

*Message in a Bottle...*



# *Belfair*

## FINE WINES & SPIRITS

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Belfair Towne Center  
105 Towne Drive

\*next to Krogers  
Bluffton

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## *New and News*

- **Pushkin Vodka** is on the shelves and provides a built-in pour spout top for enjoying this top shelf spirit.
- **Island Breeze flavored Rums** (coconut, wild berry and lime) are half the calories and are very popular.
- **10 Cane Rum** has been introduced as a super premium rum, and will be one of the rums featured in an in-store rum tasting.
- **Ehlers Wines—in Merlot, Cabernet and Sauvignon Blanc...** This winery is owned by a foundation and all profits are donated to research on heart disease. The wines are quite good, as the Merlot was just given a 92-point rating by Wine Spectator
- **Dog House Chardonnay and Merlot...** Both of these were recent picks by Wine Spectator as a "Wine of the Week", and fifty cents from each bottle sold is donated to the Greyhound Rescue Organization.
- Remember there is a **10% discount** on all mix or match case purchases of wine.
- Our **Take-A-Buck** shelves will be featuring Three Olives Vodka, Cluny Scotch and 10 Cane Rum (all in 1.75 ml size) from October 15 through 31.
- Look for additional information at [www.belfairwinesandspirits.com](http://www.belfairwinesandspirits.com) !!!

### **See Inside:**

...Focus on Vodka...new drink recipes...  
.....Winning Whites & Robust Reds.....  
...Chas' Choices....Calendar of Events...



**64 customers have won a free  
bottle of wine in the weekly  
Wine of the Week drawing.**

## Focus on: VODKA and the Cocktail Culture

Americans are buying Vodka at a record pace. Vodkas grew by 6.8% last year, and growth is expected at a similar pace through 2007. Why? The Cocktail Culture Explosion. The Cocktail hour is once again a popular social affair. Adults are pursuing the perfect mixed drink with zeal. "Martini Bars" are popping up across the country. Bartenders are hailing the Martini Renaissance. A result of marketing? Perhaps. Some might say that the aggressive advertising and beautiful packaging from spirits manufacturers are fueling the creative cocktails. But the Martini is, once again, a statement or an idea or a lifestyle. Older adults are enjoying the nostalgia. Tired of beer at sports bars, young adults are visiting an older time when things were classier, sophisticated, and glamorous.

In just a few decades, Vodka has become the most popular spirit in the world. Cocktails previously made with Gin, are now made with Vodka. Vodka is mixable and clean, offering the opportunity to prepare an amazing variety of cocktails. Vodka doesn't overpower the other ingredients in a cocktail, making it very versatile.

The U.S. is the largest vodka market in the world, with over 100 brands and 300 Vodkas available. The government defines Vodka as: "neutral spirits, so distilled, or so treated after distillation with charcoal or other materials as to be without distinctive character, aroma, taste or color." But Vodka drinkers know that vodkas have their own distinctive character, flavors, and aromas. What distinguishes Vodkas from one another are the base ingredients used in the distillation and the water. Most spirits are made only from certain prescribed ingredients, but Vodka can be distilled from many ingredients that can be fermented into alcohol, such as grains (wheat, rye), vegetables (potatoes), and even fruits (grapes).

Vodka is produced all around the world: the United States (*Smirnoff, Skyy, Hangar 1, Liquid Ice*), Russia (*Pravda, Stolichnaya, Pushkin and Imperia*), France (*Grey Goose, Ciroc*), Holland (*Ketel One, Effen*), Poland (*Belvedere, Luksusowa*), Sweden (*Absolut, Svedka*), Canada (*Iceberg and Pearl*), England (*Three Olives*), Finland (*Finlandia*), Estonia (*Turi*).

Vodka also offers tremendous variety. Flavored Vodkas comprise 20% of Vodka sales. Flavored vodkas include (in order of popularity): *lemon, orange, raspberry, and vanilla*.

