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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**TASTE OF THE TOWNE WINE TASTING AND EDUCATION EVENT
TO BENEFIT LEADERSHIP ANNE ARUNDEL**

ANNAPOLIS, MD (December 22, 2009) – Laurie Forster, the Wine Coach ® and author of The Sipping Point: A Crash Course in Wine, will present “Taste of the Towne,” a wine education event at the Great Gatherings store in Annapolis Towne Centre on January 21, 2010 from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM. Ms. Forster will discuss the secrets of food and wine pairing at five sampling stations with different styles of wine and food provided by Annapolis Towne Center restaurants. Attendees will learn first-hand how to pair food and wine, while mastering the art of creating perfect pairings every time.

This event is a fundraiser for Leadership Anne Arundel (LAA) and marks the kickoff to LAA’s Annual Fund drive. Funds raised from this event, in combination with donations and grants, will enable Leadership Anne Arundel to provide leadership training for current participants in the Flagship and Executive Leadership Series programs, as well as graduates and individuals who participate in continuing education sessions on community issues.

"This event not only benefits the community, but also will be lots of fun and deliver on Laurie’s mission of demystifying wine one glass at a time,” said Kathy Nieberding, Leadership Anne Arundel’s development director.

Sponsorship opportunities are available. Vintner Sponsors who donate \$500 will receive recognition at the event, and in emails to LAA graduates and 4000 subscribers of The Wine Coach Newsletter. Sponsors will be on the Wine Coach® Facebook, and receive two tickets to the event and a signed copy of The Sipping Point: A Crash Course in Wine by Laurie Forster.

(more)

The vision of Leadership Anne Arundel is to develop and nurture community trustees who improve the quality of life in Anne Arundel County by convening diverse stakeholders, bridging their divides, and facilitating resolutions for the common good. Leadership Anne Arundel's mission is to provide people of diverse backgrounds with the education, resources and networks necessary to become successful proactive leaders. For more information, visit www.leadershipaa.org or call 410-571-9798.

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