

Carmel

The Lifestyle Magazine of the Central Coast

Summer/Fall 2011

magazine

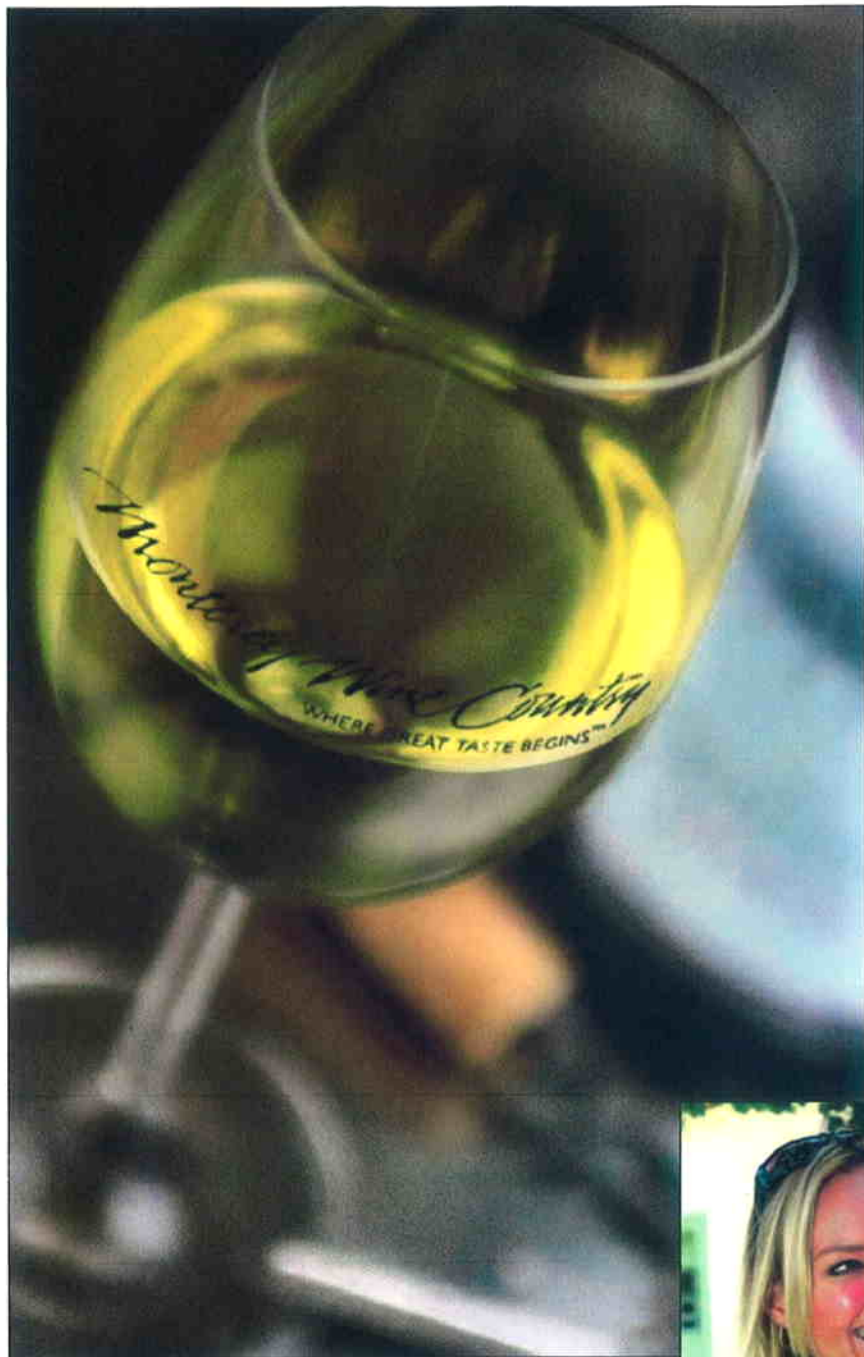


Leon Panetta

A National Hero with Carmel Valley Roots

RACING INTO CAR WEEK • THE BEAT OF THE 2011 JAZZ FESTIVAL

Popular Winemakers' Celebration Moves to Carmel



Local wine fans will sip their favorite blends against a new backdrop during this year's Winemakers' Celebration on Saturday, August 13, from 1-4 p.m. For the first time in 19 years, the annual Monterey County Vintners and Growers Association (MCVGA) event will take place at the Barnyard Shopping Village in Carmel.

The move puts the celebration closer to new Carmel and Carmel Valley tasting rooms, while also showcasing existing wineries throughout the Salinas Valley and beyond.

"Monterey County is a large county, and the tasting rooms are spread everywhere. You can't hit all of them in one day—or even

two days," says MCVGA Executive Director Rhonda Motil. "This event is a great way to explore different styles, varietals and regions, all in one spot."

