

'Relax & Unwined' at Spirit of Texas Winery

By Tammarrah Pledger
The Goldthwaite Eagle

Brian and Moira McCue started a new chapter in their lives, setting out to create a business where they could do something together while staying close to their family. That new chapter is being written at Spirit of Texas Winery in Early.

They had always enjoyed wine and often hosted blind tastings at their home with family and friends over the years. They also enjoyed traveling to wineries across the state, always finding the same pleasant

and inviting atmosphere. When they reached a point of being semi-retired, they thought opening their own winery held the promise of building something of their own.

The McCues settled on their location off Hwy 84 in Early, and forged a working relationship with Penny Adams (the first female wine maker in Texas, Brian noted) and her managing partner Mike McHenry at Wedding Oak Winery in San Saba. Currently, the wine is bottled in San Saba under the direction of Adams, but they do have



Brian and Moira McCue

about three acres behind their tasting room that will eventually be used to grow grapes needed for them to start producing wines at their own facility.

Moira said Spirit of Texas Winery aims to offer a welcoming atmosphere, and their small but growing wine selection helps to cut short the notion that they are intimidating connoisseurs.

"People always seem pleasantly surprised," she said.

"We have a lot of people tell us they are so glad they stopped," Brian added.

They host a number of events at the winery, including fund-raisers like the Bingo for Charity where they donate proceeds to local charities like The Ark, the local animal shelter, Good Samaritan, the local VFW, and so on. They also like to travel to local events and festivals, bringing their wine for tastings. "We think it's important to give back to the community," Brian said.

For more information, hours, and upcoming events, call 325-455-3232, or visit their website at www.sotwines.com.



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Hearts of service are a hallmark of Mills County, from the generosity of residents and businesses, to the organizations, fraternities, and clubs like the Lions Club (Lion Grayson Wetzel, above), to non-profits and churches like Mullin First Baptist Church (Pastor Randy Bradley, below).

