Eikestadnuus
Friday, 30 July 2010

## Top performer:

Another accolade came the way of Avontuur's 2008 Shiraz Reserve, Dominion Royale, with the announcement of the top Shiraz wines for 2010 in the annual Wine magazine Shiraz Challenge. The wine is rated amongst the top 17 in the country with an incredible 4 stars. "I'm obviously thrilled with the result and looking forward to seeing how this wine ages, as it seems to be performing better and better as time goes on. I wanted it to be a big wine to commemorate Dominion's larger than life personality and presence on the farm, and seeing it resonate with wine lovers and experts, gives me great satisfaction," said Avontuur winemaker, Natalie Nel (photo).

LEOPARDS SPOTTED AT LOURENSFORD

# Romeo and Juliet

THE wine industry is known for its myths, fables and elaborate stories.

I have been told about numerous little dogs disappearing in the Helderberg area, with only discarded collars to be found. And paw prints as big as a man's hand the only proof of what may have been responsible...

It is thus with great excitement that I write to tell you about the rare Cape Leopards spotted at one of our Helderberg member farms, Lourensford Estate.

Wine Column

The Cape Leopard Trust has been established and aims to optimally facilitate conservation of the Cape's predator diversity through simultaneously implementing conservation strategies, research projects and tourism initiatives. To date, research has taken place primarily in the Cederberg Mountains, which have been declared a World Heritage Site and are now also part of the Greater Cederberg Biodiversity Corridor. Further projects have now been established in the Swartberg / Gamka Corridor as well as in the Namaqualand region of

## WYNPROFIEL

Geborg deur PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS

VANDEESWEEK maak ons kennis met Madri de Jongh. Sy het in 2008 as openbare betrekkinge-beampte by JC le Roux haar wynloopbaan afgeskop en in 2009 is sy na Van Ryn's verplaas, waar sy nou na hul openbare betrekkinge omsien.

**■ Hoe verskil brandewynproe van wynproe?**

Brandewyn word gemaak van wyn, maar is baie meer gekonsentreerd. Neem in ag dat sowat vyf liter wyn benodig word om een liter brandewyn te maak. Wanneer brandewyn geproe word, beveel ons aan dat die vloeistof nie in die glas gerol word nie aangesien die aromas, as gevolg van die vorm van die brandewynglas en die hoë konsentrasie geure, reeds in die boonste deel van die glas is.

**■ Wat kan besoekers verwag by Van Ryn's?**

'n Smaaklike verwelkomingsdrankie wat bestaan uit Viceroy 5-jaaroud gemeng met 'n kombinasie van perske- en appelkoossap. Van Ryn's bied ook aan besoekers heerlike proe-ervaringe soos brandewyn saam met koffie en sjokolade, brandewyn saam met drie verskillende tuisgebakte nageregblokkies en brandewyn saam met verskillende tipes "charcuterie" of bereide vleise. Besoekers kan ook in die buitelug langs die fontein 'n heerlike gerookte vleis-en-kaasbord geniet. Ons bied ook drie toere per dag aan waartydens besoekers die kans kry om hulself vertroud

Madri de Jongh

Ek geniet die gehalte van ons brandewyne asook die ondervinding om saam met 'n span besonder talentvolle mense te kan werk. Ek voel trots wanneer ek besoekers meedeel dat Suid-Afrikaanse brandewyne glad nie hoef terug te staan vir cognac, wat in die Cognac-streek in Frankryk gemaak word, nie.

Ons spog tans met ons Van Ryn's 10 Year Old Vintage- en Van Ryn's 15 Year Old Fine Cask Reserve-brandewyne wat onlangs twee goue medaljes by die International Spirit Challenge (ISC) verower het. Tussen 2004 en 2009 het Van Ryn's ook vyf keer die trofee gewen vir die beste brandewyn in die wêreld - twee keer by die ISC en drie keer by die International Wines & Spirit Competition (IWSC).

**■ Hoe ontspan jy?**

Ek is op my gemaklikste tussen my familie en vriende. Om lekker kos te maak en gasvrou te speel is verbasend ontspannend vir my! Maar in dieselfde asem is ek net so gemaklik om rustig saam my verloofde en honde-kinders by die huis of by ons familie-vakansiehuis in Struisbaai te ontspan.