Approximately 40 area winemakers will pour their latest releases and discuss grape growing, production, food pairing and more. New to this year's event is a "try-and-buy marketplace" where guests can purchase bottles to take home; UPS will be on hand to ship purchases for out-of-town attendees.

Live music, a raffle and a silent auction featuring travel, golf, spa, art and wine packages are also on the schedule.

Tickets cost \$30 in advance or \$35 at the door; and include appetizers from 10 Barnyard restaurants plus wine from both established brands and new labels.

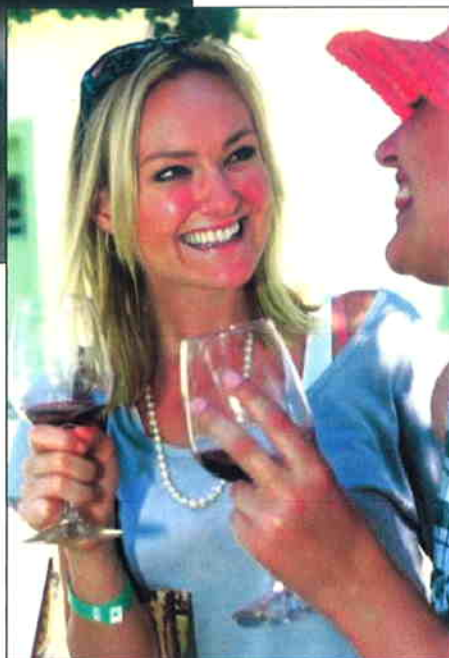
"If you're looking for rare finds that you might not be able to readily access because there's no tasting room or there's limited distribution, this will be a good chance to discover and buy those wines," Motil says.

Pouring for the first time at this year's festival is Caraccioli Cellars, a Salinas Valley operation that specializes in sparkling wines, chardonnay and pinot noir.

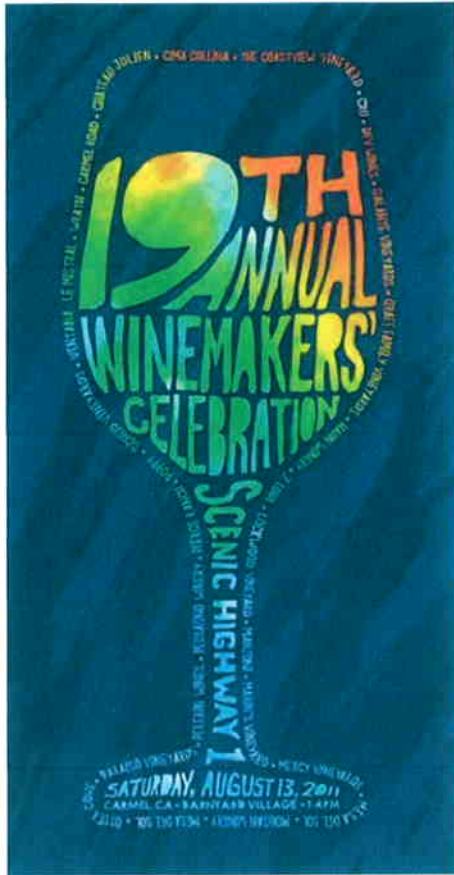
"It brings a different dynamic, having the winemakers in the forefront at this event," says Scott

Caraccioli, vice president of sales and marketing. "Consumers can ask questions and really interact on a one-to-one basis."

Winemaker Bill Anderson of Chateau Julien has participated each year since the Winemakers' Celebration began. He looks forward to chatting with both first-time tasters and long-



For the first time in 19 years, the MCVGA Winemakers' Celebration event takes place in Carmel at the Barnyard Shopping Village.



This year's Winemakers' Celebration brings new wineries to offer tastings and to interact with guests.

time loyal customers. In addition to answering their questions, Anderson also enjoys hearing out-of-state guests talk about other American wine growing regions.



He appreciates how this festival makes his industry accessible to all, as well.

"It's a chance to find out that wine is an enjoyable subject, not an intimidating subject," Anderson says. "Most of the winemakers are really down-to-earth people. The motto for a lot of us is, 'The best wine on the table is the one that you like.'"

Winemakers' Celebration proceeds support the promotion of Monterey County's wine industry. For tickets and information, visit www.monterey-wines.org or call 831/375-9400.

—Renee Brincks


Authentic French Bistro

New Owner **Chef Andre Lemaire** from Paris, France, prepares authentic French Bistro Cuisine with a Californian Coastal flair. The atmosphere buzzes with excitement like dining in one of the small neighborhoods inside Paris. **Andre's Bouchee Bistro and Wine Bar** features wines by the glass and a full wine list.

The Wine Bar opens at 4:30pm daily
 Wine Shop opens from 11:30am – 5:30pm
 Dinner served 5:30pm – 9:30pm nightly
 Lunch from 11:30am – 2:00pm Wednesday – Sunday.

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