



LOST MAPLES WINERY

PRESS RELEASE

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CONTACT: Jeff Braun (281) 787-8040

jeff.braun@crucialcommunicationsgroup.com

Nearly 100 Volunteers Arrive by Car (and Helicopter!) to Attend Texas Grape Harvest

Grape Harvest at Lost Maples Winery and
Polvadeau Vineyard in the Texas Hill Country This Weekend

(BANDERA COUNTY, TX) — Nearly one hundred volunteer pickers arrived by car and, in one case, by helicopter, to attend the Lost Maples Winery and Polvadeau Vineyard's annual harvest. Together, the volunteers harvested more than 9,000 pounds of Black Spanish Lenoir grapes for vineyard owners Tom and Glenda Slaughter. There was also a ceremonial grape stoping by Geraldine Becker of Leakey—who turns 80 this month.

"This is the second year of heavy spring rains that have benefited the grape crop. Our vines are maturing nicely and continue to generate good yields for our winemaking," said Tom Slaughter. "Nurturing the vines through some of the weather extremes we've seen this year can be challenging, but at harvest we literally see all of the hard work pay off with grapes that will make excellent wine."

In order to preserve the grape's robust flavor, they must be processed right away. The first step in the winemaking process is to remove the stems and crush the grapes to begin fermentation. That process will begin early next week.

"Over the next few days we will be testing the sugar content and evaluating the other aspects of this year's crop to determine the quality of the juice that will be used to make our wines," said Glenda Slaughter. "We're excited because the initial tests we've done show that things look good."

The 11-year-old vineyard and winery are the first commercial growing and wine making facilities in Bandera County. The first phase of the vineyard was planted in 2006 and the Winery and Tasting Room opened earlier this year. The winery makes 5 varieties of wine from Black Spanish Lenoir grapes grown on the premises. The Tasting Room is open afternoons from Wednesday through Sunday each week. More information on the wines and facility is available at www.lostmapleswinery.com and on their Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/Lostmapleswinery>.