



**For Immediate Release**

Contact: Robin Cavanaugh  
713-851-4478, [RobinCavanaugh@comcast.net](mailto:RobinCavanaugh@comcast.net)

**HOUSTON'S WINE & FOOD WEEK POPS A CORK JUNE 6-12  
WITH A TOAST TO TRUE SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY**

**--More than 10,000 expected to attend Texas' largest culinary and wine explosion--**

**HOUSTON** (May 1, 2011) ... Foodies and wine-lovers, mark your calendars for Houston's 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Wine & Food Week scheduled for June 6-12, 2011. Guests will enjoy Southern hospitality to the max with exceptional wine experiences for the novice to the enthusiast paired with culinary creations by some of America's top chefs. Wine & Food Week is the largest, most comprehensive epicurean extravaganza from New Orleans to Aspen and in 2011 celebrates Southern cuisine.

One of the top 10 destination culinary and wine events in the US, Wine & Food Week's gastronomic grandeur features over 40 events with more than 500 wines, 50 restaurants, legendary wine producers and culinary personalities from across the country, and a vast collection of craft beers and gourmet food purveyors. Wine education classes, chef demonstrations, cookbook author events, live and silent auctions, and casual to fine wine-and-dine experiences round out the week's festivities. **The official Wine Wizard and Master of Ceremonies is two-time Super Bowl Champion, Jarvis Green, a defensive lineman for the Houston Texans, wine enthusiast and collector. Wizard Gourmet 2011 is Rebecca Lang of Southern Living Television, chef and author of *Quick Fix Southern*.**

The big three not-to-be-missed events include Thursday, June 9's **H-E-B Wine Walk @ Market Street**, a taste and stroll experience in a European-style center featuring 40 wine tasting stations, light bites, live music and interactive fun; **Sips, Suds & Sliders**, a Texas-size celebration featuring live music, craft beers, wine tastings and a gourmet slider competition on Friday, June 10; and the ultimate adult evening is Saturday, June 11: **The Wine Rendezvous Grand Tasting & TEXAS MONTHLY Chef Showcase** where guests sample delectable cuisine and hundreds of wines as chefs representing more than 50 restaurants compete for the national **Wine & Food Week's Waterford Crystal "Chef of Chefs" Award** and a \$5,000 cash and prize package. To complete the evening, the epicurean experience culminates with the "Just Desserts" contest presented by *My Table*, a confectionary competition to crown the night's dessert extraordinaire.

Distinguished food judges include Wine & Food Week's Wizard Gourmet Rebecca Lang, chef, author, and contributing editor to *Southern Living* and *myrecipes.com*, *Houston Chronicle* Restaurant Critic Syd Kearney, *Southern Living* Senior Food Editor Shirley Harrington, David Kellaway, Director of the Culinary Institute of America San Antonio, Ernie Manouse, Emmy award winning Host of "InnerVIEWS" on HoustonPBS, and *TEXAS MONTHLY* Restaurant Critic Patricia Sharpe who will present the Waterford Crystal "Chef of Chefs" Award.

The “Just Desserts” competition for a \$1,000 cash prize will be judged by Houston Community College Chef Eddy Van Damme, the “Prince of Pastry” and co-author of the baking text book *On Baking*, and Emmy award winning journalist Tanji Patton, host of “Good Taste with Tanji” on [goodtaste.tv](http://goodtaste.tv).

Along with the expected Wine & Dine dinners, luncheons and seminars, Wine & Food Week attendees may choose from favorites such as **The Ladies of the Vine Luncheon, It’s a Guy Thing**, and the **Capital One Bank Platinum Wine Vault** tasting, a fine wine experience with the most highly allocated wines.

Major sponsors of Wine & Food Week include H-E-B, Capital One Bank, Waterford Crystal, Cadillac, United Airlines, *TEXAS MONTHLY*, *My Table*, The Woodlands Convention & Visitors Bureau, ZAGAT, and Republic National Distributing Company.

Wine & Food Week events and auctions benefit the culinary arts program at Houston Community College Systems Foundation, the Signature Series Literacy efforts of The John Cooper School, and Swing for a Cure. Most of the 40 events are held at the venues in The Woodlands, with unique experiences throughout Houston. For ticket information and a complete schedule, visit [www.wineandfoodweek.com](http://www.wineandfoodweek.com) or call 713.557.5732.

Wine & Food Week, produced by Food & Vine Time Productions, is the first comprehensive destination culinary and wine event to promote green living. Owners Clifton and Constance McDerby are dedicated to enhancing the quality of life and health of Houstonians by educating the novice to the aficionado on wines and fine dining featuring sustainable ingredients. Food & Vine Time Productions also produce Haute Wheels Houston, The Food Truck Festival, Zest in the West, Katy Sip & Stroll, and BrewMasters International Beer Festival. Since its inception in 2005, Food & Vine Time Productions has donated more than \$350,000 to local charities through live and silent auctions.

# # #

### **The Big Three Events**

#### **The H-E-B Wine Walk @ Market Street**

Thursday, June 9 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

The Woodlands’ Market Street, 9595 Six Pines Drive

Tickets are \$50 in advance; \$60 at the door, if available; \$75 for VIP tickets.

#### **Sips, Suds & Sliders**

Friday, June 10 from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

The Woodlands Waterway Marriott, 1601 Lake Robbins Dr.

Tickets are \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door, if available.

#### **Wine Rendezvous Grand Tasting & *TEXAS MONTHLY* Chef Showcase**

Saturday, June 11 from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Woodlands Marriott Waterway, 1601 Lake Robbins Dr.

Tickets are \$125 in advance; \$175 for Cadillac Premium Lounge tickets.

For more information, visit [www.wineandfoodweek.com](http://www.wineandfoodweek.com) or call 713-557-5732.

# # #

13518 North Tracewood Bend, Houston, Texas 77077 ~ 713-557-5732

[www.wineandfoodweek.com](http://www.wineandfoodweek.com)