

For Immediate Release

For More Information Contact:

Ellen Ruane, General Manager
(757)366-5763
eruane@BenchmarkManagement.com

Tony Loos, Director of Food and Beverage
(757) 366-5756
aloo@benchmarkmanagement.com

**Families Seek to Keep Tradition IN
While Dining OUT**

Virginia Beach, Va. (November 9, 2007) – Thanksgiving at home means warm-hearted people serving food and wine, an inviting, friendly atmosphere, fireplaces aglow, football games on TV in the other room, comfortable chairs and dynamic family conversation...but what about all the work?

If you conjure up an image of being busy doing all the work...give thanks – because Thanksgiving at The Founders Inn and Spa is tradition at its finest. Turkey, stuffing and all the makings of a traditional holiday meal are served at The Founders Inn and Spa at Swan Terrace Thursday, November 22, 11 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Reservations are required. The cost for each adult is \$36.00, for children 5-12 it is \$18 and children four and under dine free.

Thanksgiving is an increasingly popular day for dining out. More than one in ten Americans dine out for that holiday, according to the National Restaurant Association. Thanksgiving typically tops the month of November for diners served on a weekday. Yet families want to preserve the Thanksgiving tradition of enjoying the entire family while eating the customary meal.

At Swan Terrace, Thanksgiving tradition is central. Guests start out with a choice of salad - heirloom tomato, Waldorf or traditional Caesar. Explore assorted pates, terrines and meats served with cornichons, assorted fresh mustards and pearl onions. The horseradish and garlic crusted steamship round, promises to be succulent with your choice of balsamic au jus or caramelized onion veal sauce.

Two types of turkey claim the center of attention: cider brined Tom Turkey with giblet gravy and cranberry sauce or crab apple basted, roasted turkey. Stuffing satisfies dual tastes; traditional stuffing with apple and walnut as well as corn bread and oyster dressing. Fish lovers? Indulge in horseradish-rubbed Irish salmon, and ham-lovers enjoy glazed Surrey ham with Grand Marnier orange sauce.

The side dish selection, in culinary concurrence with customary Thanksgiving offerings, includes caramelized Vidalia onion mashed potato, pan gravy, sweet potato soufflé, and vegetable bouquet ere. Desserts, of course, include pumpkin and pecan pie, apple peach crumble.

Celebrating the holidays at The Founders Inn and Spa does not end with Thanksgiving dinner! The next event follows in just days. What could be a more fitting way to continue within the atmosphere of holiday spirit than a ride in an authentic, antique carriage and horses with sleigh bells on Grand Illumination Day, on Saturday, November 24? Tickets go on sale at noon – children \$6.00, adults \$9.00 - and rides last from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Carriage rides are also available Fridays and Saturdays, December 1 thru December 24, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The Founders Illumination Buffet serves holiday favorites all day, from 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

MORE

About The Founders Inn and Spa

Boasting old-world charm and the finest southern hospitality, The Founders Inn and Spa provides the appeal and warmth of a country inn, accented by beautiful antiques and historic artifacts, with a new \$5 million full-service resort spa, grand scale pool featuring a circular slide and interactive fountains, luxurious amenities and award-winning cuisine. The Inn's 240 guestrooms and suites include High Speed Internet access, generous workspace and views of 26 landscaped acres. Select rooms include gas fireplaces, and views of the lake and formal gardens. The Founders Inn and Spa is located at 5641 Indian River Road in Virginia Beach near exit 286B off Interstate 64 East. For reservations and additional information, please call 800-926-4466 or visit www.foundersinn.com.

Benchmark Hospitality manages The Founders Inn and Spa, as well as three other Virginia properties: Lansdowne Resort near Leesburg, a suburb of Washington, D.C.; and Virginia Crossings Resort in Richmond.

Benchmark Hospitality International, an independent hospitality management company based in The Woodlands (Houston), Texas, operates resorts, conference centers, hotels and condominium resorts both domestically and internationally. For locations of Benchmark Hospitality properties and for additional information, visit Benchmark's Website at www.benchmarkhospitality.com.

For general information contact:
Jean Mackay Vinson
(757) 366-5711
jvinson@benchmarkmanagement.com

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