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## Wine Week to make ambitious debut in The Woodlands

BY BURTON SPEAKMAN  
COURIER STAFF

THE WOODLANDS – Wine Week in The Woodlands debuts this year with events lasting six days at several locations.

The event is the idea of Clifton McDerby and his wife, Constance, owners of Food and Vine Time Productions in Houston.

"We moved to Houston five years ago from New Orleans," Clifton said.

The couple had watched that city's wine event grow, he said.

"We loved and missed it and were

surprised that a city the size of Houston didn't have a similar event."

"We began searching for the right venue and The Woodlands is it," Clifton said.

The goal is to grow Wine Week into a destination event where people come from all over the country to attend, he said.

Events include Wine Week Wine and Dine, which is a series of dinners paired with Texas wines at select restaurants in The Woodlands on June 14-15. Three locations will serve dinners each night.

The Market Street Wine Walk will

be June 16, in which participants will be able to sample wines stationed at various galleries and retail stores in the shopping area. Central Park in Market Street will host cooking demonstrations as well during the event.

The Ladies of the Vine luncheon is scheduled for June 17 at The Club at Carlton Woods. It will have a panel discussion with female winemakers and wine experts from across the country.

The wines of the world, for less than \$12, is on June 17 and will include cooking demonstrations with more casual wines and cooking demonstra-

tions by Joey Altman, who is the host of Bay Café and has appeared on the Food Network.

Wines on the Waterway June 17-19 will allow cruisers to sample several types of wines while the water taxis travel the 1.25-mile Waterway.

Rendezvous is the grand tasting event of Wine Week on June 18. Hundreds of wines and foods will be prepared along with wines. Wine and Waiting is June 19. It is a jazz brunch that will include live music, wine and food.

A Moody Blues concert is part of the Wines and White Satin Party on June

19 at The Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion.

In addition wine experts will conduct seminars throughout the week at various locations for the public.

More information on Wine Week including the costs and locations of events, is available at [www.wine-weekinthewoodlands.com](http://www.wine-weekinthewoodlands.com).

The event will benefit Texas New Community, a group working to build a site for individuals with mental handicaps to live in Montgomery County.

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