

# Wine-tasters can help Art League

## *Event to raise money for new building*

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DANVILLE — The public will have an opportunity to sample some of the most popular wines from Alto Vineyards in southern Illinois, along with sumptuous hors d'oeuvres, on Sept. 26 at a fund raiser sponsored by the Danville Art League.

The wine-tasting party will begin at 6 p.m. at the Java Hut Vermilion Place restaurant, 14 N. Hazel St. The cost is \$40 per person, with \$20 of the cost tax-deductible. The money raised will go into the Art League building fund.

Becky Engel, chair of the event, said, "This is a party you won't want to miss. It will be a nice evening out, and it's for a good cause."

Marie Pribble, owner of the restaurant, said, "If the weather is nice, we will host the event in the Mardi Gras Courtyard, which has a New Orleans theme. Otherwise, we can always move inside the restaurant."

Pribble has prepared a tasty menu with a variety of hot and cold foods, including baked brie, honey-basted smoked salmon, several cold hors d'oeuvres, and cheesecake bites for dessert.

Entertainment will be provided by Betty Grove on the keyboard. There also will be a silent auction of artwork painted by members of the Art League.

The Art League has planned several fund raisers in order to help finance a new building that can serve as a community art center.



Matt Huber/Commercial-News

Java Hut owner Marie Pribble, left, and Becky Engel with the Danville Art League meet at Vermilion Place to discuss plans for the upcoming fundraiser.

Possibilities include using the vacant Red Cross facility or building another structure.

The Art League currently operates in a crammed 1,100-square-foot building with a single classroom and studio.

"We had to turn children away for last summer's art camp and also for the Saturday morning art classes because we didn't have enough room," Engel said. "Even though we set up tents on the grounds to provide more space, there still wasn't enough room to accommodate everybody."

Engel said the Art League will begin offering art classes to home-schooled students this fall and is considering starting an art class after school for elementary students.

It also sponsors classes for adults, including oil and watercolor painting.

The Danville Art League is

celebrating its 70th anniversary this year, and its current membership includes about 100 families.

Pribble said she is pleased to host this event.

"The Java Hut has participated in the Danville Art League's 'changing exhibits' program for at least five or six years now," she said. "I really respect the work of the artists. If they are able to move to a larger building, I'm sure they will be able to do even greater things."

### FYI

Tickets for the wine-tasting event can be purchased at the Java Hut, 13 N. Vermilion St., from Becky Engel at 446-9351, or call the Danville Art League at 442-9264 and leave a message. Tickets must be purchased by Sept. 18.