

WINE PICKS » PEG MELNIK

Wineries stepping up to help in fire relief efforts

While the wildfires destroyed 200,000 acres and thousands of homes in Wine Country, most wineries were unscathed and they're stepping up to contribute to relief efforts. Here's a roundup of what some are doing, and how your dollars spent can contribute to the cause.

Collier Falls in Healdsburg is promoting a Relief Raffle through Nov. 1, with 100 percent of the proceeds going to Habitat for Humanity to help support Sonoma, Napa, Lake and Mendocino County residents who lost their homes. A \$25 raffle ticket will offer the chance to win a \$2,500 wine country experience. It features a private tour for six including wine pairings and lunch in the vineyard, a case of 2010 Collier Falls Hillside Estate Cabernet and three magnums of cab, petite sirah and zin. (collierfalls.com/winecountryrelief)

Iron Horse Vineyards is contributing \$5 from the sale of every bottle of Gratitude sparkling wine to Redwood Empire Food Bank. The rosé sparkler, vintage 2012, was in the works for a Thanksgiving release but the winery rallied to offer it early as a way to support fire relief. The bubbly is 76 percent pi-

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not noir and 24 percent chardonnay, with just 300 cases produced. The Sebastopol winery is also donating a portion of all tasting room and winery sales to fire relief through October. (ironhorsevineyards.com)

Roche Winery in Sonoma is contributing 50 percent of the proceeds of four red wines to the Sonoma County Resilience Fund through Nov. 2. Roche's featured reds are 2013 Carneros Pinot Noir at \$28.50; 2015 Carneros Merlot at \$25.50; 2013 Reserve Merlot at \$33.75; and 2013 Reserve Pinot Noir at \$33.75. The family-owned winery specializes in reds and chardonnay. (rochewinery.com)

Charles Krug Winery, the historic winery in St. Helena, is contribut-

ing 20 percent of tasting room sales during the month of November to the Napa Valley Community Foundation. While cabernet sauvignon is its specialty, the winery also produces chardonnay, merlot, pinot noir and sauvignon blanc. (charleskrug.com.)

The JCB brand, with its tasting room in Yountville, is donating 100 percent of the proceeds from its Honors cabernet sauvignon priced at \$75 to support firefighters and fire relief. It's a blend of vintner Jean-Charles Boisset's favorite 2016 cabernets, and it's a lush, classy cab. Only 3,600 bottles were produced. (jcbcollection.com)

Limerick Lane Winery in Healdsburg is selling its 2014 Syrah Grenache at \$45 with 100 percent of the proceeds benefiting fire relief. This Russian River Valley winery is appointment-only, but you'll find the bottlings at wine retail shops all over Sonoma County. The winery produced 450 cases of the Rhone blend. (limericklanewines.com)

Kenwood Vineyards is matching dollar for dollar donations to the American Red Cross up to \$40,000. A highlight here is the Artists Series, that has produced well-crafted cabernet sauvignons for three decades. (redcross.org/donate/cm/pernodricard-emp)

Westwood Estate in Sonoma is

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donating 25 percent of its sales to fire relief through mid-November. The 2015 Legend Proprietary Blend at \$44 is a Rhone blend has been turning heads, and it's from the famed Annadel Gap Vineyard. (westwoodwine.com)

Cliff Lede Vineyards in Yountville is donating 5 percent of all sales to the Napa Valley Community Foundation's Fire relief fund until mid-November. The strong suit here is cabernet sauvignon, with most of its bottlings in this

varietal. But it also makes Bordeaux red blends and a striking sauvignon blanc. (cliffledevineyards.com)

Shafer Vineyards in Napa Valley has made a donation to the Community Foundation's Disaster Relief Fund and it has been encouraging others to follow suit on social media. The flagship here is the Hillside Select Cabernet Sauvignon, and while it's primarily a house of red, it does produce the Red Shoulder Ranch Chardonnay.

(napavalleycf.org/supporting-napa-county-fire-relief-efforts)

Sbragia Family Vineyards in Geyserville will donate \$20 for every bottle of the 2014 La Promessa Zinfandel priced at \$40. The name "La Promessa" means "the promise" in Italian, a fitting tribute for the fire victims. With 5 percent of petite sirah in the mix, the zinfandel has as tasty streak of spice. The winery produced 448 cases. (sbragia.com)

Peterson Winery in Healdsburg has been bottling its Dry Creek Valley Zinfandel to benefit firefighting organizations for the past three years. All proceeds of the spicy zin, weighted to red, will continue to benefit the California State Firefighter Association and its historical society. (peter-sonwinery.com)

Trattore Farms in Healdsburg is donating 100 percent of all of its tasting fees and proceeds from its balsamic vinegars and olive oils for the Sonoma County Fire relief efforts until mid-December. The featured wine here is the Trattore Farms 2016 Roussane at \$40. (trattore-farms.com)

Three Fat Guys: The former professional foot-



ball players behind the Sonoma winery volunteered during the wild-fires and now their plan is to supplement those efforts with a financial infusion. They are donating 50 percent of the proceeds from their wines for fire relief through mid-November. The cabernets are the most prized here, but the brand also includes a chardonnay and a pinot noir. (threefatguy-swines.com)

B. Wise Vineyards is donating \$250,000 to the Redwood Credit Union North Bay Fire Relief Fund. The Sonoma Valley winery, located in the Moon Mountain District, produces a full line-up of wines, but cabernet and pinot noir are its specialties. Its tasting room is located on Highway 12 in Kenwood. (bwisevineyards.com)

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