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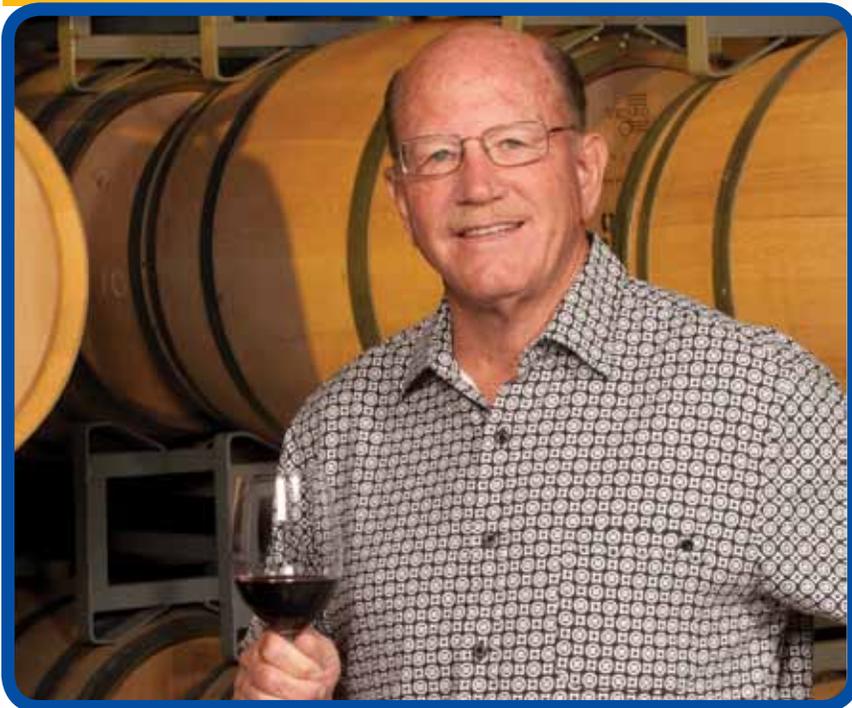
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Photo above shows a Stearman biplane during the Richland Airport stop of the Northwest Air Tour.

Legends of Washington Wines Hall of Fame

Branches & Vines



Mike Hogue started Hogue Cellars in 1982 at the Port of Benton's first development building in the Prosser Wine & Food Park.

On August 9th, a crowd gathered at the Walter Clore Wine & Culinary Center in Prosser to celebrate the induction of Mike Hogue to the Legends of Washington Wines Hall of Fame.

The Hogue Family has been farming in Prosser since the 1940's. Originally hop farmers, the family began growing Concord grapes in the early 1970's and wine grapes in the late 1970's. Today Hogue Ranches operates a diversified farming operation of 2,000 acres, consisting of wine grapes, Concord, and apples.

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Part of the Branches & Vines crew are (from left) Maria Mendez, Anjhie Ampil and owner Mary Smith.

Branches & Vines is a country market vendor that offers an eclectic blend of fresh fruits and vegetables, antiques, gifts, artwork, plants and flowers. The store is located in downtown Benton City and is owned by Mary Smith. It is a natural progression from many years of farming and collecting antiques and artwork. Mary got her start in Wapato working on her father's farm raising row crops and now she's turning that knowledge into selecting the best produce available for her customers to enjoy.

The 3,200 square foot building she leases from the Port has hosted several businesses over the years including a fitness center and the Benton City fire station. Mary has been able to bring a great deal of color and texture to the building including re-purposing her parent's cedar fence from Union Gap which was used for the door and window framing.

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Great Prosser Balloon Rally

The Great Prosser Balloon Rally has been launching colorful balloons since 1989, and this year will be no exception. On September 27, 28 and 29th balloons will be lifting off and floating over Prosser. A few balloons will probably do a 'splash-n-dash' into the nearby Yakima River just to prove they have the ability to maneuver these large vessels full of hot air.

Viewers need to rise early as the balloons lift off by 7:00 a.m. each morning depending on the velocity of the prevalent winds. Each balloon has an FAA approved pilot including a few with commercial ratings.

Please note: The Great Prosser Balloon Rally does not sell balloon rides or release pilot contact information.



Balloons lift into the early morning sky over Prosser during the Great Prosser Balloon Rally. This year, 26 balloons are scheduled to partake in the event.

