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Empowering People...Enriching Lives

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HARC's Wine Auction Boasts a New Record, and a New Date and Place!

The 14th Annual New York International Wine Auction (NYIWA), held November 21, at the Otesaga Hotel in Cooperstown, set yet another record by hosting the most guests ever to assist the HARC in helping people with disabilities and others in the community to achieve full potential and to live enriched lives.

NYIWA Wine Auction Director Tony Vennera commented, "If you were one of the lucky guest who attended the sold out event, the room was not only full, but the atmosphere was electric. This year we netted an outstanding \$78,108 to benefit HARC's program to empower people and enrich lives."

Vennera went on to explain that NYIWA 2010 is slated for Saturday, October 30 at the Turning Stone Resort • Casino in Verona, NY. "While the Otesaga has been a wonderful destination for many years, we've outgrown the resort," said Vennera. "Not only will NYIWA continue to provide outstanding opportunities to bid on unique wine and fine lifestyle auction lots, the Turning Stone will also offer optional amenities, such as world-class dining and golf, and luxury spa services. The biggest plus—we can accommodate more guests," Vennera added.

NYIWA staff is working in concert with the Turning Stone to plan a weekend of events: from overnight accommodations to international wine tastings to wine seminars—culminating in spectacular silent and live auctions and a grand gourmet dinner on Saturday evening. The California Solicitation team is headed to California in the month of January to bring back outstanding wine donations.

NYIWA's 2009 top ten bidders include: Joe and Yvonne Annese Lore, Harrison "Chip" and Judy Hummel, Robert and Violet Morris, Joe and Michelle Corasanti, Drew and Donna Goodbread, Jesse and Ivy Bailey, Dick and Lauren Mattia, Ray and Francine Apy, Gary and Marcia Scalzo, and Janice Luck O'Connor.



Ray & Francine Apy, seated, of Annese & Associates were one of NYIWA's top bidders of the evening during the 2009 Live Wine Auction. Wine models, back, from left, Jillane Vennera and Leah Davis, present the couple with a six bottle lot of Joseph Phelps Vineyards 2004 Napa Valley "Insignia" Red Meritage. Annese & Associates have been ardent supporters of NYIWA since 2001—stepping up to the top spot this year with NBT Bank as Co-Event Sponsors for the 14th auction.

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2009 NYIWA/2-2-2

Sponsors for 2009 included: Event Sponsors: Annese & Associates and NBT Bank. Dinner Wine Sponsors: Frank and Dominica Annese, Dr. James and Karen Elting, Drew and Donna Goodbread, Dr. Robert Lancey and Lisa Manna, Mionetto USA, Robert and Violet Morris, William and Janice Owens, and John and Jackie Romano. Other sponsors include: *Times Union* of Albany, First Source Federal Credit Union, ConMed Corporation, Scalzo, Zogby and Wittig, Inc., Neckermann Consulting, Romanelli Communications, Human Technologies Corporation, Jill Rae Signs, Crystal Chandelier Restaurant, Adonis-Avanti Limousine Service, Inc., The Bonadio Group, Bradco Supply, Assemblyman Marc Butler, REM Fire Systems, Inc., Omnicare of NY, LLC, Jim Brock Agency, Carbone Auto Group, Mohawk Valley Printing, Erie Materials, Leonard Bus, PJ Green Inc., Yetty's Pizza & Pasta, Mohawk Valley Florist, Waterfront Grille, New Horizon Foods, Inc., Enweld Supply Corporation, NYIWA Private Cellars Committee, and Ty Caton Vineyards.

For more information about becoming involved with NYIWA 2010 as a sponsor, donor, guest or volunteer, contact Tony Vennera at (315) 574-7355 or tvennera@herkimerarc.org. For updates regarding the 2010 event, visit www.nyiwa.com. For more information regarding the HARC, visit www.herkimerarc.org.

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