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A b o u t



SUSAN LEIGH SHERRILL has a degree in French and Italian Literature from Trinity College, Hartford, but her first love has always been all things related to food, cooking and entertaining. Early in her career, she worked in restaurants and hotels from Maine to Florida —

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Amazin' Stories

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Stack's



Sommelier Alex Berlinger of Upper Saddle River will be presenting a seminar at the Summit Food & Wine Festival this weekend.

The fall calendar is chock-a-block with food and wine events - from local, homegrown festivals to multi-day extravaganzas featuring celebrity chefs. In New Jersey, one of the most eagerly anticipated is the **Summit Food & Wine Festival**, held this weekend, **Sept. 24-26** at the Reeves Reed Arboretum and the Grand Summit Hotel in Summit. In only its second year, this festival has become one of the major wine and food events in the area. Among the featured sommeliers are Alex Berlinger of Upper Saddle River, owner of the import company Wine Sources, who will offer a seminar on Sunday, Sept. 26 from 12:30-1:30 p.m. entitled "Learn to Taste and Rate Wines." The cost is \$30 per person; all events at the festival are individually priced. For more information, visit summitwineandfood.com.

The Garden State Wine Growers Association sponsors the annual **Grand Harvest Wine Festival, Oct. 2 and 3**, at Waterloo Village in Stanhope, featuring nearly 300 locally-produced wines, food and live entertainment. New Jersey wines are not exactly making Robert Parker's lists, but this event sounds like it could make for a fun day trip to experience one of New Jersey's significant historic landmarks. Advance tickets can be purchased only at the association web site for \$18 a person. Tickets are \$20 a person at the gate. For more information, visit newjerseywines.com or call The Garden State Wine Growers Association at 609-588-0085.

The Big Daddy of the food and wine festival scene has to be **Food Network's New York City Wine & Food Festival**, which takes over the meatpacking district from **Oct. 7-10**. I've signed up to cover several of the events, including Chelsea Market After Dark, hosted by Alton Brown and Formaggio e Vino, hosted by Lou Di Palo and Andrea Robinson. Many of the big-name celebrity chef events are sold out, but there are still plenty of great ones open. All events are individually priced.

including The Plaza Hotel in New York City — before opening her own business in Ridgewood — Village Green Café and Caterers — in 1989. In 2000, Susan sold the successful restaurant and embarked upon a second career in community newspapers, becoming editor of The Ridgewood News in the fall of 2001. She subsequently served as food editor, then food and entertainment editor for (201) Magazine prior to becoming food editor for The Record in September, 2010. Susan is a professional member of the James Beard Foundation, the International Food, Wine & Travel Writers Association and Montclair Editors and Writers. She lives — and cooks — in Montclair, N.J. with her husband, photographer Ted Axelrod, and her son.

Email: Sherrill@northjersey.com



ELISA UNG has been the restaurant reviewer and dining columnist for The Record since 2007. She's a native of Southern California and a graduate of the University of Southern California, and she spent eight years writing for the Philadelphia Inquirer.

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[susanlsherrill](#) Food editor gift of the day: big box from ShopRite packed with salsas, sauces, jam and risotto. about 1 hour ago



[susanlsherrill](#) Transition Cake: <http://wp.me/pNRsK-Cc> 3 hours ago



[susanlsherrill](#) Shame on the NY Post ... and I'm not including the link to their dreadful story on purpose. No wonder people distrust journalists

Stapes Scene

Art Stapleton's hard-hitting and heart-hitting look at the sports stories of North Jersey

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Vinny DiTrani brings the real and hard-hitting stories about your New York Giants

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Compostings

Catch up on what's "growing on" in the Garden State with "From the Ground Up" columnist Raymond Edel

Ervolino

Humor columnist Bill Ervolino, unplugged

Fresh Jersey

Mike Kelly's journal about events and people in the Garden State

Heather on Style

Updates on the North Jersey Fashion Scene

For more information, see nycwineandfoodfestival.com

If you feel like having a little Mickey with your wine (Mouse, that is), **Walt Disney World** hosts the first-annual **Food & Wine Classic** at the Swan and Dolphin hotel in Orlando on **Oct. 8-9**. Celebrity Chef Todd English's take on molecular cuisine will be a highlight at this one. Advance purchase tickets are available for \$50; wine and food samplings can also be purchased ala carte on the day of the event. For more, see swandolphinfoodandwineclassic.com.

Not quite so far from the metro area, and well-worth a weekend trip, is **Harvest on the Harbor**, held in Portland Maine from **Oct. 21-23**. I am partial to Maine - having family in the mid-coast area and spending part of my summers there - but it is not just my opinion that Portland is a first-rate food city. *Bon Appetit* called Portland "America's foodiest small town," and if you venture north for Harvest on the Harbor, you will see why. I'll be there covering events like the Maine Lobster Chef of the Year competition and a food and wine pairing evening featuring Maine's James Beard Award winners Clark Frasier and Mark Gaier of Arrows, Melissa Kelly of Primo and Sam Hayward of Fore Street. All events are priced individually. For more information, see harvestontheharbor.com

Posted by Susan Sherrill on 09/21 at 09:00 AM

Name:

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Smileys

3 hours ago



[elisaung](#) "One of only a few places that I have returned to repeatedly after a review..." <http://bit.ly/aHw375>

5 hours ago



[susanlsherrill](#) Going to the (201) Restaurant Week launch party tonight

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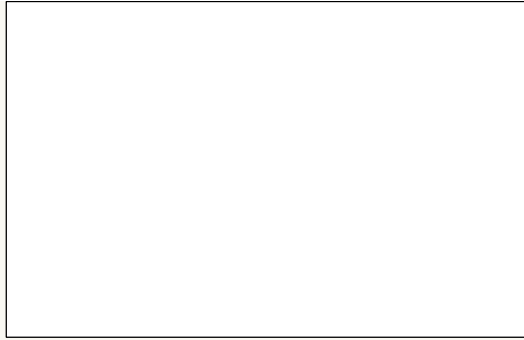
Food Editor Susan Sherrill and Restaurant Reviewer Elisa Ung dish on food and dining

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