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CHATHAM HILL WINERY HOSTS NC AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL WITH CONGRESSMAN BRAD MILLER

Morrisville, N.C. (May 1, 2006) – Chatham Hill Winery, located in the Research Triangle Park area of Morrisville/Cary, was pleased to host a North Carolina Agribusiness Council *Dinner and Conversation with Congressman Brad Miller* on April 18, 2006. The Council strives to increase the awareness of North Carolina citizens about the vital importance of the agribusiness industry to the economic well-being of the state.

Welcomed by Chatham Hill Winery's proprietors, Marek Wojciechowski and Jill Winkler, agribusiness leaders from across fourteen counties came to discuss a myriad of key agricultural issues. Several topics discussed included the 2007 Farm Bill, finance laws and regulations relating to farm credits, immigration, additional funding for Ag research and the necessity of continued federal funding for Cooperative Extension. Congressman Miller listened intently to the concerns of the AgLeaders, assuring everyone of his intention to fully support North Carolina's #1 industry – Agribusiness.

Chatham Hill Winery is the only winery in the Research Triangle Park area and was bonded in 1999 as the fourteenth winery in the state. Owner and winemaker Marek Wojciechowski was a board member of the North Carolina Grapegrowers Association and is sought as an expert in the area of enology through presentations to many local universities and consultation to potential and new winery and vineyard operators. Wojciechowski, a former university professor and developer of biosensing technology, has been instrumental in the development of a detection device for the identification of a devastating killer of grapevines called Pearce's Disease. This device allows grape growers to test their vines in the field for Pearce's Disease thereby acting quickly to combat this killer.

Experiencing explosive growth, North Carolina ranks 12th for wine production in the US and 10th for grape production and currently has 55 wine producers in 31 counties with five new wineries expected to open by December 2006. According to the North Carolina Grape Council, at present there are more than 350 individually owned grape vineyards across the state covering 1,350 acres. Vineyards and wineries account for the creation of jobs and attract tourist dollars, while generating revenue for the state.

Nestled in the hub of the Research Triangle Park, Chatham Hill Winery is a warm and welcoming venue where guests can tour the area's only winery and taste award winning wines. A popular venue for hosting corporate events, weddings and rehearsal parties, Chatham Hill Winery produces 6000 cases of wine annually in Morrisville/Cary, North Carolina; 85% of which come from North Carolina grape growers. For information on Chatham Hill Winery, please visit www.chathamhillwine.com or call 1-800-808-6768.

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