

Local wineries and vineyards

Bel Lago Vineyards and Winery Located north of Cedar on County Rd. 643 (South Lake Shore Dr.). Open from noon-6 p.m. daily. 6530 South Lake Shore Dr., Cedar. 228-4800, Ext. 102.

Boskydel Vineyards Located at the corner of Otto Rd. and County Rd. 641. Open daily from 1-5:45 p.m. 7501 E. Otto, Lake Leelanau. 256-7272.

Bowers Harbor Vineyards Open weekends December through April; May through October 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon. through Sat. and noon-6 p.m. Sun. 2896 Bowers Harbor Rd., Traverse City. 223-7615.

Chateau Chantal 12 miles north of Traverse City on the Old Mission Peninsula. Hours: 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and Sun. from noon-5 p.m. 15900 Rue de Vin, Traverse City. 223-4110.

Chateau Fontaine Open Wed. through Sun., noon-5 p.m. June-October and noon-5 p.m. weekends November, December and May. 2290 S. French Rd., Lake Leelanau. 256-0000.

Chateau Grand Traverse On the Old Mission Peninsula, 12239 Center Rd., Mon.-Sat. 10-7, Sunday noon-6. 223-7355.

Chateau de Leelanau In barn at Hilltop Rd. and M-22, Suttons Bay. Open Mon. through Sat., 11-6 p.m., Sun. noon-5 p.m. Suttons Bay, 49682. 271-8888.

Ciccione Vineyard and Winery Located eight miles north of Traverse City on Hilltop Rd. off M-22. Open noon-6 p.m. daily. 10343 E. Hilltop Rd., Suttons Bay. 271-5551.

Good Harbor Vineyards Located 34 S. Manitou Trail, three miles south of Leland on M-22. Hours are 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon. through Sat. and noon-5 p.m. Sun. Lake Leelanau. 256-7165.

Leelanau Wine Cellars Located in Omena on the east side of the Leelanau Peninsula. October hours are Mon. through Thu. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun. 12-5 p.m.; hours change in November, call for update; 12683 East Tatch Rd., P.O. Box 68, Omena. 386-5201.

Leorie Vineyard 6994 Peninsula Dr., Traverse City. 933-1133.

L. Mawby Vineyards/Winery On Elm Valley Rd. south of Suttons Bay (take M-22 to Hilltop Rd. to S. Elm Valley Rd.). September and October open noon - 6 p.m. Thu. through Sun. 4519 S. Elm Valley Rd., Suttons Bay. 271-3522.

Peninsula Cellars Located on Old Mission Peninsula. Tasting hours are 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and noon-6 p.m. Sun. 11480 Center, Old Mission. 933-9787.

Raftshol Vineyards 2.5 miles N. of Suttons Bay on M-22. Open daily from 12-6 p.m. 1865 NW Bayshore, Suttons Bay. 271-5650.

Shady Lane Cellars On the Leelanau Peninsula between Traverse City and Suttons Bay. Tasting hours, 12-6 p.m. daily through Oct. Call for November hours. 9580 Shady Lane, Suttons Bay. 947-8865.

The Winery at Black Star Farm On Revold Rd. Open in October from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon.-Sat., noon to 5 p.m. Sunday; in November, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mon.-Sat., noon to 5 p.m. Sunday; 12 miles north of Traverse City. 10844 E. Revold Rd., Suttons Bay, 49682. 271-4884.

Willow Vineyards On Hilltop Rd. south of Suttons Bay. Open through October from noon-6 p.m. Wed.-Sun.; call for November hours; 10702 E. Hilltop Rd., Suttons Bay. 271-4810.

Nibbling

◀Continued from Page 10

In spite of the dismal harvest forecast, area winemakers remain surprisingly calm.

"It's the nature of the business. It happens, you deal with it, and you go on," Mawby said.

Owning a winery is not for sissies.

"You have to be a marketer, cost accountant, government compliance specialist, strategic planner, logistics expert, wholesaler, retailer, and in many instances, a bed and breakfast operator. And in addition you're a farmer," said Edward O'Keefe III, president of Chateau Grand Traverse on the Old Mission Peninsula.

For larger wineries like O'Keefe's, it's the ability to plan for the worst that keeps them on track, even when the harvest looks like it's going to be dismal.

"People ask, 'Why would you make cherry wine and carry so many other products?' O'Keefe said. "Well, it's for years like this. Having other products to market is part of our contingency plan."

Another contingency allows Chateau Grand Traverse to buy grapes from a specific grower in Washington State who custom grows them to taste.

"We are defining in advance what the sugar level will be, the pH level, the acidity. Our winemaker is in close contact with them at harvest time to make sure everything is just right," explained O'Keefe.

It's ironic that Mother Nature would choose 2003 of all years to pick on the northern Michigan grape crop. The wine produced in area vineyards has enjoyed a stellar year, winning top prizes in several international wine contests.

Take the San Francisco International Wine Competition. Winemakers from 21 countries entered 3,865 varieties of their best produce. Against that world-class competition, a double gold was award to Chateau Grand Traverse for their Late



Record-Eagle/Meegan Reid

Larry Mawby finishes making a batch of sparkling wine called "Fizz" at Mawby Orchards in Leelanau County. Area wineries offer a variety of products in their tasting rooms.

Harvest Riesling and to Peninsula Cellars for their Riesling Select.

In addition, Peninsula Cellars' Semi-dry Riesling was named best in show.

And the awards aren't just limited to two wineries. Winemakers from all over the area have been bringing home fistfuls of awards, including many in recent Michigan State Fair competition.

"The great thing about those results is that when more than one winery from the area is recognized, we all gain credibility," said Ulbrich.

"And what's fun about it is that we all put everything we've got into the vineyards, into the wine. When people from around the world start noticing the quality of our products we're like, yeah, that's what we've been saying."

Thirty years after he first began growing grapes, Mawby is philosophical about the ups and downs of the business.

"At heart our business is agriculture and agriculture is very difficult to control," Mawby said.

"You definitely realize that Mother Nature rules and we just sort of nibble at the margins."

BAYVIEW INN

Bar & Grill

MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL

BIG SCREEN

To Watch Your Favorite Sporting Events

**1 Pint Domestic Beer &
1 Slice of Pizza \$3.75**

HAPPY HOUR

Monday-Friday
3:30-6:30

**Salads, Burgers,
GREAT Pizza,
Traditional Gyros,
and More!**

Mon.-Sat 11a.m.-1:30 a.m.
— 5074 US 31 North —
938-1610