

Wine Lovers Rejoice

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contacted at 592-5333 or visit windridgevineyard.com for information and to purchase their wines. The also are available at Taylor's Country Store in Cave Junction and at southwest stores and restaurants.

The Bendocks offer Rogue Val-

ley white wines such as Daisy Creek Viognier and Madrone Mountain Gewürtztraminer in their tasting room, besides Bendock Estate Pinot Noir.

Windridge is a member of the Rogue Appellation Garagiste Society (RAGS), a group of renegade small vintners in Southwestern Oregon. The group hosts The Days of RAGS Wines and Roses on May 31 in a private rose garden in the Medford/Ashland area.

Wines of Trium (Talent, Oregon), Daisy Creek, Madrone Mountain and Bendock Estate will be featured, along with good food. Roses may be specially ordered ahead. For reservations, phone 899-8329 or 592-5333.

Deer Creek Vineyards is located on 70 acres on Deer Creek Road near Lake Selmac. Pinot Gris, Chardonnay and Pinot Noir are bottled under their label. Deer Creek's tasting room and gift shop is located at 2680 Deer Creek Road, southeast of Redwood Hwy. and Selma.

For information, visit deercreek-vineyards.com or phone 592-4226.

A more recent addition to Illinois Valley is Draper Valley Vineyards, which specializes in nonalcoholic wine grape juices, starting in 2004. It's



located on Reeves Creek Road near Lake Selmac. For those who prefer non-alcoholic beverages, Draper Valley offers a delicious alternative with their Pinot Noir, Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay and Riesling.

None of its grape juices have sugar or water. They are pure premium juices with all the flavor of S.W. Oregon wines, but no alcohol. For information, phone 597-4737 or visit potomacabc.com.

One could spend a pleasant weekend or longer, touring Illinois Valley's wineries, sampling the wines and touring the scenic properties. There often are special events during the summer and at special art events in Cave Junction and Kerby where local wines are offered for tasting.

Illinois Valley wines also are available at several restaurants in the region including Taylor's Country Store, The Chateau at Oregon Caves, Junction Inn, and Pietro's Italian Restaurant in Cave Junction, Summer Jo's in Grants Pass, and the Jacksonville Inn in Jacksonville.

If you love fine wine, try those from Illinois Valley. They are affordable and can stand up to or beat most higher-priced California versions for taste and smoothness.

As people in Illinois Valley like to say, "Buy local!" Not only does that support the local economy, but buyers find fine wine in the bargain.

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