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The 19th Annual Gala at The Riverhouse Raises Over \$103,000 to Benefit Sparrow Clubs

January 17, 2011 – Bend, OR – The 19th Annual Gala at The Riverhouse, the annual fundraiser administered by The Riverhouse Hotel and the Central Oregon Visitors Association, raised just over \$103,000 at tonight's Gala to benefit Sparrow Clubs.

This year's event was full of excitement as 330 attendees enjoyed a five-course gourmet dinner, bid on an exciting mix of silent auction items, entered raffles to win exotic vacations and one-of-a-kind jewelry, and were entertained by Congressman Greg Walden and Featured Guest Speaker, Former Washington Redskins Quarterback, Super Bowl MVP and two-time Pro Bowler, Mark Rypien. Major sponsors included The Riverhouse Hotel, Central Oregon Visitors Association, Horizon Broadcasting Group, US Bank, North Coast Electric, BendBroadband, Cascade A&E, and KBNZ.

Proceeds from tonight's Gala will benefit Sparrow Clubs, which matches local children who are terminally ill with neighborhood organizations that 'adopt' the child and family, helping them emotionally and financially through such a difficult time. Founded nineteen years ago, the Gala has raised over \$1.4 million to date for beneficiaries such as KIDS Center, Family Resource Center, Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Oregon, Ronald McDonald House, Every Kid Fund, Deschutes Children's Foundation, Tower Theater, Cascade Youth and Family Center, Habitat For Humanity, Volunteers in Medicine and Heart of Oregon Corp.

The Gala at The Riverhouse is a unique fundraiser in that all the food and beverages, facility, production and services are all donated, thereby ensuring that 100% of ticket sales and silent auction proceeds directly benefit the selected charity. The Gala continues to be one of the most significant single events to benefit the community and people of Central Oregon. For more information, please contact Erin Woods at 541-617-7174.

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