

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE    November 9, 2011    CONTACT:** Jennifer Johnson 513-502-0123

**Johnson Estate Winery: Special “Thanksgiving” Open House to Give Thanks and Appreciation**

*NYS’s Oldest Estate Winery Celebrates 50 Years of Operation*  
*Open House Coincides with Westfield’s Victorian Christmas & Holly Tour*  
**November 18, 19, & 20 from Noon to 6 p.m.**

Westfield (NY) – Thanksgiving, the season for giving thanks, is fast approaching. To begin, Johnson Estate Winery is thankful for an excellent growing season and harvest. And, what better time, then, says owner Fred Johnson, “for us also to show our appreciation and to give thanks to our loyal customers of the last 50 years?” So, after a half century of continuous operation of both its farm and winery, Johnson Estate, will celebrate a special “Thanksgiving” Open House, November 18, 19, and 20<sup>th</sup> in its renovated tasting room, completing the year’s anniversary events. The Open House coincides with Westfield’s Victorian Christmas Craft Show on the 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> and Holly Tour on Sunday. Owners Jennifer and Fred Johnson will be hosting the event at the winery during which customers are invited to sample various complimentary appetizers and desserts along with over 30 wines made by Johnson Estate. Other activities will include:

**Food, Menu Planning, & Cooking with Chef**

**Ross Warhol:** Traditional Thanksgiving meals can be a challenge in terms of wine pairings. Chef Warhol of the Athenaeum Hotel, the Johnsons, and staff will be on hand to answer questions and to make recommendations. Chef Warhol will also be preparing appetizers for a portion of the event. There will be plenty of food, including desserts, to sample, to tease the taste buds, and to provide ideas for holiday entertaining. Copious supplies of garlic from local growers, Ribbon Road Garlic Farm, will be available for sale along with special recipes.

**Tours:** In addition, Fred Johnson will be giving guided tours of the winery at 1:00 and 3:00 pm each day. If weather permits, this will include a quick walk to nearby vineyards as well a tour of the press pad, tanks, and cooperage.

**Holiday Gift Giving:** Thanksgiving is a great time to think about gifts and this dovetails with Johnson Estate’s Free Holiday Shipping program. Order online or come to the winery and select a gift for shipping to your friends and family. During the Open House, Jennifer will be available with her calligraphy pen to add that personal touch to your gifts.

Johnson Estate Winery is New York’s oldest estate winery and is located two miles west of Westfield, NY at 8419 West Main Road. The winery specializes in award-winning cold climate wines, including ice wines, Riesling, and other vinifera and American grape wines. More information is available at [www.johnsonwinery.com](http://www.johnsonwinery.com) or by calling **800-Drink-NY** (800-374-6569).

