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**ZAGATS NAMED HONORARY CO-CHAIRS OF
HUDSON VALLEY RESTAURANT WEEKS**

(NEWBURGH, N.Y.) – Tim and Nina Zagat, publishers of the world’s best-selling restaurant guides, have been named honorary co-chairs of Hudson Valley Restaurant Weeks, a 12-day celebration of fine dining in the Hudson Valley, now in its second year. This year’s Restaurant Week will take place from March 9 through March 21 (Sunday-Friday only) and has more than 70 restaurants in 7 counties participating.

“Having the Zagats as honorary co-chairs gives a tremendous boost to the visibility of Hudson Valley Restaurant Weeks,” says Janet Crawshaw, publisher of The Valley Table magazine, which organizes the event.

The Zagats, who own a home in Dutchess County, New York, have watched the Hudson Valley emerge as a culinary destination, noting that Restaurant Week offers diners the opportunity to sample the cuisine of many of the top-rated restaurants in Westchester and The Hudson Valley.

“With more than 25 new restaurants signing on, this year’s Hudson Valley Restaurant Week will be larger than ever, showing the growing strength of the region’s dining scene,” said Tim Zagat, who helped originate the first New York City Restaurant Week in 1992. “At \$16.09 for a three-course lunch or \$26.09 for a three-course dinner, this is the ideal opportunity for anyone who wants to try out the best dining in the Valley.”

Similar events have been held with great success in New York City, Boston, San Diego and Denver, to name a few. Diners can choose from a list of participating restaurants and are offered a prix-fixe lunch or dinner at considerable savings.

For every restaurant participating in the event, The Valley Table will make a donation to the Parkinson’s Disease Foundation. Some of the participating restaurants are designating a percentage of their sales on the first night of Restaurant Weeks to the charity as well.

The Valley Table is a quarterly magazine that provides in-depth information on everything having to do with food in the Hudson Valley--from food producers and restaurants to chefs and culinary heritage. An extensive interview with Mr. Zagat will be featured in the March issue of The Valley Table.

Hudson Valley Restaurant Weeks is presented by The Valley Table. Major sponsors include American Express, Hudson Valley Tourism, The Journal News, 100.7 WHUD, and The Gold Standard Marketing Communications, with additional support from Zwilling J.A. Henckels, The Thayer Hotel, Westchester Magazine, Hudson Valley Magazine, Millbrook Vineyards and Winery, Eagle Coffee International, Nina Hill of Wachovia Securities LLC, Chefs Warehouse and Westfair Business Publications (Westchester County Business Journal, Hudson Valley Business).

Members of the advisory board are Sheryl Ranke of Big Easy Bistro, John Crabtree of Crabtree's Kittle House, Laura Pensiero of Gigi Trattoria, Mary Kay Vrba of Hudson Valley Tourism, Lori Seldon of Mexican Radio, Agnes Devereux of The Village Tea Room, Peter Kelly of Xaviars Restaurant Group, and Chef Jeff Raider.

For more information and a complete list of participating restaurants, call 845-561-2022 or go online to www.HudsonValleyRestaurantWeek.com.