

May 16, 2005

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Massbach Ridge Winery to Host First Annual “Wine in Bloom” Open House**

Elizabeth, IL – Massbach Ridge Winery invites all to their first annual “Wine in Bloom” open house on Saturday, May 28 from noon to 6 p.m. Learn more about the process of winemaking with a tour through the winery or go for a guided journey through our 18 acres of vineyard. An assortment of wine truffles and cheeses will be available. Admission is \$3 and includes all tours and wine and food tastings.

The wine patio will be open for all visitors to enjoy their wine selections while enjoying the magnificent view of Jo Daviess County. The tasting room will be serving more than 10 different wines to fit any palate and the cheese or chocolate that best suites each. For directions to the winery or for more information on the Wine in Bloom open house, please call 815-291-6700 or visit [www.massbachridge.com](http://www.massbachridge.com).

While enjoying the open house, be sure to try the newly re-released Blackberry Wine. In its second year of production, Blackberry Wine is a favorite among sweet and fruit wine enthusiasts. Made of 100 percent blackberry juice, the flavor will fast-forward your memories to the months of July and August.

Massbach Ridge is also happy to announce its recent rankings in the 2005 Finger Lakes International Wine Competition in New York. Vignoles, a sweet white wine, took a silver medal, while Sunrise Red, St. Pepin, and Seyval each took a bronze. Wines of all sizes from throughout the world were judged in this competition. This was the first international competition Massbach Ridge has entered since it began production only two years ago.

Massbach Ridge Winery was established in December 2003 by Dr. Greg and Peggy Harmston in the hills of Jo Daviess County on Massbach Road. Growing more than 18 acres of their own grapes, the winery produces most of what it needs to create the wines, making them unique in the region as they are produced from Illinois-grown grapes. The family-owned and operated business is expanding rapidly into restaurants and stores throughout the tri-state area.

For more information:

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