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BOUTIQUE VENUES

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**BELLE MER'S DEBUT AT NEWPORT MANSIONS WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL
TO FEATURE CHEF DE CUISINE, JODI BERNHARD AT
SEPTEMBER 26th and 27th GRAND TASTINGS**

***Chef Bernhard's Tastings Will Feature Local Ingredients Including Rhode Island
Grown Produce and Rhode Island Farm Raised Lamb***

(Boston, MA) September 21, 2009 - Belle Mer is proud to announce that it will be participating in the 4th Annual Newport Mansions Wine & Food Festival being held September 25 – 27 on the grounds of the historic Marble House in Newport Rhode Island. Belle Mer will feature Longwood Events Chef de Cuisine, Jodi Bernhard at the Grand Tastings on September 26th and 27th between the hours of 12 noon and 4:30 p.m. Trade hour will be held on those dates between 11 a.m. and 12 noon.

Chef Jodi will be preparing tastings that feature locally grown ingredients including her unique hand cut potato chips cut from Rhode Island Royal potatoes, Spiced Apple Lasagna with Caramel Sauce & Calvados Cream with freshly picked apples from Narrow Lane Orchards in North Kingstown, RI and ethically farm raised lamb from Watson Farm located in Jamestown, RI. As an accompaniment to the lamb dishes, innovative sauces and sides will be fashioned from locally grown Cape Gooseberries and Huckleberries.

“I am very excited to be participating in the Newport Mansions Wine & Food Festival this year. It is an honor to be among some of the most talented chefs in the region at one of the most prestigious wine and food events on the East Coast” said Chef Jodi. “I am proud to be offering dishes that feature ingredients that are locally grown and raised. My philosophy is to always offer only the very best food product to our customers so naturally, the freshest and most appealing ingredients are going to be those that are gathered the day before and sometimes even just hours before preparation. I also feel it is important to support our local farmers and agriculture industry to the extent that we can. It's a passion of mine.”



Chef Jodi currently oversees the culinary direction for all the Longwood Events venues, including Belle Mer in Newport, RI, State Room in Boston, MA, and Veronique in Brookline MA. As Chef de Cuisine her philosophy is reflected in the customized menu offerings and the creative and non-traditional food pairings that Longwood Events venues are renowned for. Along with a select and highly regarded culinary team, Chef Jodi creates tailored menus that are inspired by the client's life experiences and gastronomic adventures. Chef Jodi attended the Cambridge School of Culinary Arts after she was struck by the culinary bug when she had the opportunity to create gourmet grilled cheese sandwiches for the cast of Drew University's Summer Shakespeare Festival. She left her New York stock brokers job and followed her passion for culinary innovation. She initially took a classical European approach to food arts but her culinary experiences have evolved into a more contemporary approach.

For more information about Chef de Cuisine Jodi Bernhard and more information about Belle Mer and other Longwood Events boutique venues, please visit us at longwoodevents.com, or call 617-854-5000.

ABOUT LONGWOOD EVENTS

Longwood Events is the premier full service event planning and management company in New England offering a portfolio of distinctive boutique event venues. Renowned for their legendary service, sophisticated ambience, spectacular settings and custom catered cuisine, Longwood Events delivers the exceptional event experience for the most discerning of hosts. Weddings, special occasion celebrations, corporate meetings and non-profit galas are all managed by a highly select and professional staff offering five star service and personal attention the smallest of details. Event venues include the urban chic of Sixty State Street, Boston, MA, the stunning oceanside vistas of Belle Mer, Newport, RI and the classic traditional setting of Veronique, Brookline, MA.

For more information on any of the Longwood Events venues, and to book your reservation, please contact us at 617.854.5000 or visit us online at www.longwoodevents.com.