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Mayor proclaims "Messina Hof Harvest Day"

City of Bryan recognizes Texas vineyard on July 21, 2007 for serving as a prime tourist attraction in Texas

HOUSTON (June 25, 2007) – On behalf of Bryan City Council, City of Bryan Mayor Mark Conlee has proclaimed July 21, 2007 "Messina Hof Harvest Day" in recognition of the award winning vineyard's contribution to the community.

"Bryan is a community steeped in tradition and we couldn't have picked a better place to start our winery 30 years ago," said Paul and Merrill Bonarrigo, co-founders of Messina Hof Winery and Resort.

Messina Hof Winery and Resort, founded on family values, romance and tradition serves as a leader in the establishment of the Texas wine industry. Being ranked as one of the fastest growing, most award winning wineries in the state of Texas, Messina Hof is the second largest tourist attraction in Brazos County and attracts more than 250,000 visitors per year.

Messina Hof will celebrate their 30th anniversary with the first ever Moonlit Harvest on July 20, 2007.

Mayor Conlee will make the proclamation of "Messina Hof Harvest Day" at the Harvest Festival on July 21, 2007 at 11 a.m. at the winery.

The annual Harvest is an exhilarating five-week event featuring a wide variety of food and wine events. The Harvest will capture the excitement and fun in getting the wine making season off to a "stomping start" and allow wine lovers, special guests and local celebrities to partake in the first steps of winemaking with the Messina Hof family and also be wined and dined with Harvest Cuisine at the Vintage House restaurant.

Following is the schedule of Harvest events in chronological order:

Blessing of the Vines

Father John Malinowski of St. Joseph's in Bryan will perform the annual ritual of the blessing of the vines at Messina Hof Winery.

Moonlit Harvest

Friday, July 20, 2007

The first annual "Moonlit Harvest" includes picking and stomping the grapes, a souvenir t-shirt, and a Vineyard Cuisine dinner prepared by The Vintage House's Vice President and Culinary Director Ken Ruud.

Harvest

Saturday, July 21, 2007 – Sunday, August 19, 2007 (Saturday and Sunday only)

Join the Messina Hof family for the 30th Annual Harvest Festival. Choose from four package options that include orientation, picking & stomping grapes, a souvenir t-shirt, food & wine pairing seminars, and a Vineyard Cuisine lunch and/or dinner specially cooked by The Vintage House's Vice President and Culinary Director Chef Ken Ruud. To review the Harvest Festival available packages, please visit

[http://www.messinahof.com/docs/MH %20Harvest Reg Form 07.pdf](http://www.messinahof.com/docs/MH%20Harvest%20Reg%20Form%2007.pdf).

Murder Mystery Dinners

**Saturday, July 21, 2007 – Saturday, August 18, 2007
(All Murder Mystery Dinner's begin at 6:30 PM)**

Mystery Dinner theme's are as follows:

- July 21 - "Celebrity Celebrations"
- July 28 - "One of the Girls"
- August 4 - "Murder on the Mound"
- August 11 - "Luck of the Irish"
- August 17 - "Storm Survivors"

Harvest Vintner's Dinners

**Friday, July 27, 2007 – Saturday, August 18, 2007
(All Vintner Dinner's begin at 6:30 PM)**

Harvest Vintner's Dinner's are as follows:

- July 27 – Kendall-Jackson Reserve Dinner
- August 3 – Palm Bay Imports
- August 10 – Franciscan
- August 18 – Grand Finale, "The French Connection"

In partnership with Kroger Food Stores, Messina Hof Winery will collect canned food for the opportunity to win tickets to attend the 2007 Harvest. All canned food items will be donated to the Houston Food Bank.

Sponsors for the 2007 Annual Harvest include: The Houston Chronicle, Bryan/College Station Convention and Visitors Bureau, Life in the Brazos.com, Coufal-Prater Equipment, Monterey Mushroom, Clear Channel Communications, Wells Fargo, George Bush Library, Tops Printing, and the Bryan/College Station Eagle Newspaper.

The cost for Harvest events varies from \$19.95 to \$125. Groups with a minimum of 20 people can receive a discount of \$10 off per person for either the full-day package or for the dinners.

Messina Hof Winery is located at 4545 Old Reliance Rd. in Bryan, TX 77808.

For more information or to register to be a part of this unforgettable experience, please call (800) 736-9463 ext. 34 for reservations or visit www.MessinaHof.com.

About Messina Hof Winery and Resort

Messina Hof Winery and Resort was established in 1977 by Co-Founders Paul and Merrill Bonarrigo. Now celebrating its 30th anniversary, Messina Hof was founded on family values, romance and tradition. Messina Hof is the leader in the establishment of the Texas wine industry and ranks as one of the fastest growing, most award-winning wineries in the state.

More than 50 wines are produced at the winery located in Bryan, Texas. Messina Hof Winery and Resort also boast on their 100-acre property the Vintage House Restaurant and Villa, which was voted "Most Romantic hideaway in the USA".

For more information on Messina Hof Winery and Resort, please visit www.MessinaHof.com