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**LEE COCKERELL, RETIRED COO FOR WALT DISNEY WORLD® RESORT TO
SPEAK AT SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ON FEBRUARY 27, 2013**

Riverhead, NY - Suffolk County Community College welcomes guest lecturer Lee Cockerell, Retired Chief Operating Officer, Walt Disney World® Resort and creator of Disney Great Leader Strategies, on Wednesday, February 27th from 11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. at the College's Culinary Arts Center, 20 East Main Street in Riverhead. Mr. Cockerell will speak on the topic of *Creating Magic through Leadership Excellence*. This event is free and open to the public. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. Seats are limited to the first 200 people. Seating is on a first-come; first-served basis.

When Lee Cockerell announced his retirement on July 28, 2006 it marked the beginning of a new adventure for the former Executive Vice President of Operations for the Walt Disney World® Resort. As the Senior Operating Executive for ten years Mr. Cockerell led a team of 40,000 cast members and was responsible for the operations of 20 resort hotels, four theme parks, two water parks, a shopping and entertainment village and a sports and recreation complex in addition to the ancillary operations which supported the number one vacation destination in the world. One of his major and lasting legacies was the creation of Disney Great Leader Strategies, which continues on as the primary resource for developing the 7,000 leaders at Walt Disney World.

Mr. Cockerell has held various executive positions in the hospitality and entertainment business. He was employed with Hilton Hotels for eight years and the Marriott Corporation for 17 years before joining Disney in 1990 to open the Disneyland Paris project. He has served as Chairman of the Board of Heart of Florida United Way. He currently serves on the Board of Trustees for The Culinary Institute of America (CIA). In 2005, Governor Bush appointed Mr. Cockerell to the Governor's Commission on Volunteerism and Public Service for the state of Florida.

He has authored a book on leadership, management and service excellence which was published in 2008 and is now available in ten languages. Mr. Cockerell also performs leadership and service excellence consulting for organizations as well as the *Disney Institute*.



Photo Caption: Suffolk County Community College welcomes guest lecturer Lee Cockerell, Retired Chief Operating Officer, Walt Disney World® Resort on Wednesday, February 27 from 11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. at Suffolk County Community College's Culinary Arts Center in Riverhead. The event is open to the public.

About Suffolk County Community College

Suffolk County Community College (SCCC) is the largest community college in the State University of New York (SUNY) system, enrolling approximately 26,000 students at its three campuses in Selden, Brentwood and Riverhead. SCCC offers the Associate in Arts (A.A.), Associate in Science (A.S.), and Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degrees, as well as a variety of certificate programs. Offering affordable college tuition, a highly respected Honors program, extensive extracurricular activities, championship athletic teams, and numerous transfer programs, SCCC is a first-choice college for Long Island students. Visit us online at sunysuffolk.edu.

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