The public is encouraged to attend and parking is free. For more information go to :

www.prosserballoonrally.org

Legends continued from page 1

Like many of the pioneers in Washington State, Mike Hogue's wine making success started as a farming venture. When Mike joined parents Wayne and Shyla Hogue in the family's farming business in 1964, there wasn't a single wine grapevine planted on the family's ranch. Mike, mindful of the growing success of the California wine industry, and believing that Washington State had similar potential, took a chance and planted six acres of Riesling grapes in the Yakima Valley in 1974. The high quality of the grapes he grew on those six acres led to more plantings and today, Hogue Ranches farms 700 acres of wine grape vineyards in the Yakima Valley and 500 acres of wine grape vineyards in the Horse Heaven Hills appellation.

Mike started the Hogue Cellars winery in 1982 in the Port of Benton's development building in the Prosser Wine and Food Park. Their first commercial bottling was 2,000 cases of 1982 Riesling. By 1988 Hogue Cellars was shipping 150 tons of containerized wine grapes through the Port of

Seattle to Japan, the first by a Washington State winery.

In 1989, Mike announced the first phase of a \$6 million processing facility surrounded by a 15-acre vineyard. When Hogue Cellars sold in 2001, it was the largest family owned winery in the state of Washington producing 500,000 cases per year. In 2006, Mike and family teamed with Bud and Rob Mercer and planted Dead Canyon Vineyard on Horse Heaven Hills. In 2007, Mercer Estates winery was formed and, although Mike no longer participates in the operation of the winery, Hogue Ranches continues to be vineyard partners with the Mercer family.

Mike is also a silent partner and enthusiastic supporter of Pepper Bridge Winery in Walla Walla and Swiftwater Cellars in Cle Elum.

Congratulations to one of our own and thank you Mike for helping make Eastern Washington one of the premier wine producing regions in the world.

Richland Airport



Photographs on this page courtesy of Ryan Liechty.



This summer was a busy time for the Richland Airport and for the Port of Benton Commissioners. Shown above left is Commission President Roy Keck receiving last minute instructions before heading skyward in a WACO biplane. Bottom left is Vice President Jane Hagarty waving to an enthusiastic crowd in a Stearman. Bottom right is former pilot Robert Larson and Secretary of the Commission, who reluctantly gave the stick back to the pilot before takeoff. Port of Benton Commissioners and staff are actively engaged in promoting both the Prosser and Richland airports. The two planes shown in the large photo above are extremely rare: a Boeing C40-C built in 1928 and a WACO EQC-6 built in 1936.

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla

Editor's Note: On September 9th I interviewed Teara Farrow Ferman, Project Manager of the Cultural Resources Protection Program for the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

Editor: Which tribes make up the Confederated Tribes?

Teara: The Cayuse, Umatilla and Walla Walla tribes.

Editor: Tell us about the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Port and Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla. We work very closely with the tribes to comply with the historic preservation laws.

Teara: The agreement is in place so that any time the Port needs our services, we can perform archaeological services on their projects.

Editor: Do you have any current projects at our Crow Butte Park?

Teara: Yes, the new construction at the marina and the gazebo.

Editor: We do a lot of excavating on most of our projects, what are you trying to preserve?

Teara: The Cultural Resources Protection Program provides archaeological services, meaning we do the cultural resources clearance work for a project. Crow Butte Park is leased from the Army Corps of Engineers and is federal land. The Port has to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act which requires them to consult with affected tribes and conduct an archeological survey of the project area. Some of the land at Crow Butte Park is culturally sensitive, so ensuring that consultation has happened is very important. The Intergovernmental Agreement makes it easier for us to work together so the Port can



CTUIR cultural resource staff are shown above conducting archaeological testing at the Port's Crow Butte Park. The Port will be upgrading the marina by adding a restroom, replacing and constructing additional boat slips, installing a fish cleaning station and improving the two boat launches. A gazebo will also be erected in the day use park this winter.

continue to improve the park and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla ensures the resources are protected. Once construction starts we will routinely have cultural resources personnel monitor the site.

Editor: What does an archeological survey entail?

Teara: We walk transects that are spaced 10 to 30 meters apart over the entire project area. If we find something, we document it. Sometimes, additional archaeological work is required such as testing. Testing involves putting a shovel into the ground and screening the dirt to a level of 50 cm. Everything is documented on forms and then a final report is prepared that addresses the findings, results and recommendations.

Editor: What are you looking for?

