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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Waste Not Want Not Announces 2nd Annual Corks & Forks: The Cigars & Bourbon Edition

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – Waste Not Want Not will host its signature fundraising gala, **Corks & Forks** on **Saturday, September 26, 2026**, at the **Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa**. This year's theme "**The Cigars & Bourbon Edition**" promises the evening will bring together business leaders, philanthropists, and community champions to raise critical funds that help rescue surplus food and provide meals to thousands of neighbors experiencing food insecurity across Northeast Florida.

Guests will enjoy an unforgettable evening featuring exceptional cuisine, premium bourbon tastings, handcrafted cigar experiences with **Fire and Ash**, live entertainment by **Blackwater**, an exciting live auction, and inspiring stories of how rescued food is transforming lives throughout the region.

Event Details

- **Date:** Saturday, September 26, 2026
- **Time:** 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
- **Location:** Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa
1000 Tournament Players Club Blvd.
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082
- **Tickets:** \$250 General Admission | \$350 VIP

This year's Honorary Chairman is **Marc Hassan**, President & CEO of Spectrum Realty Services and a distinguished **Players Championship Red Coat**. Event co-chairs **Paul McDaniel** and **Christie Hingst** are leading this year's gala with a shared commitment to ensuring that no family has to choose between paying bills and putting food on the table.

"Waste Not Want Not represents the very best of our community - bringing people together to address a real need in a practical and meaningful way. I'm honored to serve as Honorary Chairman of Corks & Forks and to support an organization that is feeding our neighbors while ensuring that good food doesn't go to waste. It's a tremendous mission, and I hope our community will come together to support it." said Marc Hassan, Honorary Chairman,

"Corks & Forks is more than an evening of great food and fellowship - it's an investment in the health and well-being of our communities," said **Dr. Kathleen Spears, Executive Director of Waste Not Want Not**. "Every dollar raised helps rescue nutritious food that would otherwise go to waste and delivers it to children, seniors, veterans, and hardworking families who need it most."

Corporate sponsorship opportunities are available from **\$1,750 to \$15,000** and offer a variety of recognition benefits, including premium seating, program advertising, on-stage recognition, and year-round brand visibility. Custom sponsorship packages are also available to align with each organization's philanthropic and marketing objectives. To reserve tickets, become a sponsor, or request additional information, contact **Dr. Kathleen Spears** at kathleen@wastenotflorida.org

About Waste Not Want Not

Waste Not Want Not is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to ending hunger, reducing food waste, and strengthening communities across **14 counties in Northeast Florida**. As the region's only nonprofit solely focused on food rescue, the organization recovers high-quality surplus food from grocery stores, restaurants, distributors, and other food partners and redirects it to nearly 100 nonprofit agencies serving children, families, seniors, veterans, and individuals experiencing food insecurity.

Powered by hundreds of dedicated volunteers and a network of generous food donors, Waste Not Want Not rescues close to **2 million meals annually**, ensuring nutritious food nourishes people instead of filling landfills. Each week, the organization helps provide food for more than **15,000 neighbors**, creating healthier families while reducing environmental waste.

For more information, to volunteer, or to support the mission, visit www.wastenotflorida.org.

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