

TRAILS

FROM PAGE 5

different recipes prepared by various restaurants from the area and participants get a glass and get to pair up the mac with our wines.”

The Leelanau Peninsula Vintners Association was the first official wine trail to form in Michigan, getting started in January 2000. The LPVA organizes four wine trail events annually. In September the group hosts the Harvest Stompede, a run and walk through the vineyards along with gourmet pasta and a special wine pairing at each winery.

Toast the Season in November celebrates the coming holidays. Each participant receives a locally made grapevine wreath, an ornament at each of the 12 wineries, a commemorative logo wine glass, plus a special wine pour at each winery paired with a gourmet holiday food item.

In February the group hosts Taste the Passion, which features a snowshoe run or walk through the vineyards and a chocolate and wine tasting experience afterwards. In May the Spring Sip & Savor features new release wines paired with gourmet foods.



Photo/David L. Fox

Touring the wine trails of the Old Mission Peninsula and the Leelanau Peninsula is a lot fun whether you are going with a friend, family members or a group.

For more about the wineries of Old Mission Peninsula, visit their Web site www.wineriesofold-mission.com or call (231) 223-4050. To learn more about the Leelanau Peninsula Vintners visit www.lpwines.com or call (231) 938-1811.

Wine trail maps are available at all member wineries and at area Chamber of Commerces and Visitors Bureaus.

Reggie Ontario writes about travel destinations.

BERNIE

FROM PAGE 8

good side opens the door to a world of commentary and philosophy. No need to tune into Rush or any of those other radio/TV talking heads, just spend an hour with Bernie and the world will quickly come into perspective.

Back to that customer service thing. If you are reading this article and thinking about getting a van full of friends together and heading out to visit with Bernie at Boskydel you had better do a head count. If you have more than eight in your party the extras better stay back. If you have more than eight in your party Bernie won't serve you and probably will send you packing. His tasting room is small and only holds 8 comfortably and with the exception of the occasional assistance from his sons (one lives in the area and others come back and visit) he mans the tasting room by himself.

At 77, Bernie has become an icon. Not just on the Leelanau Peninsula but across many wine circles. There isn't a winemaker or winery proprietor in the north that hasn't ventured to see Bernie for advice. Advice seekers are not

just winemakers — many a customer have received advice on life from Bernie whether they wanted it or not.

At the end of the day it really is all about the wine. There is something special about sitting down and opening a bottle of Boskydel during dinner. It is probably because in every bottle there is a little bit of Bernie, and a little bit of Bernie is good for everyone.

To learn more about the dinner to honor Bernie, and his wife Suzanne who kept his dinner warm many a night while he held court with locals long after his tasting room closed, visit www.lpwines.com or

call (231) 938-1811. Evening highlights will include a “Library Wine” reception featuring a collection of cellared wines from Boskydel and other area wineries. A gourmet dinner will be served with wine pairings from Boskydel. The evening will conclude with a “Roast and Toast” of Bernie with closing comments from the master himself.

Rick Coates writes about wine and regularly seeks words of wisdom from Bernie.



An Agricultural Destination

BLACK STAR FARMS

- ★ Award Winning Winery and Distillery
- ★ Luxurious Bed & Breakfast Inn
- ★ Creamery and Equestrian Facility

10844 E. Revold Rd. Suttons Bay, Michigan 49682
www.blackstarfarms.com Telephone: 231.271.4882 ext.122



Market & Wine Shop

Traverse City's
Largest Delicatessen
& Wine Tasting Bar

Stop in for one of our
world famous
sandwiches & a glass
of VINO

424 W Front St
Traverse City, MI
231.941.7651

6/5-801276-WT


Willow Vineyard



You're Invited to Visit

One of the Most Beautiful Views in Leelanau County.
Award Winning Wines: Chardonnay, Pinot, Gris, Pinot Noir, Baci Rose
Hours: Wednesday-Sunday 12-6, or By Appointment.
November through April - Saturdays 12-5
10702 E. Hilltop Rd. • Suttons Bay, MI 49682 • (231) 271-4810

6/5-801280-WT



Elite Coffee™ Roasted Daily

- 44 Elite Coffees for the top 1% of the world's crop.
- 4 kinds of espresso.
- Healthy whole fruit, 100% juice smoothies - no sugars, no mixes, no syrups added.
- 31 flavors of authentic Italian gelato, better than ice cream & fat free.

Daily Moments of Luxury

202 E. Front at Cass
Open 6:30 am - 10 pm
Fri. & Sat. until 11 pm • Sat. & Sun 8 am
941-9100

wt 6/5 801273