

# WINES & VINES

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## NEWSBRIEFS

### HEADLINES

- Bonny Doon Tells All
- 585 Wine Partners With Quivira Vineyards
- TTB Extends AVA Revision Comment Period
- Revised Explanation for French Paradox

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### FEATURES

- **Cover Story**  
PROBING THE RESEARCH GAP
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A Close Look at Water
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The Electronic Nose Knows
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Uncovering Biodynamic Wine
- **Regional**  
Oklahoma's Winery Rush

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### CALENDAR

- **January 9**  
UC Cooperative Extension's San Joaquin Valley Grape Symposium
- **January 16-18**  
Wine Market Council Third Annual Research Conference
- **January 19**  
La Academia del Vino y el Centro Asturiano de Tampa
- **January 19-20**  
20 Russian River Wine Road's 16th annual Winter Wineland

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### Wine Review Weekly

A compilation of wines reviewed each week by leading wire service and major daily newspaper wine columnists

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## CALIFORNIA

### 2008 Vineyard Team calendar ready

The Central Coast Vineyard Team's annual sustainable vineyards wall calendar, which provides educational information on best management practices, and monthly reminders for grapegrowers accompanied by scenic images, can be ordered online for a suggested donation of \$5, at [vineyardteam.org](http://vineyardteam.org).

### Couple joins Flying Horse team

International enological and viticultural consultants May-Britt and Denis Malbec joined the winemaking team at St. Helena's Flying Horse Winery in September. Denis was the third generation of his family to work at Château Latour; Swedish native May-Britt is a former world champion sommelier.

### ASEV awards \$60,000 in scholarships

The American Society for Enology and Viticulture (ASEV) announced student scholarship awards totaling \$60,000. Twenty scholarships were awarded to students enrolled at Cornell, Stanford, Cal Poly, Washington State, Purdue, Virginia Polytechnic, Texas Tech, Cal State Fresno and West Virginia universities and University of British Columbia, University of Guelph and UC Davis.

### Wine PR directory published

A national directory of public relations firms specializing in wine has been compiled by Wine Colleagues, a St. Helena consultancy. More than 50 firms with practices principally dedicated to wine are included, mostly with headquarters in Northern California, but some in New York and Washington state. See the directory at [winecolleagues.com/directory.html](http://winecolleagues.com/directory.html).

### Peju Province is certified organic

Peju Province Winery received organic certification for its Rutherford Estate Vineyard from the California Certified Organic Farmers (CCOF). Certification of the Wappo Vineyard and Persephone Vineyard within three years is the next goal.

### Wineries open joint tasting room

Muscardini Cellars and Ty Caton vineyards opened a joint tasting room in Kenwood, Sonoma Valley, on Nov. 3. Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, it's in the Kenwood Village Shopping Center at 8910 Sonoma Highway (Highway 12.) Phone (707) 833-0526 for details.

### Rogers joins Cameron Hughes

Cameron Hughes Wine, San Francisco negociant, named Doug Rogers its chief operating officer. Most recently, he founded and served as principal for Rogers Brand Development. In 2004, he created and introduced Southcorp's hugely successful Little Penguin brand.

### Win Wilson scholarship founded

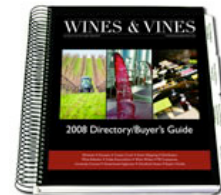
A \$2,500 annual scholarship will be awarded to a U.S. student preparing for the Masters of Wine examination. The Institute of Masters of Wine will present the stipend in memory of Winston "Win" Wilson, Jr., co-founder of Napa Valley-based wine sales and marketing company Wilson Daniels, Ltd. For details and application, visit [masters-of-wine.org/eduintro.aspx](http://masters-of-wine.org/eduintro.aspx).

### Sarah Gott is Clif Bar winemaker

Clif Bar Family Winery and Farm, St. Helena, named Sarah Gott its consulting winemaker. Previously, she was winemaker at Quintessa and Joseph Phelps, and currently is winemaker at Joel Gott Wines. Owners Gary Erickson and Kit Crawford founded the energy bar company, Clif Bar, in 1992.

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**Edward Carton is dead at 59**

Edward "Ned" J. Carton, director of sales and marketing for Trentadue Winery, died suddenly at home Oct. 22, victim of a massive coronary. The New Jersey native had owned a wine shop, operated a restaurant, and began working with Dick Arrowood at Chateau St. Jean in 1986. Later, he worked at Mazzocco Vineyards, and was part owner of Four Vines Winery. He joined Trentadue in 2005. He's survived by his wife, Barbara, a daughter and son-in-law, and his brother, Richard Carton. Services were held at Trentadue on Oct. 26.