Many of our customers look forward to the introduction of a new flavor like trying a new wine varietal. A sampling of additional flavors on our shelves: *apple, peach, cherry, chocolate, coconut, melon, berry, spiced, cranberry, lime*. We will continue to stock our shelves with the most popular Vodkas, and will stay on the hunt for the next hot brand and flavor. We will also gladly order your favorite, if it isn't already on our shelves.

There are plenty of Cocktail and Martini recipes to choose from. Create your own! Our website lists several, including several suggested by our customers. We also have a link to a website devoted to cocktail recipes. Cheers!

**Svedka, a Swedish grain vodka—\$19.99 (1.75ml)**

**Luksusowa, a Polish potato vodka—\$22.99 (1.75ml)**

**Pinnacle, French grain vodka—\$20.99 (1.75ml)**

**Tito's, an Austin, Texas grain vodka—"Don't Mess with Texas"—\$23.99**

**Van Gogh Espresso vodka, a flavored Dutch grain vodka, perfect for chocolate martinis—\$22.99 (750ml)**

### *Fall Cocktail Recipes*

*Use a chilled glass. Pour ingredients & ice into a shaker. Shake sharply. Strain into glass & garnish.*

#### **Vodka Gimlet**

1 3/4 oz Vodka  
2/3 oz Rose's Lime Juice

#### **Fuzzy Martini**

2 1/2 oz Vodka  
1 oz Peach Schnapps

#### **Key Lime Pie Martini**

2 oz Vanilla Vodka  
1 oz Rose's Lime Juice  
1 oz Half & Half or Milk

Rub rim of glass with lime juice & dip the glass into a plate filled with graham cracker crumbs for a Key Lime Pie flavor!

#### **Sour Apple Martini**

2 oz Lemon Vodka  
1/2 oz Cointreau  
1/2 oz Sour Apple Schnapps  
3/4 oz fresh Lemon juice

#### **The Blue Fin**

1oz. Hpnotiq  
1oz. Citron Vodka  
3 oz. White Cranberry Juice

#### **Pearl Cloud**

1-1/2 oz Citron Vodka  
3/4 oz Cointreau  
3 oz White Cranberry



## *Choices By Chas*



**Chas** continues to keep himself immersed in wine to insure a wide variety is on our shelves, in terms of new products, a price point for everyone's budget, and every occasion from everyday table wines to the special occasion or gift. Some items of particular note:

- Hurry—Hurry-Hurry...while they last...Collectible Commemoratives: **2003 Marilyn Merlot** and **2000 James Dean**. These once a year releases go fast !! — **\$28.99** each.
- Two really fine finds—from **J. Bookwalter Winery, Yakima Valley, WA**: **2004 Riesling** that tantalizes your taste buds with its refreshing balance of acid and touch of sweetness on a really nice mouth feel. **2004 Gewürztraminer**, the distinctive aroma (nose) tells you that you're in for a real "Gewurtz" treat. Great sipper or with Asian type foods. Chas & Ed picked these from a very crowded field. —**\$15.99** each
- **Kris Pinot Grigio**—Hilton Head Wine Fest Best Value White—**\$10.19**
- New Product—**Night Owl** —the Quarterly Review of Wines says "eminently drinkable, satisfyingly delicious, a "Must Buy", at an attractive price. Merlot & Shiraz—**\$9.49**; Pinot Noir—**\$12.49**
- **2000 Tignanello, a super-Tuscan**, one of Italy's most famous Wines. WSJ "Tastings" column had this to say: "one of the best wines we've had in a couple of years. Combination of relaxed earthiness, rich fruit, and aristocratic bearing made the wine both easy to drink and easy to talk about." 12 in stock at **\$69.99**. Note: The term "super-Tuscan" was developed to categorize Tuscan wines grown outside the classification system that maintains strict rules for the likes of Chianti Classico and other designations.
- **OOPS!!** Those of you familiar with the **Marquis Phillips** line of stunning Australian wines are in for a treat! We happened upon 2 cases of one of their wines intended only for restaurants—**Roogie Red**—a Shiraz Cabernet 60/40 blend. Early returns are so good, that we aren't giving it back! —**\$14.29**

