

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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LOCAL FLORIST CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY
Karin's Florist, Family owned since 1956

Vienna, Virginia: *Karin's Florist* was established on October 26, 1956, at 7 Corners Shopping Center, by Bill Dukas and his father-in-law, George Raptis. It was one of the original stores in 7 Corners Mall, which was one of the first regional shopping malls in the U.S. Named after Bill's first born child and George's first grandchild, the business opened with only 4 employees, George & Mary Raptis, Bill Dukas and 1 driver. *Karin's* continued to grow over the years, still preserving its family atmosphere. Bill Dukas' son, George, joined full time in 1980, upon his college graduation, and is responsible for business development.

In 1995, after 38 years, *Karin's* relocated to its present location in Vienna, Virginia. At this point, Bill's daughter, Maris Angolia, joined the business and is responsible for operations.

Today, *Karin's* has over 25 in-store employees and 6 drivers. The physical size of the store has more than doubled, profits have increased steadily and customer service is still #1.

They are the proud recipients of the 2006-2007 W*USA 9 "A-List" Award for the Best Florist in the DC Metropolitan area and are past winners of several chamber and local community awards, including Vienna Tysons Chamber Business of the Year and Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce Small Business Service of the Year award.

The Dukas family attributes that success to the uniqueness of the store, their personnel and their loyal customers. Their #1 goal is make sure that they keep their customers happy. They achieve this by relying on top designers and delivery people and top quality flowers and gifts. Maris Angolia, Vice President, says "Our professional designers can take a customer's vision and make it come to life. We have a great team, always striving to make sure that the customer is happy. We have built great relationships over the years and now it is our turn to say a big thank you during our anniversary week celebration."

A lot has changed through the years, but one thing has remained the same: *Karin's* has kept its roots in Fairfax County, proudly serving the neighborhood it holds dear. To commemorate their Golden Anniversary, they'd like to carry on their founder's tradition of building relationships and serving the community. Please join them on Oct. 28th and Nov 1st for their Floral Extravaganza. (schedule attached.)

About Karin's Florist

Karin's Florist is one of the top 50 florists in the U.S. They are open Monday through Friday, 8am - 6pm and Saturday, 9am - 5pm, with 24 hour phone service and same-day delivery. Call 703-281-4141 or visit their website, www.karinsflorist.com, which features hundreds of arrangements. *Karin's Florist* provides beautiful fresh flower arrangements, fruit & gourmet gift baskets, Godiva Chocolate, wines & champagnes,

green and flowering plants, and more. Whether your delivery is around the corner or around the world, we can handle your floral and gift giving needs.

Karin's Florist is actively involved in the community and participates in many organizations, including the following: Vienna Tysons Chamber of Commerce, Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce, Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, Leadership Fairfax and Shelter House.

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Editor's Note: Photo opportunity available at Karin's Florist; see attached schedule.

KARIN'S FLORIST 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
October 28th - November 1st
527 Maple Avenue East, Vienna, VA

Floral Extravaganza Schedule of Events

Saturday, October 28th - Family Fun Day: (11am-4pm, unless otherwise noted)

- Meet Merlin Olsen (12pm - 4pm)
- Take your picture with Mr. Jelly Belly
- Meet the FTD Mercury Man (11am-3pm)
- Clown and magic show (2pm - 4pm)
- Face Painter (11am - 2pm)
- Spin the prize wheel - everyone wins. Prizes include iPods, dvds, car detailing, candy and gift certificates.
- Talented professional designers creating floral masterpieces (drawings for arrangements every hour)
- Rose prices at \$9.50/dozen, while supplies last
- Free popcorn and cotton candy

Tuesday, October 31st - Student Fundraiser Winning Team Announcement (4pm)

- The winner of the student fundraising contest will be announced. Youth teams from around the area have signed up to raise money for their schools, teams, etc. Each team receives 10% of the product proceeds when their team is mentioned during a sale. In addition, the top selling team receives recognition and prizes.

Wednesday, November 1st - Open House: (2pm - 6pm)

- Free tastings from our favorite gourmet food vendors
- Grand prize drawing at 5pm

For more information, please contact Maris Angolia at 703-242-4692 or maris@karinsflorist.com