

Finding wine bargains has just gotten easier



ELEGANCE ON THE CHEAP

TRAVIS GENY

Welcome back to school after that lovely break for a few days of feasting. Using all the knowledge you all have gained in the past few columns, I'm sure that at least a few of you might have had the chance to wow Mom and Dad with your wine savvy and maybe may have even had the chance to use your parents' green for more expensive wines.

But alas, here we all are back at school and back on a budget. Well, have I got the solution for you! In my various travels around Eugene, I have found one place that is always a reliable source for cheap and quality wine.

Sundance Wine Cellars, at 2470 Alder St., offers the very best in wine selection, helpful and knowledgeable staff, and above all, value. No matter when I have visited Sundance, I have always found the staff courteous and helpful, no matter what my budget. And have never had a bottle I didn't enjoy. But a little more about the place itself:

Here you will find probably the biggest selection of wines in town. The store features wine from virtually every wine-making region in the world, and it has a large selec-

tion of local wines, as well as wine from around the state. As you walk into the store, you will notice that aside from the wine separated by region, you will find wines that have been set aside as bargains.

Here you will be able to find perfectly acceptable bottles for as little as \$4. Of special note are the 1992 Castelle 'Il Villa Chianti Classico and the 1999 Sangiovese San Giorgio. Or how about a white? You might try the Leonard's Crossing 1998 Chardonnay. Whatever your taste, be adventurous; this is definitely the place to do it.

"We try to get the best wines in all price ranges," said Steve Baker, manager of Sundance.

But to really open your horizons, go attend the free wine tasting offered every Friday and Saturday from 4 to 6 p.m.

If you find yourself in a bind for time this holiday season and you can't get to the wine cellar for an hour to get what you really want, then I have yet another suggestion: Trader Joe's, at 85 Oakway Center.

This store has it all, from a quick gourmet to holiday treats, and yes, good cheap wine. Upon receiving my Traders Joe's bulk mailing, I quickly noticed there were several wines on sale for just less than \$3.

Were they any good? "Who cares?" I thought, "I can afford \$3 for wine!" However, I was not disappointed, as the Belle Sirene Chardonnay was quite nice. I also grabbed the Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon from the same vineyard. Three bottles of good wine for the price of what would usually be one is a good deal anywhere.

However, supply seemed to be limited so hurry on over.

Travis Geny is a senior pre-journalism major. He advocates safe and responsible drinking.



Sundance Wine Cellars combines a great selection of wines from all over the world, helpful and knowledgeable staff, and value to give you the most bang for your wine dollars. Sundance also offers free wine tastings every Friday and Saturday from 4 to 6 p.m.

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Holiday decorating options putting pressure on singles

By Eric Edwards
Knight-Ridder Tribune

Temperatures are cooling down, and Thanksgiving has past, which means that single people have only one thing on their minds: "Should I decorate for the holidays?"

When we lived with our folks, it was easy. One day, you would come home from school, and the entire house would be decked with seasonal cheer.

Your parents would go out, spend \$25 to \$50 on a tree, plant it in a glorified water bowl for the cat, top it with \$300 worth of shiny, painted glass and then beg for February to come so they could drag it to the curb.

But it is never that easy for the single person — mostly the single man — to gear up for the holiday spirit. Apart from buying the holiday sampler of beer from the grocery store, we are pretty much adrift in an endless sea of other people's good cheer without so much as a cheese log to cling to.

This is not to say that the singles' set doesn't enjoy the holidays.

When I moved into my first apartment 1 million years ago, I tried to get myself all geeked up for my first Christmas as an "adult." I went out and bought a red, ball-shaped ornament and a string of white lights that, when put on the

proper setting, blinked.

I carefully hung the ornament on my ficus tree and placed the lights around the border of the window. It created a true Christmas ambience in the tiny place.

Christmas came and went that year and, sentimental, lazy ol' me, I just couldn't find the time to take down the ornament or the lights. By mid-July, my two holiday accouterments had become the mainstays of my decor. I truly believe that had I not moved out of that apartment, the ornament and the lights would still be on display.

Most of the single women I know are a little more attentive to keeping with the holiday spirit. My friend Nikki plans her entire year around the night she puts up her Christmas tree and drowns it in decorations. Of course, she lives with two girls and so is probably egged on to achieve new heights of holiday spirit each successive year. Very few guys would prompt their buddy to put more effort into the holidays than spiking the eggnog.

Single women like Nikki and happy couples everywhere are the reason for events like the Festival of the Trees, which was held a couple of weeks ago at the Orlando Museum of Art.

For this event, the museum was stripped bare of anything that re-

sembled art and stuffed wall-to-wall with Christmas trees. The place looked like an arboretum with a wet bar and a band. People milled about these well-fashioned, if somewhat expensive, trees and tried to figure out how they could make a tree like that at home.

Then after a few Manhattans, when they realized they could never make a tree like that at home, they opened their wallets and in the name of charity purchased one of these collisions of art and nature.

There were trees with old-fashioned themes, zoo themes, Grinch themes and even sports themes. But even in a season of Yuletide joy, the single man needs more practical fare.

For example, a tree trimmed with pistachio nuts and beef jerky would never go out of style, and a wreath constructed entirely out of Super Bowl tickets keeps the holiday spirit alive until the end of January.

Some people believe that the fake tree is the answer for the single person, but I stand on firm ground when I say that disposability is a premium for people with little storage space, and you can't beat a real tree for disposability.

TMS Campus

CALL TO ARTISTS

The Aperture and Buzz Art Galleries are now accepting submissions for future exhibits through 2001. Community and student artists are encouraged to apply. Contact the Visual Arts Coordinator at the UO Cultural Forum at 346-0007, or email gallery@darkwing.uoregon.edu for more information.

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