



COUNTY OF LAKE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NINTH-ANNUAL HOME WINEMAKERS FESTIVAL TO BE HELD JUNE 25 IN LAKEPORT

LAKEPORT, CA — The winemaking efforts of more than 40 talented home winemakers from Lake County and across California will be available for tasting at the ninth-annual Home Winemakers Festival on Saturday, June 25, 2011, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. This year's event will be held in Library Park, 225 Park Street, in downtown Lakeport.

Sponsored by the Clear Lake Performing Arts, the event is a benefit for Lake County symphony and music programs and the purchase of a commemorative glass will allow event goers to taste any or all of the wines from the amateur winemakers and brews from the amateur brew makers. Tasting is \$15 per person in advance, \$20 day of the event.

In the morning before the festival begins, a professional judging panel will choose winners in several categories. During the festival, guests vote on their favorite wines, brews, and other categories, and People's Choice awards will be presented at the end of the day.

Several local commercial wineries, including Rosa d'Oro Vineyards, Steele Wines, and Wildhurst Vineyards will be present to support the event, and some will even pour their wines for tasting.

In addition to wine, several home-brewed beers also will be available for sampling. Local purveyors will be selling food during the festival and a silent auction will take place during the festival with many donated items including a timeshare stay in Hawaii, some overnight stays, wines from commercial wineries in attendance, and wine-related items. The David Neft Duo will perform light jazz, bluegrass, and folk music during the festival.

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RELEASE: Lake County Home Winemakers Festival

RELEASE DATE: June 1, 2011

Page 2 of 2

For more information on the Lake County Home Winemakers Festival or to register as an amateur winemaker, contact Ed Bublitz, (707) 277-8172, www.homewinemakersfestival.com.

Lake County is part of the North Coast AVA, which also encompasses Napa, Sonoma, and Mendocino counties. Within Lake County, five other AVAs exist — Clear Lake AVA, Benmore Valley AVA, Guenoc AVA, and the recently approved Red Hills AVA and High Valley AVA.

Located in beautiful Northern California, Lake County is just two hours by car from the San Francisco Bay Area, the Sacramento Valley, and the Pacific Coast. Lake County is home to Clear Lake, the largest natural freshwater lake in California and possibly the oldest lake on the continent. Visitors to Lake County experience the state's cleanest air basin, spectacular scenic beauty, fine wines, and unsurpassed recreational opportunities — from hiking, biking, golf, and off-road adventures to boating, fishing, kayaking, birding, and even rockhounding. The local area code is 707. For visitor information, contact the Lake County Visitor Information Center at (800) 525-3743 or www.lakecounty.com.

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