**■ Wat maak Stellenbosch as 'n toerismebestemming volgens jou uniek?**

Stellenbosch is die hartjie van die Kaapse erfenis, geskiedenis en gasvryheid. Die wynlande, pragtige berge, verskillende besienswaardighede, aktiwiteite en toere in en om die dorp sorg vir baie genot.

(Panthera pardus pardus) is an endangered sub-species of the African Leopard found only in the Western and Eastern Cape provinces of South Africa. They exhibit great variation in coat color, depending on location and habitat. Coat color varies from pale yellow to deep gold or tawny, and is patterned with black rosettes while the head, lower limbs and belly are spotted with solid black. They are smaller in the mountains of the Cape Provinces, with males averaging 32 - 50 kg and females 20 - 30 kg.

by Annareth Bolton from Stellenbosch Wine Routes

Like most large mammals, they are generally absent in areas with a high population density of people. The leopard fills the role of the apex predator in the Western Cape ecosystem and acts as an "umbrella species" which, through its conservation, effectively help in the conservation of smaller, lower profile predators.

Its resilience to persecution notwithstanding, the leopard has suffered extensive range loss in the Cape and is now extinct in many areas of the province where it formerly occurred. The species is routinely and regularly removed from farms with little knowledge of population or genetic status, whether removals are sustainable or whether the factors giving rise to conflict are established.

South Africa.

As of late their focus is now on the spectacular Kogelberg and Hottentots-Holland Mountains surrounding Lourensford Estate and the outskirts of the City of Cape Town. Lourensford Estate has on own initiative started monitoring these animals roaming the 4 500 ha estate and surrounding mountainous regions.

Due to the farm's success on capturing these animals on film, the City of Cape Town Nature Conservation department, in collaboration with the Cape Leopard Trust, joined hands with the estate in this exciting project. The farm has released photographs of an alpha male Romeo, a pregnant female Juliet and a young female Susan. Further pictures will be released as other animals have been positively identified.

Lourensford Wine Estate, well-known for wines of exceptional quality, achieved championship status from the wine industry's Biodiversity and Wine Initiative in 2006. Conservation efforts and continuous education of farm workers have now paid off and they are extremely proud to have these dazzling animals roaming their magnificent estate.

For more information, contact Wim Braak on 021 847 2305, or visit www.lourensford.co.za.

Romeo

Juliet

te maak met die fassinerende proses betrokke by die maak van brandewyn.

■ **Wat is jou gunsteling brandewyndrankie?**

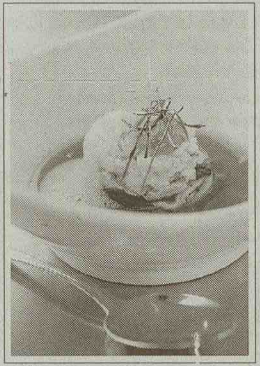
Van Ryn's 12-jaar oud saam met twee blokkies ys. Ek is versot op die appelliefie-, kersie- en vanieljegeure!

■ **Watter aspekte van jou werk geniet jy die meeste?**

■ **Wie of wat inspireer jou?**

Ek spandeer twee keer 'n week 'n paar uur by 'n kinderhuis in Somerset-Wes. Dit is daar waar ek leer wat dit is om nederig te wees en om elke dag op my knieë te gaan en dankie te sê vir dít wat ek het. Die kinders leer my dat elke dag 'n nuwe dag is, 'n geskenk uit God se hand, met nuwe geleenthede.


# Stellenbosch Wynroetes



DELAIRE GRAFF LODGES & SPA

## Restaurant profiel : Indochine, Delaire Graff Landgoed

'n Nuwe byvoeging tot die reeds asemrowende Delaire Graff Landgoed, Hotel en Spa, is Indochine. Uitvoerende sjef Christiaan Campbell het jare se plaaslike en internasionale ervaring, en bied oosterse disse soos jasmyn rys, gestoomde lynvis en eendkerrie. Die restaurant bied areas vir privaat tafels, asook buitelug etes wanneer die weer dit toelaat.

**STELLENBOSCH WYNE BY DIE GLAS :** 90%
**STELLENBOSCH WYNE PER BOTTEL :** 70%

**'n Goeie seleksie internasionale wyne beskikbaar**

**TROTS STELLENBOSCH :** JA!

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Oop sewe dae per week
Middagete : 12:30 – 14:30
Aandete : 18:30 – 21:30

Kontak besonderhede : Helshoogte pas, Stellenbosch. Tel : 021 885 8160, e-pos concierge@delaire.co.za, www.delaire.co.za