

FOOTHILL DIRECT

Wednesday, November 5, 2014

SERVING: MEADOW VISTA, APPLGATE, WEIMAR, COLFAX, GOLD RUN, DUTCH FLAT AND ALTA

COMPLIMENTARY

THINGS TO DO

Christmas Basket pancake breakfast fundraiser

Assist those in need in the community and in the surrounding areas (Applegate, Clipper Gap, Christian Valley and Weimar) at Christmas. Last year, the community helped 135 families, and supplied toys to 78 families for residents in need. The annual Christmas Basket Breakfast will be at 8 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 8 at the Placer Hills Cafeteria, at Placer Hills School in Meadow Vista. If you would like to make additional donations, make checks payable to The Meadow Vista Friendly Neighbors Club or TMVFN, and mail them to P.O. Box 764, Meadow Vista CA 95722. Want to help in other ways? Help

THINGS TO DO,

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MEET YOUR MERCHANT

Barbera Rosé brings bronze

Local engineer and graphic designer unite to make award-winning wine, showcase community

By Gabrielle Irvin
Staff Writer

Jeff Evans loves red wine. "My mother was very liberal about alcohol when I was growing up as a child," Evans, co-owner of Bear River Winery in Meadow Vista, said. "She'd always give us three kids a little bit of wine when we had company over for dinner."

Evans' passion for red wine led him to explore the many wineries of the Sierra Nevada, specifically focusing on Placer and Nevada counties. He moved to Meadow Vista from the Bay Area in 2002 after a job transfer at Hewlett-Packard and, after collaborating with Bear River Winery co-owner and graphic artist Mike Walker, "got the bug" and started making wine.

"I started going around to the little boutique wineries in Nevada County and



GABRIELLE IRVIN/GIRVIN@THEUNION.COM

Jeff Evans, co-owner of Bear River Winery in Meadow Vista, and an array of Bear River Winery wines.

Placer County and talking to winemakers," Evans said. "That's the opportunity you have here — it's not like Napa where you talk to

tasting room staff and you never meet the winemaker. In this region, you can really talk to the people making wine."

Evans and Walker found a mentor in Solune Winery winegrower Jacques Mercier, who gave them a tour of the winery, shared his

knowledge of the winemaking process and encouraged Evans to enroll in the UC Davis Winemaking Certificate Program. After further exploring the local wine country, he and Walker began home winemaking in 2005, and it turned out "pretty good." They officially opened Bear River Winery for tasting in 2013.

Bear River Winery is a locally owned and operated boutique winery that produces small lots of hand-crafted wines using grapes from local vineyards, including Viani Vineyards in Pilot Hill, Clavey Vineyards in Nevada City and Smith Vineyards in Grass Valley.

The current wine list includes the 2010 Late Harvest Barbera, a wine with high residual sugar and rich fruit-forward flavors, generally served as a dessert wine (the 2014 San Francisco Chronicle Wine

WINERY, A2

COLFAX HIGH FOOTBALL

Colfax crushes Foothill in PVL bout

The Foothill Direct Staff

The Colfax football team got to play a day earlier than usual and that was just fine with them.

The Falcons jumped out to a 28-0 halftime lead over Foothill last

Thursday night and cruised to a 45-12 final to earn their second league victory and become playoff eligible.

Colfax senior running back Tim Rawlins ran for three first half touchdowns and Jakob Norad added a 30-yard

defensive touchdown off a Foothill fumble to build the big lead. Colfax would add another two touchdowns in the third and tack on a field goal in the fourth to complete the blow out.

The win for Colfax improves them to 6-3

overall and 2-2 in league play. Next up for the Falcons is the regular season finale against Placer.

Coaches may submit game reports by email at sports@theunion.com or by phone at 530-477-4232.

WINERY

From page A1

Competition bronze medal winner for the red dessert category) and the 2013 Barbera Rosé, a wine crafted from Barbera grapes yielding balanced acidity and fruitiness of red cherry and raspberry — an improved version of the 2010 Barbera Rosé (which was also the 2014 San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition bronze medal winner for the dry rose category).

"Once we won bronze, everyone in Meadow Vista came in and cleaned us out," Evans said. "...There aren't many people who make a Barbera Rosé; it's kind of like in the style of a white Zinfandel."

Evans and Walker enjoy immersing the Bear River Winery brand into the local wine scene, and participate in local events including the Auburn Wine and Food Festival, Lincoln Wine Fest and Nevada City Uncorked. They've also joined forces with Sip, a multi-winery tasting room in downtown Auburn that showcases local boutique wineries, including Vina Castellano and Mt. Vernon Winery.

"We're all thinking about how



Jeff Evans, co-owner of Bear River Winery in Meadow Vista, with an old-fashioned basket press, a traditional tool used to extract juice from crushed grapes during winemaking.

GABRIELLE IRVIN/
GIRVIN@THEUNION.COM

we can be aligned with each other to promote the region," Evans said. "This drives a whole bunch of things, not just selling wine but also booking hotel rooms and selling seats at restaurants. ... [We're] trying to drive more people from the Bay Area, Sacramento and Roseville up the hill and think of this as a wine region."

The winery is a member of the Sierra Vintners Association and Placer County Vintners Association.

"[I enjoy] being able to meet the families and the winemakers that are actually part of the

business," Evans said. "You get that face-to-face with the wine-makers and with their immediate families. ... It's smaller, more community oriented. It's all about buying local."

Bear River Winery, a name reflective of its surroundings, as the Bear River borders the tail end of the winery property, is located at 2751 Combie Road in Meadow Vista. The winery is open from noon to 5 p.m. Friday through Sunday. For more information or for a full list of wines, call 530-878-8959 or visit www.BearRiver-Winery.com.

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See your
event here

Do you have a fundraiser coming up? Sports tournament? School production? Get the word out

ary school projects and
ors open at 5:30 p.m.
at the Colfax Veterans
Sunset Circle, Colfax.
ake place every third
of the month. For more
tion, call 530-346-8480.

as Craft Boutique
has Craft Boutique will
al crafts related to the
season. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Dec.
fax United Methodist
59 Church St., Colfax.
on is free. To have a booth
ore information, call Ruth
at 530-346-8684.

Faire

y Faire is a holiday event
whole family to enjoy.
andcrafted vendors, fun
s for the children, craft
music, desserts and
ickets are sold to enjoy
the children's activities
Your Luck at a Golden
n the Sleeping Giant,"
Gnome Home," "Enter
kie Forest" and more.
3 p.m., Dec. 13 at Live
ldorf School, 410 Crother
Meadow Vista.

boutique, craft faire

utch Flat Community
will host a holiday
e and craft fair from 9
p.m. Saturday, Nov. 8 at
ckton Street in Dutch
ndors will sell homemade
jewelry, baked goods,
decorations and more. In
n, the community center
gently used holiday decs
and clothing. For more
ation or to become a
(\$10 for an 8-foot table),
Marybeth Blackinton
389-8393 or mary-

12@gmail.com, or contact
Brown at 530-389-2153
a3boys@att.net. Visit
utchFlatCC.org and the
Flat Community Center
for more information.