

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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A Celebration of Local Harvest Fundraiser for the Western Wake Farmers' Market

Cary, North Carolina, April 1, 2010 – The Umstead Hotel and Spa and Herons are pleased to announce a fundraising event benefitting the Western Wake Farmers' Market on May 21st. The fundraiser will take place from 6-8pm in the Ballroom of The Umstead. Tickets for the event are \$60 per person and are being sold at www.westernwakefarmersmarket.org or by visiting the Western Wake Farmers' Market in Cary.

This event will showcase the cuisine of Executive Chef Scott Crawford with fresh produce sourced directly from the farmers at the market. The standing reception will feature artfully prepared hors d'oeuvres, a local specialty cheese and bread display, carving station and a seasonal fruit and dessert display. Cocktails, wine and beer will be offered to compliment the flavors of the cuisine. Music by guitarist and songwriter Michael George Gonzalez will be playing live while farmers and artisans from the market engage in conversation with attendees. A silent auction will feature a selection of gift baskets, services and other items from local businesses.

Proceeds of the event and auction will support the farmers' market and its educational initiatives related to local, healthful eating. Any businesses that wish to donate to the auction or the market itself, may contact Lisa Flanagan at lflanagan@ix.netcom.com.

Attire is business casual, and complimentary valet parking is available. For guests who would like to enjoy the comforts of this luxurious Forbes Five Star hotel and spa on the evening of May 21, The Umstead is offering a special rate of \$179. Call 919-447-4050 and mention booking code WEST0510 for this rate.

The Western Wake Farmers' Market is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization. The market's mission is for all people in our community to become educated about and benefit from locally grown food. The aim is to help *all* walks of life, from the farmers to the local community members to those less fortunate who might need assistance through the local food bank. The WWFM partners with the Inter-Faith Food Shuttle in recovering nutritious, perishable foods for the hungry in our area.

The Umstead Hotel and Spa (www.theumstead.com) is nestled against a beautiful three-acre lake, steps away from walking and jogging trails as well as The Umstead State Park. The 150 oversized guest rooms include luxurious furnishings and signature amenities. Adjacent to the hotel, the plush Umstead Spa features the finest treatment rooms, a meditation courtyard and more. The celebrated food and wine program and cuisine of new Executive Chef Scott Crawford are featured in the signature restaurant, Herons, and throughout the hotel. The independently owned and operated Umstead Hotel and Spa is North Carolina's first full service hotel to receive AAA's coveted Five-Diamond Award and is a Forbes Five-Star rated property, a member of Leading Hotels of the World and Leading Spas of the World. For reservations and information, call toll-free at 1-866-877-4141.

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