

# Paw Paw

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whose vines are easier to train and don't require the thinning that helps improve grape quality.

"Concord was king, and that was it," he says of those days. Festival Draws Thousands

Now the growth of interest in wine has brought an economic boomlet to the area. Signs on Interstate 94 direct visitors to wineries and wine tours, and a three-day wine festival brought nearly 20,000 visitors through Paw Paw wineries in September.

Almost all Michigan wine is sold within Michigan and surrounding states, and St. Julian officials admit that Michigan wineries are far behind their California and European counterparts. They see that as a challenge.

"We're still on the ground floor, and this is when the basic decisions are being made," Catherman says.

"What varieties do you grow? How do you grow them? How do you make the best wine out of them? Does seval blanc grow better in a little corner of Berrien County, or does it do better in Van Buren County? Does it like heavier ground or lighter ground? "I worked in California for a while, but there's more excitement in these questions here."



**SAMPLING HIS OWN WARES, Chas Catherman, winemaker at the St. Julian Winery in Paw Paw, Mich., checks on the color of some red wine in the winery's aging cellars. Aging premium wine in small oak barrels permits it to remain in contact with wood, giving it special flavor. The temperature of the cellar remains nearly constant all year round.**

If you are planning to hunt deer in western Madison County this year, the NC Wildlife Resources Commission requests you help in obtaining data on the area's deer herd.

Commission personnel will man a data collection station

on Rich Mountain at the intersection of US 25-70 and Rich Mountain Road on November 21, 22, 26, December 3, 10.

Please bring your deer by to learn its age, weight, and health condition. This will greatly assist in the management of the area's deer herd.

By **BORIS WEINTRAUB**  
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC  
NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — It is not entirely correct to say that Harm J. de Blij looks at a bottle of fine wine and thinks only of geography. Not entirely correct, but pretty close.

Show de Blij, a professor of geography at the University of Miami, a bottle of a 1975 Bordeaux from the commune of St. Estephe, and he will talk about the composition of the soil where its grapes were grown, the climate, the amount of heat and sunlight: physical geography.

He will talk about the laws governing the labeling of the wine, and how the appellation system was developed: political geography.

He will talk about how vines came to be planted in Bordeaux, and how the methods and theories of viticulture (the growing grapes) and viniculture (the making of wine) were preserved primarily by the church in the Middle Ages: historical geography.

And he will talk about the longstanding traditions of the area's growers and wine makers, the specialized knowledge that goes back centuries, the relationship between grape and region: cultural geography.

"Geography is so marvelously relatable to wine," says de Blij, who has just published a book called "Wine: A Geographic Appreciation." "It's climate, it's

soil, it's culture, it's tradition, it's history. In a sense, you could say that a bottle of wine is a summary of a region."

Only after such discourse to a lunch companion will he taste the wine. It's not that de Blij doesn't like wine for itself. Far from it.

"A great bottle of wine is a noble creation, a work of art as well as science, a triumph of talent and initiative, a progeny of natural environment and cultural tradition," he writes in the book's preface. "As complex as a Monet landscape and as intricate as a Bach partita, such a wine is to the sense of smell and taste what painting is to the eye and music to the ear . . . It is an endless adventure of boundless joy, enlivened by discoveries of unexpected treasures."

But de Blij maintains that a full understanding of the geography of wine enhances one's enjoyment. He presses this principle upon his students in his wine geography course, one of about 20 offered in American colleges and universities.

His research has taken him to vineyards around the world: to Japan, New Zealand, the Mediterranean, Argentina, to France and Germany, of course, and to California and to many other American states, which led to the discovery that grapes suitable for wine are grown in every state but Alaska.

Just as there is no single

greatest wine, there is no single best way to produce it. Instead, de Blij says, great wines depend on a number of geographical factors. Take, for example, Bordeaux: Why are its wines so special?

"To a very considerable extent, it's history," de Blij says, "the length of time that generation after generation has been making wine, avoiding the pitfalls, and capitalizing on the advantages."

"The vine has been standing there for a long time, and it has capitalized on the particular environment that prevails there; its root systems may now be 16 or 18 feet more down into the soil, and cloned over and over until the most delicate adjustment with the local environmental ecology has been achieved."

"Then there is a cultural tradition that has produced experts, winemakers who can almost sense the readiness of grapes in the vineyard, feel the readiness of wine in the barrel, time the period of fermentation. There are certain areas where certain families have made wine and have taught the making of wine almost since civilization began."

De Blij has found that the way vineyards are laid out says something about the character of the growers. He cautions against going too far in such comparisons, but writes in his book about the exactness and regimentation of German vineyards, the widely

spaced, machine-harvested vines of central California, the undisciplined Italian vineyards where vines spill out everywhere.

"In Malta," he recalls, "the vines were simply crawling along the ground. I asked the winemaker, for whom the growers were contractors, why he didn't suggest that they hang the vines from a trellis. He said, 'What happens if we set up trellises and we get one of four familiar Mediterranean winds and everything gets blown over? I leave them alone.'"

**Resistant to Change**  
Grape growers and winemakers, de Blij has found, are conservative people who carry their traditional ways of doing things with them wherever they go. He cites a group of Germans who moved to Australia's Baross Valley and planted grapes suitable only for distilling into brandy.