Teara: We're looking for prehistoric and historic artifacts such as

arrowheads, stone tools and anything that has archeological significance.

Editor: Let's talk about the marina. Because it is over water do you need to do any surveys under water?

Teara: We don't specialize in under water archeology; however, there are companies that do.

Editor: Is there anything else you'd like to share with our readers?

Teara: One of the main things people don't think about when they stumble across an artifact is the cultural resource laws that protect archeological resources. It is illegal to collect artifacts or to dig within known archeological sites. If you find something you need to leave it in place.

For more information go to:
www.umatilla.nsn.us

Branches & Vines (continued from page 1)



Photograph at top shows the market in Benton City. Photo to the right is of owner, Mary Smith, with a customer on a Saturday morning.



Other products she offers include specialty honey, jams, preserves, gift items and a selection of artwork. Most of her inventory is from local farmers, artists and food vendors with the idea of promoting our local resources.

Local artists can lease space from Branches & Vines to showcase and sell their artwork. Artisans include painters, photographers, wood carvers, metal workers and craft workers.

In her travels she stops at estate sales and occasionally finds unusual antiquities that fit her country style theme. If a customer is looking for a specific item she can usually find it or refer them to someone else who may have just the right item.

In the off-season Mary takes her craft items to Christmas bazaars throughout the Yakima and Columbia Valleys.

She is also hosting events in her facility, like wine tasting, craft markets or fund raising. Some of her customers have small wineries and use her more centrally located facility to launch a new release, or host a special event.

Branches & Vines is open Thursday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sunday hours are 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday Market is from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Their grand opening will be on October 10th.

Her address is 713 9th Street, Suite A in Benton City. For more information contact Mary at: **(509) 295-7771** or go to her website at:

<http://branchesandvinesfarmstore.com>

Calendar of Events

Smartmap Expo	Pasco TRAC	September 25-26th
Great Prosser Balloon Rally	Prosser Airport	September 27-29th
Commission Meeting	Port Administration Building	October 9th

Commission meetings are open to the public and held the second Wednesday of each month at 8:30 a.m. in the Port of Benton Conference Room, 3100 George Washington Way, Richland, WA. March and September Commission meetings are held at the Vineyard Pavilion, 2140 Wine Country Road, Prosser, Washington.

President's Message

Our fall will begin with budget discussions and setting priorities for 2014. We have been able to focus our tax dollars toward capital projects and are proud to say that the administration and operation of the Port is funded by our existing lease revenues. The following describes some of our recent accomplishments.

The Walter Clore Wine and Culinary Center in Prosser will be finished by the end of this year and we are excited to be able to offer a central contact point for visitors to learn about the wine industry in this region. The Port is partnering with WSU Tri-Cities to build the Wine Science Center in north Richland. The Port provided the land for this facility to help further the wine industries we are so heavily involved with in Prosser. The ground breaking for this state of the art building will be on September 26th at 10:00 a.m.

The long-term success of job growth in the Tri-Cities is predicated upon key infrastructure to support companies and their growth. To this end, broadband will be installed in the north Richland area through a

partnership with the City of Richland. This investment in our future will ensure job growth well into the future. Our primary target sectors are wine, energy, advanced manufacturing and technology.

The Port was able to secure a grant from the State of Washington to rebuild the Columbia Park Trail train bridge crossing near the Richland Wye. This old wooden bridge will be completely rebuilt with metal bracing and will be completed by the end of next year.

Crow Butte Park will receive a new dock and marina improvements, a fish cleaning station and a restroom located at the marina. This construction is being funded by a grant received through the Washington State Recreation and Conservation program. Capital improvements at Crow Butte have primarily taken place because of our partnerships with Benton and Klickitat Counties. Benton County has provided funds for capital improvements for the past six years, which has allowed the Port to improve the campground for all of the residents of Benton County.

Management Team



Scott D. Keller, PPM
Executive Director



Stuart B. Dezember, CPA
Director of Finance/
Auditor



Diahann C. Howard
Director of Economic
Development &
Governmental Affairs



John D. Haakenson
Director of Airports
& Operations



Kevin Howard
Director of
Maintenance

Commissioners



Robert D. Larson
Commission Secretary



Roy D. Keck
Commission President



Jane F. Hagarty
Commission Vice President

This newsletter was produced by the staff of the Port of Benton, Jan Jackson, editor. For information about property acquisition and leasing opportunities, please call the Port of Benton at

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