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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**TALKING ROCK RECEIVES *WINE ENTHUSIAST MAGAZINE* “AWARD OF UNIQUE DISTINCTION”**

*Community’s wine program at Ranch House praised for selection, variety*

**PRESCOTT, Ariz. (Dec. 29, 2008)** – Talking Rock, a luxury, master-planned community near Prescott, Ariz., recently received a “Award of Unique Distinction” from *Wine Enthusiast Magazine’s* Restaurant Awards. Announced every February, the awards recognize the most wine-friendly restaurants in North America. The Ranch House at Talking Rock, which features a collection of more than 1,200 bottles, was chosen for its impressive inventory and excellent service.

“It’s an honor to receive *Wine Enthusiast Magazine’s* ‘Award of Unique Distinction,’ as it speaks to our high-caliber wine program,” said Jon Esquibel, director of food and beverage for Talking Rock. “With more than 1,200 bottles in our inventory from California to Argentina and France, there really is a selection to please any palate.”

Entrants for the *Wine Enthusiast Magazine* Restaurant Awards are evaluated based on their wine list and wine program as a whole, and more specifically, on the selection, service, individuality and value at each restaurant. Three levels of awards exist, including the Award of Distinction, Award of Unique Distinction and the highest honor, the Award of Ultimate Distinction. The Ranch House at Talking Rock received the Award of Unique Distinction.

Currently, The Ranch House at Talking Rock boasts more than 200 selections on its wine list, 138 of which are offered by the glass. The majority of the wine collection, as selected by Esquibel, features many “New World” wines, emphasizing California, New Zealand and Australia varietals. Talking Rock also imports several small boutique wines from Italy and Spain, usually from family-run vineyards with high quality and low production. A sampling of The Ranch House’s wine list includes wines from: Peter Michael, Cakebread, Rombauer, Opus 1, Nickel & Nickel, Silver Oak, Bonaccorsi, Merry Edwards, Molly Dooker, Far Niente, Williams Selyem, and Kistler, among others.

**-more-**

## **2-2-2/Talking Rock receives “Award of Unique Distinction” from *Wine Enthusiast***

As director of food and beverage at Talking Rock, Esquibel is responsible for the wine cellar and program. He selects The Ranch House’s wine based on traditional favorites and reserve wines from all over the world. A seasoned hospitality expert with more than a decade of experience from places such as Hyatt, Hilton and Westin Hotels, Esquibel is a Certified Bar Manager (CBM), Certified Food and Beverage Executive (CFBE), and is training with the Society of Wine Educators to become a Certified Specialist of Wine.

### **About Talking Rock:**

Located in a peaceful, rural setting, just minutes from Prescott, Talking Rock is a 3,600-acre private, luxury home community with a casual western lifestyle and the amenities of an exclusive country club. The Jay Morrish-designed 7,350-yard championship golf course intertwines through more than 1,000 acres of preserved open space, presenting residents with the spaciousness of Arizona’s high country. Talking Rock offers spacious custom home sites, as well as Ranch Cottages, Ranch Homes and custom homes designed in an authentic ranch style and built by the area’s finest craftsmen. Talking Rock is a development of Harvard Investments, a Scottsdale, Ariz. based real estate development company respected for its high quality, residential projects throughout the Southwest. The Talking Rock golf course and Ranch Compound are professionally managed by OB Sports. More information on Talking Rock and Harvard Investments, Inc. can be reached at 877-922-4440 or [www.talkingrockranch.com](http://www.talkingrockranch.com).

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