



Dancing Crow Vineyards

A New Chapter for Tony Cartlidge in a Historic Lake County Vineyard

One cool, Spring day in the shadow of Mt. Konocti, a family came to lay out their vineyard using straw to mark the vines. While feasting during their midday lunch they saw a murder of crows dancing around the straw, which made them laugh. Yet, when they looked again, the crows and the straw were gone. The family learned two things that day: be wary of dancing crows, and what to name their vineyard.

Having co-founded Cartlidge & Brown in 1980, Tony Cartlidge had been in the wine industry for over 30 years when in 2011, Tony sold his share of the winery. Not content to rest on his laurels, Tony had a desire to get back into the business he loved, but this time, with his family.

Tony had been a big fan of Dancing Crow Vineyards for quite some time, ever since his previous winery began purchasing Sauvignon Blanc grapes from there. The owners at that time, Maile Field and Lars Craal, have had that winery in their family since the 1850's. When they looked into selling the vineyard, there was one person who kept coming to mind, Tony Cartlidge. Once Tony knew it was for sale, he jumped at the opportunity to purchase his own vineyard. In 2014, Tony and his wife purchased this historic 36 acre vineyard site. With his sons and wife in tow, this winery is truly a family affair.

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