

Press Release

ANNAPOLIS, Maryland (April 30, 2011) – VIN 909 Winecafé poured its first toast on Monday, April 18th. Located in Eastport, VIN 909 will provide a new place for Annapolitans to experience the restaurant's motto: bringing local food, drink and friends together.

Formerly the Wild Orchid property, VIN 909 Winecafé is built on family history. The name VIN, which means "wine" in French, also defines the vintage feel of the 1930's era house setting. Approachable and local, VIN offers Annapolis a personal, distinctive experience.

"After 30 years in the food industry and 15 years as an Annapolis small business owner, I am thrilled to bring my passions together to create a welcoming spot with top-notch cuisine for the local community." Says Chuck Manfredonia, owner.

Alex and Chuck Manfredonia, father and son, are realizing a lifelong dream their first joint venture. Owner Chuck has a long history of success in the food service industry, including his role as founder and CEO of the La Prima Food Group in Washington, D.C. General manager Alex, after 18 years working in the restaurant industry in San Francisco, has returned home to take the helm of VIN 909. They are joined by executive chef Justin Moore, a co-worker of Alex's in San Francisco, whose culinary experience ranges from Manhattan to San Francisco. Justin is also thrilled to reclaim his East Coast roots.

VIN 909 offers a unique and diversified wine and craft beer selection. From domestic to European, dry to lush, these are the best wines you have never heard of at a great price. The beer program features imported and domestic beers, focusing on small East Coast breweries. With 25 wines by the glass and 18 beers by the bottle or on tap, there's something for every palate.

VIN 909's cuisine is self-styled "New American" and will change seasonally with choices ranging from comfortable (hearth-baked pizzas) to unique (wild boar meatballs). VIN 909's menu is designed to create great food while supporting sustainable food products from family-owned local businesses. A meal at VIN 909 means sharing with friends, while recycling revenue back into the local economy. "Delicious meals made from healthy, local ingredients will give our customers the chance to experience the very best our area has to offer."

Boasting a comfortable, neighborhood atmosphere, excellent food and reasonably priced wine and beer, VIN 909 looks to become the neighborhood spot for Eastport and a great find for Annapolis visitors. Whether relaxing by the fire with a glass of wine, enjoying one of our craft beers or sharing a brick-oven pizza on the patio, VIN 909 is the place where you can come home again – just like they did!

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