**ZD founder Norman deLeuze died Oct. 26**

Norman Charles deLeuze died at age 75, after a long battle with cancer. A native of Berkeley, he served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War, then earned a degree in mechanical engineering at UC Berkeley. With a fellow aerospace engineer, he founded ZD Wines in 1969, and ran the Napa winery full time starting in 1978. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Rosa Lee, a daughter, two sons and five grandchildren.

**Gary Vierra died at age 60**

Gary Vierra died unexpectedly at his home in Yountville on Oct. 12. A native of Santa Clara, Calif., he began his wine industry career in 1984, becoming national sales manager for Merlion Winery, Napa. In the subsequent years, he held similar positions at Shadow Brook, Peju Province and Young Ridge wineries, and was a pioneer in private labeling through his businesses Wines by Design and Island Wines, Ltd. He is survived by his wife Jan; mother Mildred Vierra; sons Toby and Jaggs Vierra; stepdaughter Erin Sherrard and brothers Ron and George Vierra. The family has established the Gary Vierra Scholarship Fund at Napa Valley College. To donate, visit [napavalley.edu/nvc\\_foundation](http://napavalley.edu/nvc_foundation).

## NORTHWEST

**Hotel to anchor Woodinville development**

Branded Lodging Company will create the \$45 million, 100-room Hotel Varenna in Western Washington's new Woodinville Village mixed-use development. DeLille Cellars and Brian Carter Cellars will also anchor the project, designed as a culinary and wine destination.

**Arbor Crest is 25**

Arbor Crest Wine Cellars, Spokane, Wash., is celebrating its silver anniversary this year. Founded in 1982 by orchard owners David and Harold Mielke, the winery has been run since 1999 by Harold's daughter, UC Davis-trained winemaker Kristina, and her husband Jim van Loben Sels. With a tasting room located at the historic Riblet Cliff House mansion overlooking the Spokane River valley, Arbor Crest produces 100% varietal wines sourced from its estate and other top Eastern Washington vineyards.

## CENTRAL

**Missouri winery will open in 2009**

Branson Ridge Winery & Marketplace is scheduled to open in early 2009; with a 35,000-square-foot winery and shopping complex that will be among the state's largest. Five acres of vineyards will be planted next spring, featuring Norton, Missouri's state grape.

**First Norton competition drew 113 entries**

The first annual National Norton Wine Festival celebrated Missouri's official grape (also known as Cynthiana) at the Missouri History Museum in Forest Park, Mo., on Sept. 8. Missouri Wine Country presented the event, which benefited the museum and the creation of a national Norton winemakers' foundation; attendees sampled Norton wines from among entries submitted by 52 wineries, judged on Aug. 4. Missouri wineries took the top three awards: Sugar Creek Vineyards & Winery won Best in Show and Best of Class, Dry Norton; Bommarito Estate Almond Tree winery won Best of Class, Port Norton. For more information and list of winners, visit [missouriwinecountry.com](http://missouriwinecountry.com).

**Ohio wine named in Top 100**

Kinhead Ridge Estate's 2004 Cabernet Franc was honored as one of the Top 100 Exciting Wine Finds in the 2008 Wine Report Paperback, an international list compiled by Tom Stevenson, British editor of the New Sothebys Wine Encyclopedia. Only 11 other American wines made the list.

## EAST

**Maryland vintners face grape deficit**

Although Maryland vineyard acreage has more than doubled, from 212 acres in 2001 to 513 this year, many of the state's 30 wineries are still forced to import grapes or juice from vineyards as distant as California. Since 2005, the state has allocated almost \$400,000 in funding for research, promotion and expansion of the Maryland industry. Some varieties

of Maryland-grown grapes sell for up to \$1,500 per ton.

#### **Wine architecture exhibit in New York**

The Austrian Cultural Forum, New York, N.Y., is hosting "Wine and Architecture Miracle" celebrating the Austrian winery boom. The exhibition depicts "an internationally unique scene of sustained symbiosis between contemporary architecture and viticulture in east and southeast Austria, a new building tradition inspired by the new generation of winemakers." It includes 43 projects, with 12 models, and is open through Jan. 12. For details, visit [acfnv.org](http://acfnv.org).

#### **Niagara trail has new members**

Schulze Vineyards, Burt, N.Y., and Leonard Oakes Estate, Lyndonville, N.Y., are the latest addition to upstate New York's Niagara Wine trail. The current roster of 11 wineries will become an even dozen in February, with the opening of Arrowhead Springs Vineyards in Lockport.

