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By PEG MELNIK
THE PRESS DEMOCRAT

August 26, 2013, 6:00 AM



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Wine blog: Tasting Room

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Man trapped in sand at Sonoma coast

Press Democrat wine writer Peg Melnik scopes out restaurant wine lists around the North Bay, looking for good value and the occasional splurge. This week's picks (prices are retail; restaurant markup varies):

Quivira, 2011 Dry Creek Valley Sonoma County Zinfandel, 14.2 percent alcohol, \$22. A briary zinfandel with layered flavors and a great kick of spice. Fruit-forward with notes of blackberry, cherry and raspberry. Ripe tannins. Lingering finish.

Roederer Estate NV Brut Rosé, Anderson Valley, 12 percent, \$28. A sparkler with bright acid and great minerality. Notes of raspberry, cherry and graham cracker. Nice length.

Patz & Hall, 2011 Sonoma Coast Chardonnay, 14.2 percent, \$38. A fleshy chardonnay that's toasty but not over the top. Notes of apple, melon, herbs and honey. Juicy.

Iron Horse, 2009 Wedding Cuvee Green Valley of Russian River Valley, 13.5 percent, \$40. An elegant sparkler that's crisp and clean and light on its feet. Complex, with notes of grapefruit, raspberry, cherry and hazelnut. Nice mousse. Striking.



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DeLoach Vineyards, 2011 Olivet Bench Russian River Valley Sonoma County Pinot Noir, 13.5 percent, \$58. A pinot with good bones - great structure. Aromas and flavors of red plum, strawberries and white pepper. Medium bodied, with bright acid. A pinot with depth.

Want to share a current wine on your favorite restaurant's list? E-mail peg.melnik@pressdemocrat.com or check out her Tasting Room blog at pressdemocrat.com

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Sabrina Krauss · Top Commenter · Sonoma State University
 Would be nice to see new names not normally published in all of the publications everywhere....we have SO much to chose from in Sonoma Co, I taste through tons of unique wines every week!
 Reply · 1 Like · August 26 at 12:55pm

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Santa Rosa Hometown News from Towns

It's a little piece of Burning Man that found its way to Santa Rosa: a roped-off corner of a parking lot for those looking to shrug off the sage advice of not playing with fire.



An excerpt from Steelies, a work of fiction based on Lawton's work as a geologist in Northern California watersheds published in her upcoming short-story collection, Steelies and Other Endangered Species.



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Bob Padecky

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[Man arrested, cyclist injured in Santa Rosa road-rage incident](#) | The Press Democrat (PressDemocrat.com)

[Sneak peek at wine auction lots](#) (PressDemocrat.com)

[Clues sought in mystery death of Sonoma girl](#) (PressDemocrat.com)

[Food and wine news: Three Squares Cafe closed for dinner](#) (PressDemocrat.com)

From Around The Web

[Take the Guess Work Out of Wine Drinking - Tasting Room](#) (The Huffington Post)

[Love Your Liver With Detoxifying Foods](#) (Veria)

[Sleeping With Pets Can Kill](#) (uLive)

[15 Surprising Slow Cooker Recipes](#) (Food.com)

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