## *WINNING WHITES / ROBUST REDS*

- **2003 Vinum Cellars "CNW Cuvee" Clarksburg Chenin Blanc**—**\$ 9.99**—*CNW stands for "Chard No Way!!"*...The anything but Chardonnay crowd loves this dry white. Explodes with whiffs of melons and apricots. Citrus nose & flavor, nice finish. Winemakers classmates from UC Davis.
- **Cava**: a light, sparkling wine from Spain. Perfect for early Fall get-togethers..  
**Cristalino Cava**—**\$7.15** "clean and lovely...with a long, refreshing finish. One of the great bargains on the shelf today." Best value rating, Wall St. Journal.
- **Gramona Cava**—**\$17.99**—"a high quality sparkling white...aged 3-4 years on its own yeasts, exhibits scents of pear, medium body, fresh lively finish." 89 pts—Robert Parker.
- **2002 Smith Madrone Chardonnay**—**\$27.99** - "Best of Show - White" - Hilton Head 2005 Wine Fest.
- **Argyle Pinot Noir**—**\$18.99** - Wine Spectator 93 pts. Wine Advocate comments "...offers demure black fruit and floral aromas. Medium-bodied and satin textured...this well-structured, enormously appealing wine has outstanding concentration and palate presence."...Robert Parker. Limited quantity.
- **2000 Barolo Cascina Bongiovanni**—**\$65.00**—93 pts WS. "If you are buying 2000 Barolo, you can find an outstanding wine with your eyes closed. Piedmont's greatest vintage ever." This Barolo "wonderful plum, berry & cherry aromas with hints of leather & cedar. Complex. Medium to full bodied, with super-silky tannins and a long finish of berry & plum character. It will benefit from cellar time."
- **2001 Mt. Veeder Reserve—Napa Valley (Maritage) - \$66.99**—retail is \$80.00, but because of an early purchase \$66.99...Wine Spectator 90 pts. Cab Sav, Malbec & Petit Verdot. Dark, rich, intense and concentrated, with dense currant, mineral, earth and cedary sage flavors..a tight focus on core flavors that finishes with firm ripe tannins.
- **2004 Cocodrilo Cabernet Sauvignon—2nd label from Paul Hobbs, Calif vintner, the 2004 "Most important Winemaker in California" from the Quarterly Review of Wine" - \$29.49. - Argentina.** Rich, creamy oak, smoky black cherry and cocoa, mocha & spice. 97% Cab, 2% Malbec, 1% Merlot.

Thanks to all our **McManis** fans for supporting one of, if not THE, best value in the wine world. You have made it our best selling wine in the store, over 150 cases sold!!



Questions? Comments? Know someone who would  
enjoy receiving our newsletter?  
Contact us by phone, email or stop by the store to  
talk to us in person. We'd love to hear from you!

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**Mark your calendar!**  
**Belfair Fine Wines & Spirits**  
**Schedule of Events:**

- **Oct 22** ***In-Store Wine Tasting for wines under \$10.*** Many great values that offer variety for your every-day table wine selection. Ex.: Blouberg White from South Africa—neat package, smooth, light sipper....a great value at \$7.99. 4:00-7:00.
- **Oct 29** ***Wine Lecture & Tasting***—Inn at Palmetto Bluff—4:00-6:00 pm—call 843-706-6500 for Reservations. \$25.00. Subject: Bordeaux, France.
- **Nov 5** ***In-store bourbon tasting***—test your palate against the Cornell Law School tasting panel's. Learn the results of their blind taste test! 4:00-7:00.
- **Nov 12 & 19** ***In-Store Wine Tasting for Thanksgiving***—Let us help you select that perfect wine for your Thanksgiving Feast! 4:00-7:00.
- **Nov 26** ***Wine Lecture & Tasting***—Inn at Palmetto Bluff—4:00-6:00 pm—call 843-706-6500 for Reservations. \$25.00. Subject: Pacific Northwest