



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bierwagen's Donner Trail Fruit Receives Community Appreciation Award

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Contact: Chuck Neeley
274-8455

Bierwagen's Donner Trail Fruit received the Nevada County Economic Resource Council's Community Appreciation Award on Friday, April 21, 2006, at Trolley Junction Restaurant. The Award breakfast was sponsored by Placer Sierra Bank, which was represented by Mr. Carmine DeCicco. Presenting the award was Mr. Gil Mathew, Chairman of the Economic Resource Council. In addition, Messrs. Nate Beason and John Spencer shared the podium and presented a certificate of recognition from the County of Nevada. The Community Appreciation Award honors and recognizes businesses in Nevada County that embody the spirit of the gold rush pioneers through the export of modern products and technology.

The Ranch was established in 1902 by the current owner Mr. Chris Bierwagen's great grandparents, and has been in continuous production ever since. Today, the Ranch's 125 acres produce peaches, apples, raspberries, and garden crops. In the fall the farm is a popular destination for school tours and families to enjoy the annual Harvest Festival, pumpkin patch and farm stand. Its produce is sold regionally and also served across the road at the Happy Apple Kitchen, run by Chris' two sisters. The farm's peaches have gained notoriety from top restaurants such as Chez Panisse in Berkeley and have been lauded in magazine and news articles.

Chris was born and raised on the farm and is the 4th generation to operate it. Over the years he has served on many agricultural boards and committees and is currently president of the Nevada County Farm Bureau.



Pictured (l-r): Carmine DeCicco, Nate Beason, Chris Bierwagen, Gil Mathew