

## TRAILS TO SUCCESS



Several generations of the Gamet family recently gathered with friends, neighbors, and well-wishers in Paxton to celebrate the *5 Trails Winery* grand opening and ribbon cutting. The project was one of 22 that recently received grants through the state's Agricultural Innovation and Value-Added Agriculture (VAA) grant program.

The Gamets work with area ranchers and farmers to grow grapes and other fruits, and plan to expand their future product line to include fruit blends. Currently they have five acres of grapes in production, and processed an additional nine tons from a vineyard near Valentine.

The VAA grant was for marketing, developing, and promoting regional products of Nebraska wineries and the grape producers. New brochures and marketing strategies will be used to promote the products and educate consumers.

The winery used an earlier VAA grant to remodel and refit an existing empty building in downtown Paxton into their winery and wine-tasting room with a planned capacity of processing 40 tons of fruit annually. The addition of 5 Trails Winery is another great tourism destination helping to improve and promote the region's overall economic development efforts. Lori Gamet is pictured above with some of the equipment used in the wine making process.



Currently 5 Trails Wines are available in Lexington, Kearney, Lincoln, and, of course, Paxton.