



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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New Operator for Chautauqua Dining Hall Selected *Operators of Dushanbe Teahouse to manage iconic restaurant*

BOULDER, Colo. (September 10, 2012) – The Colorado Chautauqua Association, the nonprofit steward of Boulder’s cultural and historical gem, the Colorado Chautauqua National Historic Landmark, announced today that Lenny and Sara Martinelli, owners and operators of Three Leaf Concepts, will assume operations of the Chautauqua Dining Hall and catering services at Chautauqua beginning October 15.

Three Leaf Concepts operates the Boulder Dushanbe Teahouse and owns and operates other award-winning restaurants including Leaf, Aji, Naropa Café, The Huckleberry and Zucca as well as Three Leaf Farm and Three Leaf Catering. Also joining the Dining Hall team will be current managing partner of Aji and Leaf, and director of operations of Three Leaf Concepts, Gerald Manning.

The selection of the Three Leaf Concepts team concludes a ten-month process by the association to secure new operators for the 114-year old iconic restaurant. After 16 years running the Dining Hall successfully, current operators Rick and Susan Stein are stepping down to focus on their fine Italian dining restaurant, Alba, and enjoy more time for personal pursuits.

"Three Leaf Concepts' experience and dedication to community, customer service, sustainability, and healthy cuisine really impressed us during this process," said Susan Connelly, executive director of the CCA. "We are enthusiastic to work with them to build on the Dining Hall's legacy and further enhance its status as a community gathering place."

Built in 1898, the Chautauqua Dining Hall is famous for warm weather meals on its expansive and scenic wrap-around porch, as well as its year-round Sunday brunch buffet. The restaurant is a frequent recipient of "best places to dine" accolades and is a favorite Boulder location for weddings and social events.

"We want the new menu to be the epitome of 'Colorado' and feature local products and produce, even Colorado beer and wine," said Lenny Martinelli. "We're looking forward to bringing in fresh produce straight from our farm in Lafayette, and we want to create a warm, inviting Colorado experience for both visiting tourists and local residents."

The Chautauqua Dining Hall is open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner, as well as Sunday buffet brunch and dinner, through September 30. The Dining Hall will close beginning October 1 for a

scheduled roof replacement and energy efficiency and structural upgrades by the association, as well as interior renovations by Three Leaf Concepts. A grand re-opening of the Dining Hall is anticipated for April 2013. Reservations (through September 30 only) can be made online at www.chautauqua.com or by phone at 303.440.3776. Inquiries regarding special events at the Dining Hall for 2013 can be made to Melissa Lucas at Three Leaf Catering at 303.817.9476 or melissa@threeleafconcepts.com.

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*The **Colorado Chautauqua Association** is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that preserves, perpetuates and improves the site and spirit of the historic Chautauqua, enhancing its community and values through cultural, educational, social and recreational experiences. The chautauqua experience is based on lifelong learning, love of nature, voluntary simplicity, and music, oration and the arts. Historic significance, traditions, cultural relevance, respite and enrichment are among the community benefits provided by the Colorado Chautauqua. CCA serves as the steward of historic Chautauqua. It leases from the City of Boulder and has full responsibility for preservation and use of 26 acres of Chautauqua Park, home to many public buildings, gardens and 99 cottages, 58 of which are available for rental through the Association. The Colorado Chautauqua was designated a National Historic Landmark in 2006. The Colorado Chautauqua Association is a Scientific & Cultural Facilities District (SCFD) Tier II organization. For more information about the Colorado Chautauqua and the CCA visit www.chautauqua.com or www.facebook.com/coloradochautauqua. For access to historic photos, or to arrange interviews with executive director Susan Connelly, contact Ann Obenchain at 303.952.1645.*

***Three Leaf Concepts** is a group of restaurants, a catering company and a farm owned by Lenny and Sara Martinelli, who are passionate about providing fresh, natural, honest foods and ingredients. In 2011 they purchased Three Leaf Farm in order to grow the produce to supply their restaurants and catering business. When in season, fresh produce is harvested and delivered from the farm, and each chef is able to develop menu items and daily specials offering seasonable fruits, vegetables and herbs. For more information, visit threeleafconcepts.com. For high-resolution photography, or to schedule an interview with Owner/Operators Sara or Lenny Martinelli, contact Three Leaf Concepts' Director of Marketing, Sara Morell, at <mailto:saramorell@threeleafconcepts.com>*