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“LIVE UNITED WATERFIRE” TO CELEBRATE UNITED WAY OF RHODE ISLAND’S “LIVE UNITED” CAMPAIGN

Providence Hotels and Restaurants to Sponsor Only WaterFire in July

Providence, RI, (June 27, 2008) -- There will now be a WaterFire to light-up downtown during the month of July. The July 19th lighting of WaterFire will celebrate the kick-off of the United Way’s LIVE UNITED Campaign. LIVE UNITED seeks to engage a wider and ever-growing community in the work of United Way, a national, non-profit organization that aims to advance the common good through community activism.

In an incredible show of unity and for the first time in WaterFire history, Providence hotels and restaurants have joined together to ensure that the fires will burn brightly on July 19th. “Waterfire is both a nationally-recognized event and a strong economic generator for the Providence Tourism Community,” said Martha Sheridan, president and CEO of the PWCVB. “Our hoteliers and restaurateurs are happy to support WaterFire and- in turn- the United Way, which does important work in our community.”

“A July WaterFire is made possible because community resources came together in a creative way to make this lighting possible. What’s more the fire celebrates the work of one of the community’s most important philanthropic organizations, United Way of Rhode Island,” said Mayor David Cicilline. “Now no month that falls during this year’s WaterFire season is left dark, and Providence and its visitors will have one more chance to enjoy this popular attraction.”

Hotels and restaurants sponsoring the event include:

- Waterplace – A Pinelli Marra Restaurant
- The Courtyard by Marriott Downtown Providence
- The Hilton Providence
- The Hotel Providence
- The Marriott Providence Downtown
- The Providence Biltmore Hotel

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- The Radisson Hotel Providence Harbor
- The Renaissance Providence Hotel
- The Westin Providence
- 3 Steeple Street
- Bacaro
- Café Nuovo
- The Capital Grille
- Capriccio
- Federal Reserve
- Hemenway's
- Mill's Tavern
- Parkside Rotisserie and Bar
- Pot au Feu
- Red Stripe
- Ruth's Chris Steak House

WaterFire has been a popular celebration in Providence since 1994. The event's emphasis on community complements the LIVE UNITED mission of improving lives through unified community efforts. "WaterFire is a wonderful opportunity to showcase LIVE UNITED." said Anthony Maione, CEO of the United Way of Rhode Island. "WaterFire's communal atmosphere embodies the spirit of the LIVE UNITED message: give, advocate, and volunteer."

Martha Sheridan, and Steve Marra, co-owner of the Pinelli Marra Restaurant group, joined the Mayor, Mr. Evans, and Mr. Maione in announcing the new lighting.

About

United Way of Rhode Island

United Way of Rhode Island has been working to improve the quality of life in Rhode Island communities for over 80 years. UWRI's mission is to mobilize the caring power of the community to improve the lives of people in need and address the issues Rhode Islanders care most about. Our goal is to create long-lasting changes that prevent problems from happening in the first place. We believe that all Rhode Islanders deserve the opportunity to have a better life, as when any one of us succeeds, we all succeed. At United Way, we refer to this as advancing the common good. For more information, visit www.liveunitedri.org

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