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Contact: AAA Washington
Jennifer Cook 425.646.2055

**The Heathman Hotel in Kirkland Earns First
AAA Four Diamond Award**

22 Seattle Area Hotels and Restaurants Earn 2009 AAA Four Diamond Award

Bellevue, Wash., (February 18, 2009) –The Heathman Hotel in Kirkland is the newest property to earn a AAA Four Diamond Award[®] in Washington. Additionally, four restaurants and 18 lodgings in the Seattle area have received the coveted AAA Four Diamond Award for 2009. Overall, the designation, one of the travel authority’s highest ratings for hotels and restaurants, was awarded to just 28 establishments in Washington and North Idaho in 2009. (A complete list is below.)

“Four Diamond lodgings and hotels represent the best the hospitality industry has to offer,” said Steve Pomranz, AAA Washington’s vice president of travel services. “These properties are extraordinary in every manner. Lodgings at this level offer guests a wide range of amenities and services, and restaurants feature a distinctive fine dining experience and distinct menus. We are pleased that so many establishments in our area have reached this level of service, and we are honored to present them with the AAA Four Diamond Award designation for 2009.”

Representing the upper echelon of the hospitality industry, AAA Four Diamond Award winners make up just 3.4 percent of the 58,000 AAA Diamond Rated lodgings and restaurants throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, and the Caribbean. AAA’s Diamond Rating System is the only ratings system that covers all of North America and one of only two that conducts physical, on-site evaluations. Information about AAA Diamond Ratings and the complete list of 2009 Four Diamond Award winners are accessible at AAA.com/Diamonds. Travelers can access detailed listings and photos of Diamond Rated hotels and restaurants by location on AAA.com.

AAA Washington has been serving members and the traveling public since 1904. The organization provides a variety of exclusive benefits, including roadside assistance, discounts, maps and trip routing, to its 985,000 members. In addition, its full-service travel and insurance agencies provide products and services for members and the public. Additional information is available through the company's 25 offices in Washington and northern Idaho, at www.AAA.com, or by calling 1-800-562-2582.

<i>2009 AAA Four Diamond Awards - Wa & N Id</i>			
Property Name	YEARS as 4 Diamond	Location	Phone
Lodgings			
Bellevue Club Hotel	13	BELLEVUE	425-454-4424
Hyatt Regency Bellevue	6	BELLEVUE	425-462-1234
The Westin Bellevue	3	BELLEVUE	425-638-1000
Alexis Hotel	26	SEATTLE	206-624-4844
Grand Hyatt Seattle	7	SEATTLE	206-774-1234
Hotel 1000	2	SEATTLE	206-957-1000
Hotel Monaco	11	SEATTLE	206-621-1770
Hotel Vintage Park	16	SEATTLE	206-624-8000
Inn at the Market	24	SEATTLE	206-443-3600
Pan Pacific Hotel Seattle	2	SEATTLE	206-264-8111
Sheraton Seattle Hotel	25	SEATTLE	206-621-9000
Sorrento Hotel	20	SEATTLE	206-622-6400
The Edgewater	3	SEATTLE	206-728-7000
The Westin Seattle	28	SEATTLE	206-728-1000
W Seattle	4	SEATTLE	206-264-6000
The Heathman Hotel	1	KIRKLAND	425-284-5800
Woodmark Hotel, Yacht Club & Spa	19	KIRKLAND	425-822-3700
Salish Lodge & Spa	19	SNOQUALMIE	425-888-2556
The Davenport Hotel and Tower	6	SPOKANE	509-455-8888
Sun Mountain Lodge	16	WINTHROP	509-996-2211
Semiahmoo Resort	13	BLAINE	360-318-2000
The Coeur d'Alene Resort	23	COEUR D'ALENE	208-765-4000
Restaurants			
The Georgian	20	SEATTLE	206-621-1700
Canlis	10	SEATTLE	206-283-3313
Rover's Restaurant	11	SEATTLE	206-325-7442
Salish Lodge Dining Room	18	SNOQUALMIE	425-888-2556
Sun Mountain Lodge Dining Room	8	WINTHROP	509-996-4707
Beverly's	20	COEUR D'ALENE	208-765-4000

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