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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wine Country Celebration & Grand Gala June 24 - 25 *Wineries From Yakima to Walla Walla Host Events*

SEATTLE, Wash. - (April 1, 2005) - You remember that darling Grand Vin! dinner and auction? Well, it keeps getting bigger and better. It has a new name: **Wine Country Celebration & Grand Gala** and benefits Washington Wine Country. It's going to be a whole weekend of enjoyment. Just look at the lineup of events:

Friday, June 24

- **Wine Country Golf Classic** at Columbia Point, a challenging course for all levels, in Richland. First tee-time is 9:30 a.m. Entry fee is \$150.00, which includes WAVE admission.
- **WAVE**, Washington's Arriving Vintners Event introduces up-and-coming wineries and will be held at Hedges Estate Winery on Red Mountain. Event begins at 5:00 p.m. Tickets are \$45. www.wavetasting.com

Friday & Saturday, June 24 & 25

- **Vintners Appellation Dinners** start Friday night at 7:30 p.m. at Alexandria Nicole Cellars, Fidelitas, Hedges Estate Winery, and Kestrel Vintners. Saturday night offers two choices; Three Rivers Winery dinner and concert with Al Stewart at 5:00 p.m., or Sheridan Vineyards in Zillah at 7:00 p.m. at Tickets for dinners range from \$85 - \$125.

Saturday, June 25

- **Picnics in the Vineyards**, a playful picnic among the lush vineyards hosted by renowned winemakers at Columbia Crest, Northstar Winery in Walla Walla and Tulip Lane wineries Barnard Griffin, J. Bookwalter Winery and Tagaris Winery. Picnics start at 11:00 a.m. Tickets are \$50 or \$99 with transportation from Seattle by Victoria Clipper.
- **Grand Gala**, the celebration's original event, is an exclusive, star-studded evening for 200 guests with a delectable menu, fine wine, a boutique auction and sultry entertainment. Held at the DeAtley Estate overlooking the Yakima Valley, the Gala will feature jazz vocalist Marilyn Scott and celebrated Chef Tom Black of The Restaurant at Alderbrook Resort and Barking Frog at Willows Lodge. By invitation only.

Tickets are available for single events or by package. Details on the event and sponsors can be found online at www.winecountrycelebration.com.

Formed in 2003, Washington Wine Country is a non-profit association of Eastern Washington businesses promoting wine-related tourism, economic development and recognition of the world-class wine-growing region comprising the Yakima Valley, Columbia Valley, Walla Walla Valley and Red Mountain appellations. www.winecountrywashington.org

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