#### **Canada to develop wine safety program**

The Canadian government has given CAD\$312,000 to the Canadian Vintners Association (CVA) to develop a Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP) food safety program for the Canadian wine industry. HACCP is an international protocol to identify and manage risks in the food supply chain. The government hopes that by developing a wine industry-specific HACCP plan, it will enhance Canada's reputation as a wine producer. The CVA hopes to complete the plan by February.

## **SUPPLIERS**

#### **New bottling equipment specialist**

Gerard Consulting, Inc. (GCI) was formed by industry veteran Gerard Rottiers, specializing in the selection of bottling line equipment for all types of closures. It will also supply custom winery machinery and provide modification of existing winery systems. It's at 570 7th St. W., Sonoma, Calif. Phone is (707) 320-3877.

#### **Tonnellerie Leroi has a new sales manager**

The Cognac-based French cooperage named Michael Mercer its North American sales manager. Based in Healdsburg, he can be reached at [info@leroibarrels.com](mailto:info@leroibarrels.com).

#### **Nomacorc introduces premium stopper**

Nomacorc, Zebulon, N.C. supplier of alternative wine closures, created the first co-extruded closure appropriate for use with fine varietals and vintages for up to six years of bottle age. A more consistent, lower oxygen transfer rate than natural cork provides a long-term seal while remaining easy to extract. For details, visit [nomacorc.com](http://nomacorc.com).

#### **Taaffe is Inertia VP**

Kristi Taaffe was appointed vice president of marketing at Inertia Beverage Group, Napa, Calif. Previously, she was director, consumer relationship marketing at Foster's Wine Estates. Inertia has recently opened its trade-focused e-commerce software platform to all wineries.

#### **Gamajet names Canadian distributor**

Gamajet Cleaning Systems, Exton, Pa., signed John Brooks Co., Ltd., as exclusive Canadian distributor for its line of rotary impingement tank cleaning machines and systems. Learn more at [fluidhandlingsolutions.com](http://fluidhandlingsolutions.com). Gamajet recently released an improved HD Barrel Blaster for barrel cleaning. Visit [gamajet.com](http://gamajet.com) for details.

#### **Bernstein joins Cork Supply**

Brian Bernstein will service sales accounts in the Central Coast, Southern California, Sierra Foothills and Napa/Sonoma for Cork Supply USA, Benicia, Calif. The company provides corks, synthetic closures, screwcaps, tin capsules, oak barrels and oak alternatives. Cork Supply recently was named exclusive distributor for Kelvin Cooperage American oak barrels on the West Coast.

#### **Gusmer is stocking Divergan F**

Gusmer Enterprises, ([gusmerenterprises.com](http://gusmerenterprises.com)) was appointed by BASF as a stocking distributor for Divergan F PVPP to the wine industry. Used to reduce or stabilize color in white and rosé wines, it has a specific affinity to polyphenols that lead to browning and pinking of wines, and helps reduce astringency and bitterness.

#### **BioNatural microbes for organic inputs**

BioNatural Blooming Blossoms, Windermere, Fla., pioneers of bio-fertilizers, launched Bioplin to provide usable nitrogen for growth; NutriTech to improve uptake of nutrients by solubilizing phosphates; and NutriFoliar foliar spray with effective strains of Azotobacter.

For details, visit [bloomingblossoms.com](http://bloomingblossoms.com).

#### **Philippakis named wine industry chair**

Partner Katherine Philippakis was appointed chair of the wine industry practice at the law firm of Farella Braun & Martel, St. Helena, Calif. She is also chairman of the St. Helena planning department.

#### **WineWeb launches Facebook application**

[WineWeb.com](http://WineWeb.com)'s application is available at [apps.facebook.com/wineweb](https://apps.facebook.com/wineweb), allowing users of the popular social website to find and review wine online. The WineWeb-Wine e-Marketplace gives users access to more than 34,000 wineries and 100,000 wines available for sale.

#### **Oeneo hires Northwest account manager**

Sarah Peters joined Oeneo Closures, USA, Napa supplier of cork closures, as regional account manager for winery clients in Oregon, Washington and Idaho. Previously, she was with Precept Brands, Seattle, Wash.

#### **FKI Logistex has robotic palletizer**

A patent-pending robotic palletizing solution from FKI Logistex, St. Louis, Mo., uses jointed-arm robots to palletize more than 100 cases per minute. For details, visit [fkilogistex.com](http://fkilogistex.com).

#### **JF Hillebrand launches bulk wine division**

JF Hillebrand, Mainz, Germany, beverage transportation specialist, acquired Trans Ocean Distribution (TOD) and created a dedicated, full-service bulk wine solution, including the VinBulk flexitank, which transforms a standard 20-foot container into a bulk liquid transportation system, to significantly reduce transportation costs and associated carbon emissions. For details, visit [jfillebrand.com](http://jfillebrand.com).

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