



Calvert County NEWS

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Perigeaux Offers a Taste of Calvert County at State Dinner

PRINCE FREDERICK, Md. – June 11, 2013 – Perigeaux Vineyards and Winery in St. Leonard received a special honor recently when its Calvert County wine was served at the Foundation for Art and Preservation in Embassies (FAPE) state dinner, which took place at the U.S. Department of State on April 29.

Perigeaux owners John Behun and Mark Flemming attended the dinner at the request of FAPE, which had asked the winery for local wines produced with locally grown grapes.

Behun said FAPE provides works of art from American artists on long-term loans to U.S. embassies around the world as a representative of American culture. FAPE asked Flemming and Behune for samples of their wines.

“We gave them five and they chose two,” Behun said, “our 2012 Pinot Gris and 2011 Cabernet Franc.”

During the state dinner, Behun said he was sure to taste the wines before any of the bottles were served. Behun said the evening went well and he was impressed by the people he met.

Perigeaux first planted grapes in its winery in 2002 and began making wines in 2006. From that beginning, Behun said he never imagined he would be invited to such an event.

“If someone had told me in 2002 that the secretary of state would one day be drinking our wines, I would not have believed it,” Behun said.

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As far as tasting the wine itself, Behun said he was happy with the result of his and Flemming's work.

“The Pinot Gris was perfectly chilled and the Cabernet Franc had opened up fully. Both wines were well received. It was very nice,” he said. “People seemed surprised it was Maryland wine they were drinking.”

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Calvert County is Maryland's smallest county in land area with 213 square miles. It is home to nearly 90,000 people and has one of the highest standards of living in Maryland. Major industries include defense contracting, information technology, tourism, energy, advanced manufacturing and administrative services. Like us on Facebook by searching for Calvert County Government, Calvert County, Maryland.