"The winemakers went to them and asked them to plant grapes for table wines," he says. "And the growers wouldn't do it! Even when they were promised considerable incentive, they wouldn't do it. The reason is that they were comfortable with the way the vines they were familiar with grew and looked."

"What that says is that tradition dies hard, even when economic incentive seems to lie right before the growers." De Blij has noted that grapes are grown and wine

produced in many unexpected places, from Zimbabwe to Korea, from the Soviet Union to Uruguay. The rise in American production can be attributed to many factors, from increased consumption by Americans who have traveled abroad and seen wine-drinking as routine, to the increasing maturity and affluence of the baby-boom generation that was drinking fruit wines a decade ago, to the development of hybrid grape vines designed to withstand difficult climates.

"We have hybrids now that combine the hardiness of American grapes with the tastiness of the French grapes," he notes. "There are some hybrids you can grow where the temperature goes 20 degrees below zero. That would wipe out virtually every variety of vinifera — the species of grape that produces the world's noblest wines. You get grapes in Florida that have been bred for their resistance to mildew."

**Unanswered Questions**  
Though U. S. wine consumption rose 60 percent in the 1970s, per capita consumption here still is far below that in other urban, industrial societies. One question that fascinates de Blij is why the emigration of Germans, Italians, and Spaniards to Argentina and Chile spurred production and consumption there to very high levels, while the arrival of similar groups in the United States and Canada had no such impact.

# 98 Called To Serve Jury Duty

Madison County Clerk of Courts Jim Cody has announced that the names of 98 residents were selected to serve as prospective jurors during the term of Superior Court scheduled to begin on Nov. 28.

Those chosen during the Oct. 7 selection were: Edna Marie Fisher, Madeline Jenkins, Paul G. Newton, Alan Douglas Fender, Mary Louise Rector, Leola Caldwell, Robert Glen Norville, Pamela Jean Honeycutt, Linda Allen Reeves, Donna Palma Nipper, Gary Lee Spence, Donald Haynie, Woodson Jake Metcalf, Miriam Eller Zink, Charley Edward Conner, Laura Mae Hollifield, Helen Sawyer Ponder, Ethel Wild Askew, Harold Eugene Holcombe, Kenneth Dean Moore, Dan Lee Beckwith, Marion A. Ramsey, Earnest C. Langsley, Thula Jane Moore, Wiley Jackson Henderson, Savada B. Ponder, Charles Deuane Bowers, Roger Dale Wells, Hazel Dockery Wilde, Jeanette Brazell Shannon, Mark Wendell Moore, Kenneth Edwin Roberts, Freda Mae Metcalf, Julliett Waddell Anderson, Kenneth Garey Henson, David C. Rice, Louise P. Freeman, Gary C. Brooks, Richard McCrary Taylor, Eulala H. Boone, Leonard E. Roberts, Hazel Wood Murray, Clement Buckner, Loyd Perry Lamb, William Roy Shetley, Cecile George Briggs, James D. McKinney, Homer Frank Brown, David Wills, Bobby Allen Thomas, Dorothy Lee Honeycutt, Herbert Wild, John Gardner III, Nicky Joe

Fowler, Ethel Messer Caldwell, John Guy Grindstaff, Jr., Randy Norton, Joe Murray, William Howard Deal, Viola Gosnell, Retha Wilde Ward, Mable Mary Rose, Billie Jean Redmon, Louise Joyce Edwards, William A. Fox, Janice A. Cantrell, Thelma Gardner, Clyde Porter Jarvis, Steward Jay Canter, Catherine Murray Phythian, Tulin Arrington, W.H. Goforth, Michael Burkhead, Clyde McKinney, Robert E. Frisbee, Lawrence Clemens, Diana Boles Blankenship, Andrew Landers, Cecil W. Williams,

Bertha Metcalf, Daisy Anderson, Jim Fred Norton, Florrie Moore McFall, Frances A. Allen, Thomas Edgar Justice, Alice Gentry Moore, William Lovins, Darnell Naulty, Mayme Drake, Edith Cheek, Thresa Cameron, Eulala Baker, Karen Sue Hunter, Larry S. Plemmons, Mary Evelyn Underwood, Donnie H. Andrews and Terry Lee Edmonds.

# Lions

(Continued from Page 8)  
Friday, the Lions will face NAIA national champion College of Charleston in the champion's tournament. On Monday, the Lions travel to Knoxville for a contest against Knoxville College. The Lions then face 1981-82 national champion USC-Spartanburg in their tournament, Nov. 25 and 26. USC-Spartanburg will travel to Mars Hill on Dec. 3 to complete the home-and-home series.

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**It has been my privilege to serve Marshall as its mayor for the past six years.**

**I sincerely wish the new town board the very best in managing the town's affairs.**

*Raymond Ford*

**THANK YOU**

I wish to express my appreciation to the people of Marshall for re-electing me to their board of aldermen.

I readily accept the responsibilities of my office and to the people of Marshall and the surrounding areas.

As I have in the past, I will in the future work hard for the betterment of Marshall and its communities.

*Don Deason*

**THANK YOU VOTERS**

I sincerely appreciate the support you have given me in this election and the terms of the past ten years.

Although I did not win re-election this term, I am proud to have served with three different mayors and five boards of aldermen and every one of them has sacrificed much of their time to see that the better things of life come our way. Many former mayors and aldermen are dead and many still living.

I am proud to have been an alderman and I hope the new board has all the success in the world.

**James R. Penland**

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