

1 August 2005

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CHEF EMERIL LAGASSE COMES TO SAN BENITO COUNTY

LÈAL VINEYARDS AWARD WINNING WINES ARE SHOWCASED
WITH WORLD FAMOUS CHEF

San Juan Bautista, CA – Renowned chef and restaurateur Emeril Lagasse visited San Juan Bautista on Tuesday July 26th to promote a new project. The “invite only” party was hosted at the Pride of San Juan’s facility. Pride of San Juan, Lagasse, DeMaggio's Café and Frank Léal hosted top growers and vendors from the food industry for food, live music, and a tasting of Léal Vineyards Estate wines. Lagasse and Pride of San Juan have partnered to create Emeril’s® Gourmet Produce, an all new brand of gourmet produce.

Emeril was particularly fond of the newly released 2003 Léal Vineyards Chardonnay. This wine has recently won a Gold Medal and scored 94 points at the prestigious California State Fair. Only 950 cases of the 2003 Chardonnay were produced. It has a suggested retail of \$24 and is available directly from the winery and at select restaurants and retailers.

Picture Available Upon Request

Léal Vineyards is the creation and collaboration of owner Frank Léal and winemaker Dave “Griff” Griffith. Their motto? “Phat wines – no pretense.” Their mission is to fashion truly exceptional wines that appeal to connoisseur and novice alike. The scenic 45-acre Léal estate grows San Benito County – appellationed Chardonnay, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Malbec, Syrah, Grenache, and Mourvèdre. Nestled in the rolling foothills of Hollister in California’s Central Coast region, the winery was hand built in 1999 with an eye to both tradition and cutting-edge technique. The property boasts a welcoming Tasting Room, open daily, and Lavánda (lavender in Portuguese), a state-of-the-art event and wedding facility. The winery’s on-line home is LealVineyards.com – a fun, informative website that reflects Frank and Griff’s dedicated yet irreverent approach to crafting world-class vintages. Léal Vineyards: “Fine Wines and Good Times...It’s the Shiznit!”

CONTACT:* * Dan Payne 408.898.7783 dan@lealvineyards.com
<<mailto:dan@lealvineyards.com>>