



CLOSEUP
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Flying by remote control is an art; ask the pilots

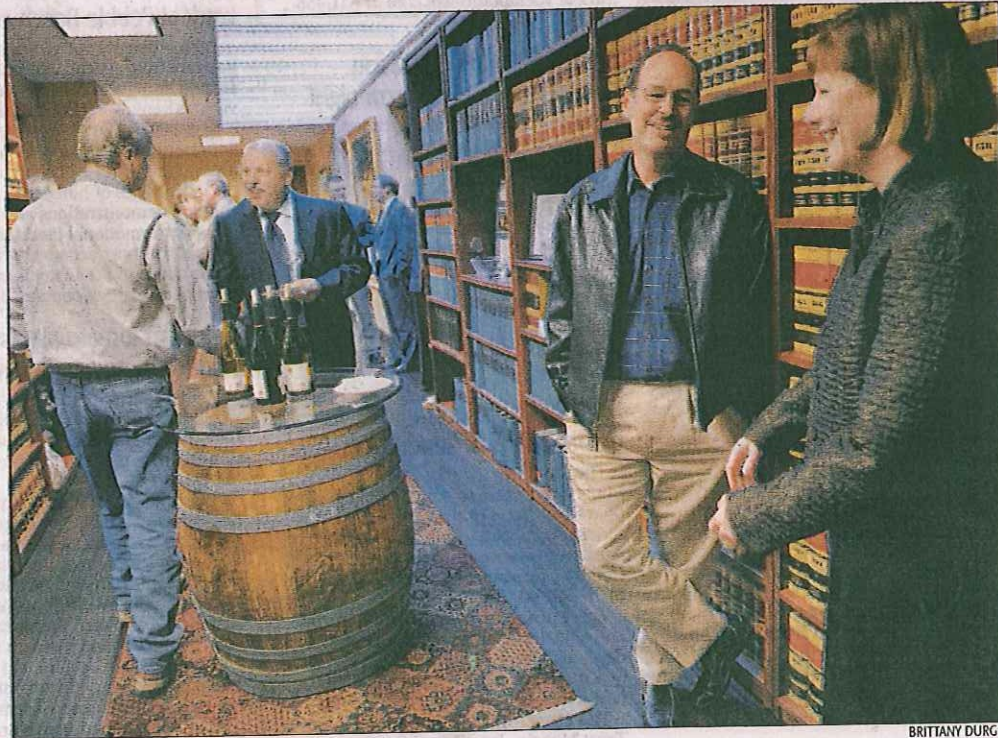


SCENE
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CASA raises awareness with fundraiser

SERVING THE HIGHWAY 68 CORRIDOR OF MONTEREY COUNTY | FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 2009 | WEEKLY

Salinas law firm promotes Monterey County wines at event



BRITTANY DURGIN

People gather inside the law office of Lombardo and Gilles April 2 for a blind tasting of pinot noir wine.

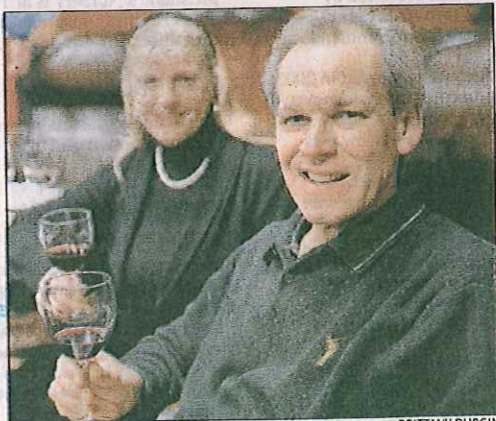
The decisions made in the boardrooms at Lombardo and Gilles were not the usual ones the evening of April 2, when the Salinas law firm hosted a double-blind wine tasting.

Forty invitees tasted four Central Coast wines, and scored them on cards. At 7:15 p.m. four judges announced their scores, and tasters were able to compare their results with the professionals.

Guests were treated to fine foods, thanks to the Inn at Tres Pinos, and Gallery Elite Carmel had pieces on display for sale and offered a 15 percent discount to guests of the tasting.

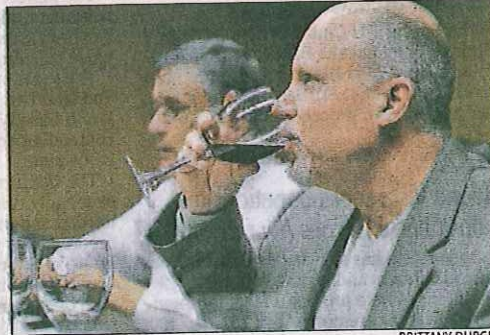
This is the first time the firm has held a blind wine-tasting event, but partner Jeff Gilles says the firm hopes to host three a year from now on. Gilles and friend Steve Pessagno, of Pessagno Winery on River Road, conceived the event. With hopes of bringing people together for a fun event and promoting Monterey County wines, the two men worked together to bring off the tasting.

—Brittany Durgin, Off 68



BRITTANY DURGIN

Toro Park residents Jim Hlavacek, and wife Monica taste wine at the law office of Lombardo and Gilles.



BRITTANY DURGIN

Scott Sturvist tastes wine.



BRITTANY DURGIN

Rebecca Sturvist takes a sip.