



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Kristen Gillette

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**THE KORTNEY ROSE FOUNDATION TOASTED TO A MILLION AT SALT CREEK GRILLE'S 12<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL WINE & MARTINI TASTING**

*Foundation Honored by The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia*

Rumson, New Jersey (April 22, 2015) – The Salt Creek Grille, Rumson, today announced that its annual Wine & Martini Tasting raised nearly \$115,000 for pediatric brain cancer research. This year's event – the top grossing to date – was held on April 16 and benefitted The Kortney Rose Foundation (KRF). Generous support at the sold-out event helped the foundation hit its million-dollar mark in cumulative donations to The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP).

A highlight of the evening was KRF founder Kristen Gillette's induction into CHOP's Chairman's Circle. During formal remarks, she was presented with an honorary "brick" for the hospital's wall of million dollar donors. More than 95% of every dollar donated to the foundation goes directly to the life-saving research at CHOP and its world-class Children's Brain Tumor Tissue Consortium. Brain tumors are the leading cause of cancer-related death in children under 20.

"We've been overwhelmed by both the generosity and professionalism of everyone involved in this fine event, which was pivotal to our organization," said Gillette. "We thank Steve Bidgood for this opportunity and for his commitment to helping children's charities. Children are very underrepresented in the cancer research universe, so they have to rely on private foundations and generous individuals to fund research that could save their lives."

To date, over \$845,000 has been raised by The Salt Creek Grille's event for 12 local charities that serve children's needs. One hundred percent of the proceeds go directly to the charity thanks to donations of goods and services made by Salt Creek

Grille and its purveyors including Sickles Market, Lusty Lobster and The Bobby Boyd Trio.

“It was a great night for a great cause,” said Steve Bidgood, co-owner of Salt Creek Grille. “We are so thankful to all of our vendors who have donated to our event each year; and through this annual event we recognize the important roles that our local charities play within our community. It was wonderful to see how supportive everyone was and that the Kortney Rose Foundation reached its \$1 million mark!” he added.

*The Kortney Rose Foundation is a 501(c) (3) charity that was set up by Kortney’s parents, after her death in 2006 from a rare brain tumor, to create her legacy of helping other children through the promise of research. Since inception the foundation has built a playground in Kortney’s name, donated hundreds of thousands of dollars to the pediatric brain tumor research program at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) and helped establish its world-class Children’s Brain Tumor Tissue Consortium ([CBTTC.org](http://www.cbttc.org)). More than 95% of every dollar donated to KRF goes directly to this research. The foundation was also instrumental in passing legislation naming May as brain tumor awareness month in the State of New Jersey. In 2014, founder Kristen Gillette was presented with New Jersey Monthly’s “Seeds of Hope” award, which honors the state’s most dedicated volunteers.*  
<http://www.thekortneyrosefoundation.org>

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*New Jersey’s most popular waterfront restaurant, Salt Creek Grille, serves classic American Mesquite grille fare in an upscale, casual setting. Spectacular **waterfront views**. Open daily for dinner and Sunday Brunch with **an award winning wine list, full bar** and a magnificent **private dining room** with floor-to-ceiling river views that accommodates 20-150 guests. Happy Hour Monday – Friday 4-6:30 and fabulous mid week specials. **Salt Creek Grille, 4 Bingham Avenue, Rumson, NJ, [www.saltcreekgrille.com](http://www.saltcreekgrille.com)**  
**732.933.9272***