

WINES & VINES

THE VOICE OF THE WINE INDUSTRY

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SEPTEMBER NEWS

News Briefs

Wines & Vines welcomes news items from wineries, vineyards and industry suppliers located in the wine regions of North America. Send us your latest news by emailing edit@winesandvines.com. Items may be edited for clarity and brevity.

CALIFORNIA


**Renteria purchases
Carneros property**

Denise and Oscar Renteria, owners of Renteria Wines and Renteria Vineyard Management, announced their purchase of the Brown

Ranch Vineyard in the Napa County side of the Carneros AVA. The 40-acre parcel contains 21 acres of Pinot Noir and 8 acres of Chardonnay.

Sinor buys Bassi Vineyard

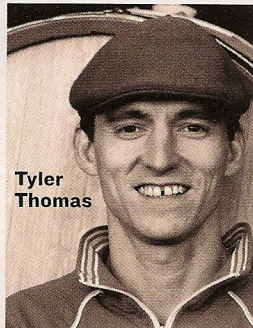
Mike Sinor, winemaker and owner of Sinor-LaVallee Wine Co. in Arroyo Grande and director of winemaking for Ancient Peaks

Winery in Santa Margarita, announced his purchase of the Bassi Vineyard in Avila Valley. The 112-acre property includes 30 acres of vineyards. Sinor and his wife Cheri founded their winery in 1997.

**New winemaker
at Dierberg
and Star Lane**

Tyler Thomas is the new winemaker for Dierberg Vineyard and Star Lane Vineyard wineries in Santa Barbara County. Thomas most recently was winemaker at Donelan Family

Wines in Sonoma County.



Tyler
Thomas

Nielsen promoted to winemaker

Joe Nielsen has been promoted from assistant winemaker to head winemaker at Donelan Family Wines in Santa Rosa. Nielsen joined Donelan in 2009 after working at wineries in Michigan and California.

Cakebread recognized with award

Dolores Cakebread, the wife of Cakebread Cellars founder Jack Cakebread, was named recipient of the Grande Dame Award from the Les Dames d'Escoffier International group. The award recognizes a "lifetime of outstanding professional achievement, excellence and charitable/community contributions within the culinary industry."

Monterey County group names new leader

Kim Stemler is the new executive director of the Monterey County Vintners & Growers Association, which has 85 winery and grapegrower members. MCVGA chairman Paul Johnson, owner of Johnson Vineyard Co., said the hiring committee chose Stemler out of a pool of more than 100 applicants for her local knowledge and extensive connections.

'Postmodern Winemaking' book released

Clark Smith, a former columnist for