

## 1 STAMP OF APPROVAL

In his most recent South African Report, Neal Martin, one of Robert Parker's Wine Advocates, scored two of De Klers' wines 93 and 90 points out of 100 respectively. De Klers Cape Vintage Reserve Port 2012 was awarded 93 points and De Klers Tritonia Calitzorp Blend 2013, 90 points. Tritonia is the first Wine of Origin Calitzorp dry red to receive a score of 90 points and above.

## 2 KARNAVALTYD

Die tweede Cabernet Franc-karnaval word op 21 Mei by Avontuurwinklandgoed naby Stellenbosch gehou en vanjaar gaan 16 wynplase hul wyne te probeer en koop aanbied. Die karnaval volg ná die aankondiging van die eerste Cab Franc Challenge-wemers op 20 April, waar die beste ses wyne deur 'n panel kenners gekies sal word. Hierdie ses topwyne kan teen 'n addisionele koste van R50 per persoon in formele prosesies by die karnaval geproe word. Die publiek sal, sons verlede jaar, weer die geleentheid kry om vir hul gunsteling-Cabernet Franc te stem. E-gas na winery@avontuurestate.co.za.

## 3 FRENCH FLAIR

Monsieur Aubert de Villaine of Domaine de la Romanée-Conti presented a tasting of some of his legendary wines at Restaurant Mosaic in Pretoria. The event was held in conjunction with

fine wines importer Great Domaines. Romanée-Conti is a centuries-old vineyard that produces Burgundy's finest, rarest and most expensive wine. The tasting was followed by a menu created by chef Chantel Dartnall, who was twice voted SA's Chef of the Year. The wines were selected by Restaurant Mosaic sommelier Germain Lehodey and his team. In October 2014 in Hong Kong, Sotheby's sold a set of 114 bottles of Romanée-Conti wine for \$1.6 million (currently about R2.54 million), setting the record for the most expensive wine lot ever sold at auction. On average that's \$14 121 per bottle (currently about R224 355) and \$1 700 (currently about R27 000) per glass!

## 4 BLESS THE HARVEST

This annual wine commemorative event was once again hosted by Groot Constantia Estate, the birthplace of the South African wine industry. Groot Constantia chairman Dr Ernst Wessing said that in the face of the drought wine producers could be grateful they have a harvest, no matter how small. "In the midst of a messy situation, good comes out," he said. After an emotional video presentation of the TRES Medal of Honour recipient, Danie de Wet of De Wetshof Estate, guests were entertained by the Libertas Choir.

## LEER DEUR SPEEL 5

"Polkaïns", Stellenbosch Hills-geïntegreerde gemeenskapprojek wat sy oorsprong te danke het aan die Polkaïns-wynreëls, spog met 'n splinternuwe speletterein vir die Groot-Konstantia kinders- en opvoedkundige ervaring te verbreed. Die projek is in 2008 van stapel gestuur en het ten doel om die lewe van die Watterburg-gemeenskap en Watterburg-Primêre Skool te leerder te verbeter. 'n Persentasie van die Polkaïns-wynverkope word geskenk om 'n jaarlikse Groot-Konstantia skool daarte stel.

"Speel is net so belangrik sons onderlig" sê PG Sittbert, wynmaker en bestuurder by Stellenbosch Hills. "Hierdie speelpark is oopgetoë aan die skoolhoof, Ruth Dreyer, wat aan die einde van die jaar afteen ná 30 jaar 'in die onderliggedryf'."

## PEDIGREE PACKAGING 6

Nederburg's new communication campaign seeks to ignite curiosity about the brand through its television campaign, print advertising, website narratives and in-store engagement. The new packaging, which features the brand's crest more prominently than before, has been designed to clearly convey Nederburg's heritage, pedigree and sophistication across its multilayered range. Global marketing spokesperson for the brand Dr Mari Kelleman says the new

look, created by Anthony Lane, not only matches Nederburg's credentials, but increases shelf standout.

## FIT FOR A PRESIDENT 7

Two South African wines, Mullineux & Lees Family Wines Mullineux Syrah 2013 and the Mullineux White 2013, were served to French president Francois Hollande at a luncheon hosted at Indian industrialist Anilij Singh's residence in New Delhi. Hollande was a guest of honour at India's colourful Republic Day parade at the end of January. The parade, which celebrates the birth of modern India, is the country's biggest national event.

## DRIVING CAB 8

Ernie Els Wines has taken the next step to fulfil its vision to be the foremost Cabernet Sauvignon producer in South Africa. It recently launched an entry-level Cabernet Sauvignon as part of the highly popular Big Easy range. The crowd-pleasing Big Easy Cabernet Sauvignon is produced from grapes grown in the Golden Triangle on the north-facing slopes of the Heideberg Mountains where the high-potential Hutton-Clovelly soil provides the ideal terroir for the so-called "king of cultivars".