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Happy to Be Hosting

Jean Charles Boisset, center, and members of his JBC team which hosted the 2022 Napa Valley Barrel Auction Friday at Raymond Vineyards pose for a group photo by Alexander Rubin just minutes before the event, which drew over 1,000 guests, began.

Lively Barrel Auction Raises \$1.5 Million

The Collective Napa Valley community came together in person Friday at Raymond Vineyards in St. Helena to raise funds for the important cause of children's mental health through a barrel auction featuring 75 lots of ten cases each.

Host Jean Charles Boisset of JCB and a Yountville resident warmly greeted each guest, and the traditional glass of bubbly was handed to each new arrival. Congressman Mike Thompson and Napa

County Supervisor Alfredo Pedroza were also part of the welcoming committee.

"We are humbled to have the support of so many bidders, wineries, businesses and volunteers who all contributed to the success of this fundraising endeavor. We are thrilled with the results and feel fortunate to be able to contribute to such an important cause," said Linda Reiff, president and CEO of Napa Valley Vintners. (Continued on Page 8)

County's Wine Grape Crop Up 60.8 Percent From 2020, Reds Rebound After Fire

The gross value of all agricultural production in Napa County was \$745,778,100 in 2021, a 60.8 percent increase

per ton. Chardonnay (5,880 acres) exceeded Merlot (4,019 acres) by 1,861 bearing acres, but sold at \$787 less per ton on

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Barrel Auction . . .

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The spirit of generosity could be felt throughout the event. Under the new model, bidders broke records at this year's barrel auction that raised \$1.5 million with average lot and case prices selling higher than ever before.

Of the 75 lots up for auction, the average price per case was \$1,873, nine percent higher than 2019, with a highest ever average lot price of \$18,683.

The top ten case bids were:

1. VGS Chateau Potelle, \$12,500
2. Alpha Omega, \$7,200

3. Shaefer, \$6,300
4. Hall, \$4,400
5. Darioush, \$4,250
5. Robert Mondavi, \$4,250
7. Cain Vineyard & Winery, \$4,100
8. JCB by Jean-Charles Boisset and Gallo Estates, \$4,000
9. Ovid, Napa Valley, \$3,800
10. Burgess, \$3,700
- Yountville's Kever Vineyards and Winery was next with a high bid of \$3,500.

In addition to tastings from the barrel afforded in the auction area, live entertainment and a delectable selection of

favorite foods by local chefs was featured around the pool, along with more local wines.

Beloved chef Bob Hurley curated the food selections and coordinated with each of the participating chefs and restaurants.

In all the day attracted roughly 1500 guests, wine hosts, chefs, servers, entertainers, media and support personnel.

The Barrel Auction is only one component of Collective Napa Valley's new, year-round efforts to raise funds seasonally for pressing community issues.

"This fund raising com-

"This fund-raising campaign is just the first of more to come. In different seasons we'll raise funds for a specific cause. For the summer offering we chose to focus on children's mental health because of the intensified need the last few years," said Reiff.

Earthquakes, fires and COVID-19 have greatly accelerated the need for services, with one in four Napa County students currently experiencing mental health problems, according to education officials.

"Every dollar raised this weekend will have a meaningful impact on the life of a Napa County child. We are so thankful to be able to expand our efforts as a result of the funds raised," said Jennifer Stewart, executive director of Napa Valley Education Foundation and leader of a joint effort among Napa's nonprofits who work together on community and children's mental health.

Funds raised will help provide on-campus access to individual and group counseling, substance abuse prevention, bully prevention programs and more.

With the promise of even more ahead, spirits were high at the community celebration on Saturday in Yountville that closed out the weekend of celebrating together, enjoying wine and doing good.