



### **For Immediate Release**

## **Newport Vineyards 2007 Riesling Wins Best of Show**

The Fourth Annual Atlantic Seaboard Wine Competition was held on July 19-20 in Haymarket, Virginia. This year's event included 458 wine entries from 100 wineries in 12 states. The 2007 Riesling was awarded Best of Show in addition to best Riesling.

Newport Vineyards was one of only two wineries to win two Best of Category awards. In addition to the Riesling, the winery also won for best White Vinifera Blend, with its 2007 Tranquility. This wine is composed of Gewurztraminer, Muscat Ottonel, Pinot Gris and Riesling.

"To take Best of Show out of 458 entries is a milestone achievement for Rhode Island wines", explains George Chelf, winemaker for Newport Vineyards, "especially against some of the best wines in the country".

Both wines will be included at an awards presentation and wine tasting reception on Capitol Hill under the auspices of the U.S. Congressional Wine Caucus on September 17, 2008 in Washington, DC. They will also be poured at the "Taste of the Best of the Atlantic Seaboard" at COPIA, the American Center for Wine, Food and the Arts in Napa Valley later this year. There will also be special public tastings on the East Coast.

Newport Vineyards recently completed a 7500 vine expansion to reach 60 acres. This represents a 15% increase, making Newport Vineyards the largest winegrower in New England.

"Locally grown wine, just like locally grown food, has a lower carbon footprint than wines from the west coast and imported wine", says John Nunes, co-owner of Newport Vineyards. "Sales remain strong and we expect steady growth in the future".

The new vines can be seen on Berkeley Avenue in Middletown. They are planted on the Nunes Farm vineyard, a 50 acre farm that has been in the Nunes family for five generations and is protected by the Aquidneck Land Trust. The varietals include Riesling, Pinot Gris and Vidal Blanc. Production from the new vineyard is expected in 2011.

The winery has been owned by John and Paul Nunes since 1995, whose family farmland dates back to 1917 on Aquidneck Island. Through partnerships with the Aquidneck Land Trust, Newport Vineyards has acquired several properties and farms that are now protected from real estate development and must remain as agricultural.

The winery is located at 909 East Main Rd. (Route 138) in Middletown. It is open year around for wine tastings and winery tours.

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