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LON'S GIVES TO LOCAL AND NATIONAL CHARITIES

(Paradise Valley, AZ) --- When Fred and Jennifer Unger bought the historic Hermosa Inn in 1992, they continued a family and business tradition of "giving back" to the community. Both had grown up being taught the value of donating to worthy charities.

Last week, the Ungers and their management helped host a luncheon for one of their favorite local non-profits: Waste Not, an organization that collects more than 1.5 million pounds of excess perishable food annually from resorts, caterers and food purveyors, and delivers it to agencies that supply meals to the Valley's hungry.

The May 11th luncheon, held in Lon's, the Hermosa Inn's signature restaurant, brought out 60 members of the media and Valley chefs who had participated in Waste Not's annual Celebrity/Chef Challenge. More than \$57,000 was raised from 32 area restaurants, who pledged half of the cost of each entrée chosen by a media celebrity and sold during the month of April.

Hermosa Inn General Manager Mike Gildersleeve presented a check for \$732 from Lon's for the dish chosen by FOX 10 news new anchor Diane Ryan and prepared by Executive Chef Michael Rusconi. The selected entrée item was Natural Boneless Beef Short Ribs, with Vanilla Scented Potato Puree and Ancho Chile Chocolate Sauce.

Gildersleeve later said that he was pleased to have raised so much for hungry people in the Valley. "We have long had a commitment to helping others, and everyone at Lon's got behind this event.

"It was especially nice that the Waste Not board asked us to help with the annual winners' luncheon. Everyone seemed to have a great time, and I know they had a great meal!"

The Hermosa Inn was the only Paradise Valley property to participate in this year's Waste Not challenge.

Other charities Hermosa Inn supports include:

National Downs Syndrome Society	
Foundation for Burns & Trauma	
Phoenix Symphony	
Arizona Humane Society	Crisis Pregnancy Center
American Liver Alliance	Rotary International
Maggie's Place	Future for Kids
Make a Wish	AZ Historical Foundation
Homeward Bound	UMOM New Day Center
A Stepping Stone Foundation	Leukemia Society
United Way	American Liver Foundation
Phoenix Children's Hospital	KidsRead

The Hermosa Inn was purchased by Paradise Valley residents Fred and Jennifer Unger in 1992. Built in 1935 by cowboy artist Lon Megargee on 6-1/2 acres of prime Sonoran desert, the handsome landmark was meticulously restored by the Ungers to give guests an authentic sense of Arizona's unique history.

A boutique hotel centrally located between Phoenix and Scottsdale, it is located in the exclusive residential neighborhood of Paradise Valley.

Ruggedly distinctive interiors which showcase the artwork of Lon Megargee are found in each of the 35 individually decorated guest rooms as well as inside Lon's, the inn's award-winning restaurant featuring the Artful American Cuisine of Chef Michael Rusconi.

Lushly landscaped patios, wood-burning fireplaces, and breathtaking views of Camelback Mountain beckon locals and visitors alike to the legendary Hermosa Inn in Paradise Valley, Arizona.

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