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CASA PACIFICA - a California Non-profit 501 (C) (3)

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For: Assignment Editor

The arrival of June doesn't mean weddings – It means the Casa Pacifica Angels Wine & Food Festival is here

Camarillo, CA April 14, 2011 – Voted Ventura County's "Best Cultural Event" for three years in a row, the Casa Pacifica Angels Wine & Food Festival, will be held on Sunday, June 5th, from 1-5 p.m. on the beautiful campus of California State University Channel Islands. Last year the Festival broke its attendance records with over 4,800 people enjoying the day, and the record is expected to be broken again this year as word has spread far and wide about this top-notch, entertaining, fun-filled afternoon of wonderful wines, brews, and beverages, and delicious savory and sweet food samples. Hosted by the Zarley and Van Huisen Families once again this year, the price of admission to the event includes samplings from all the restaurants, wineries, breweries, caterers, bakeries, specialty shops, coffee and tea vendors, as well as continuous entertainment throughout the day, and a large silent auction. Artists scheduled to perform include Benise and his Band of Gipsys, The Spazmatics – a Tribute to the 80s band, Sound Effect (in the Four Seasons Hotel Westlake Village VIP Lounge), and a special surprise guest artist. Shawn McMaster will be performing his magic, and Ventura County's favorite emcee, Bruce Barrios, will be presiding over the stage.

An action-packed culinary competition will be held this year – the Yummie Top Chef Awards – involving Ventura County's top restaurants/caterers/bakeries and chefs. Celebrity Chef Fabio Viviani from the TV show "Top Chef" (seasons 5 & 8) and owner of Café Firenze and Firenze Osteria will preside as Head Judge, alongside the Brady Bunch's "Marcia" – Maureen McCormick – over a panel of celebrity judges comprised of television and print media personalities food and wine editors, and food and wine columnists. Together they will name winners in both "Savory" and "Sweet" categories based on flavor, presentation, innovation, and quality. Each entry judged must be a sample provided to all the guests attending the Wine & Food Festival – so everyone can enjoy the best of the best!

A special service offered for the first time last year, which was a resounding success, is the Safe Ride Program. Roadrunner Shuttle & Limousine Service will provide transportation to Festival-goers from their homes, a hotel, or train station to the event and back again from as far north as Santa Barbara and south into Los Angeles County. Prices start as low as \$15 per person each way. Ride reservations can be booked online at <http://shop.cpwineandfoodfestival.com/>, or by calling (805) 389-8196. Special "day-of" prices for last minute ride homes for festival-goers who realize they shouldn't drive will also be available. Check the Wine & Food Festival website for more information.

All proceeds from the Wine & Food Festival go to Casa Pacifica Centers for Children and Families – the largest nonprofit provider of children's mental health services in Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties whose mission is to provide hope and help to abused, neglected, or at-risk children. Last year, with those 4,800 guests in attendance, the Festival raised over \$268,000 toward the \$2.4 million that Casa Pacifica needs to raise in donations to meet its annual operating budget and provide its vital programs and services to our community.

Tickets for the Casa Pacifica Angels Wine & Food Festival can be purchased online at <http://shop.cpwineandfoodfestival.com/> where a list can also be found of retail establishments selling tickets, as well as an online guide to the participants in this year's event. Ticket prices are \$90 advance purchase or \$100 at the door the day of the event. VIP tickets are also available for \$200 and include entry to the event one-hour earlier than to the general public, a valet parking pass, as well as access to the special VIP Lounge sponsored by the Four Seasons Hotel, Westlake Village. The VIP Lounge features fine wines from Malibu Family Wines, the Anheuser Busch Belgium Beer Garden; and special food and sweets samples not found anywhere else at the Festival.

The Zarley Family, the Van Huisen Family, and the Casa Pacifica Angels are excited to present this premier event to benefit the important programs and services provided by Casa Pacifica. Sponsors include: *Champagne Sponsor* – Ventura Rental Party Center; *Burgandy Sponsors* –PODS, Mr. & Mrs. Sean Baker; *Cabernet Sauvignon Sponsors* – Digital Imagination Evolving Business; Fairis Hansen Trust/Leigh & Stan Jensen; Wells Fargo; *VIP Lounge Sponsor* – Four Seasons Hotel, Westlake Village; *VIP Cabana Sponsors* – Spanish Hills Country Club, Wades Wines; *Merlot Sponsors* – AAA Propane Services Inc.; Keets and Hugh Cassar; Colton Lee Communities, LLC; Compulink Business Systems; Cosmetic Specialties International, LLC; DEX; Harrison Industries; Lisa West & David C. Jaffe; Jaks Marketing Group; Mirada Petroleum, Inc.; PMA/I.L.W.U.; Premier Event Productions; U.S. Trust-Bank of America Private Wealth Management; and Ventura Signs and Screen Printing.

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Casa Pacifica is a crisis-care and residential treatment facility for abused, neglected, or at-risk children in the tri-Counties. The agency is the largest provider of children's mental health services in both Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties and administers a number of community-based programs which are designed to strengthen families and keep children in their own homes, schools, and communities.

For more information about Casa Pacifica view www.casapacific.org or contact the Development Department at (805) 445-7800.