

From: Nevele-R, LLC

Contact: Shane Kavanagh; Lisa Serbaniewicz The Marino Organization 212-889-0808 shane@themarino.org; lisa@themarino.org

## NEVELE TAPS LEADER IN COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AS NEW CEO

## Angelique Brunner to Lead Project Through Final Stage of Selection Process

**Wawarsing/Ellenville, NY** (August 12, 2014) – Angelique (Angel) Brunner, a finance professional with a \$3+ billion dollar transaction record that has focused on economic development and hospitality, will serve as the new Chief Executive Officer of Nevele Resort, Casino & Spa. Brunner, who is president of EB5 Capital, an investment firm that attracts private investment globally to stimulate economic development projects throughout the United States, brings 15 years of experience in community redevelopment investment activity, including experience at the National Capital Revitalization Corporation and Fannie Mae.

Brunner will assume day-to-day management responsibilities for the Nevele and will work with Chief Operating Officer, Kathi Meci, and the Nevele team to lead the project through the final selection process in anticipation of receiving a full gaming license in late 2014.

Michael Treanor, who initiated the project three years ago and oversaw the Nevele's comprehensive pre-development planning process, said, "Our work to establish the Nevele project as a true destination resort that is 'shovel-ready' is now complete. The Nevele stands ready to bring tremendous economic stimulus to Ulster County and the Catskill region of upstate New York, and Angel's expertise and passion for revitalizing communities and creating jobs are perfectly suited to this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity."

Regarding her appointment as Nevele CEO, Brunner said, "The Nevele project and the opportunity to be a part of Governor Cuomo's effort to revitalize the Ellenville area and the Catskills region as a whole, is very exciting to me." Brunner's focus during her professional career has been serving both the public and private sectors by stimulating economic growth and creating jobs. "I am committed to bringing the Nevele back as the crown jewel of the Catskills and a gateway to upstate New York. I commend Governor Cuomo's vision that gaming can be a real economic driver for Ulster County and the Catskills. The Nevele has the ability to create living-wage jobs in Ellenville and significantly reduce the unemployment rate that continues to be amongst the highest in the state and is a driving force behind us joining the effort."

As the Nevele project now moves to the next phase, Brunner will oversee the Nevele's construction, opening and operation. During the past three years, the 500+ acre Nevele property has been positioned to lead the redevelopment of the Catskills region. The former New York icon property will be an important world-class destination gaming resort.

The Nevele played an important role in the approval of Proposition One. The project has established unprecedented community and regional support. The Nevele assembled a worldclass architectural, development and management team, completed the detailed design and pre-construction process, finalized the SEQRA process, developed a workforce master plan with regional SUNY campuses, BOCES and workforce investment boards, and submitted an application to the New York State Gaming Commission that would breathe life back into Southern Ulster County – an area that epitomizes the long-stagnant upstate economy.

Brunner and her financial team are an important part of the project's funding and, together with the institutional equity partner, will represent the project's majority ownership.

Added COO Kathi Meci, "I am thrilled to be working with Angel. She is a proven leader, bringing project management and finance expertise as well as public/private partnership experience to the project. She is passionate about working to create economic growth, jobs and meaningful opportunity for the community. I speak for our entire team in welcoming Angel to the Nevele." Kathi Meci has three decades experience in the gaming industry, with much of that time spent planning and opening large casino developments for Wynn Resorts in Las Vegas, Macau and elsewhere.

Brunner will continue as president of EB5 Capital, while dedicating significant time to her new role at the Nevele. Recent projects include City Market at O Street, a development expedited by the President's Council on Jobs and Competitiveness, and a dual-Hilton Hotel development in Ward 5 of Washington, D.C., the former industrial center of the district. Additionally, Brunner raised equity for the preservation of Sugarbush Ski Resort in Mad River Valley, Vermont, which is a resort-driven economy. She is a graduate of Brown University and Princeton University where she earned bachelor and master degrees in urban policy and planning.

Brunner expects to continue to advance plans for the Nevele Resort, Casino, & Spa over the next few months and will present the project, its status, job creation and regional opportunities to the local and state business and political community.

Downloadable hi-res headshot of Angelique Brunner available here.

###