterfront restaurants located throughout Washington and in Bend, Oregon. Locally owned, Anthony's owns and operates its own seafood company to ensure their restaurants serve only the finest and freshest seafood. The restaurants complement their fresh fish with fresh-from-the-farm, in-season local produce, Northwest wines, local microbrews and Washington beef, providing their guests with a truly Northwest dining experience. For more information visit anthonys.com.

About Columbia Hospitality

Columbia Hospitality, Inc. (Columbia), a Seattle-based hospitality management and consulting firm specializing in luxury hotel and resort management, was founded in 1995 by John Oppenheimer. Columbia's growing portfolio of premier properties, including boutique hotels, award-winning resorts, mixed-use hotel developments, event venues and conference centers, offer world-class service in exquisite settings. Columbia creates memorable experiences for guests and employees 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 in the western United States, Canada, Florida, Portugal and the United Kingdom. For more information about Columbia and a full list of properties visit columbiahospitality.com.

*****Note: additional photos are available upon request.***

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