

PORT KUDOS CORNER: **Daniel Davis**



Dan arriving at the Richland Airport (top photo) to perform routine maintenance. Thanks to Dan Davis and his family (right photo) for his 16 years of service at the Port of Benton.



Congratulations to Daniel Davis for his 16 years of service at the Port of Benton. As the Airport Maintenance Lead, Dan’s tireless work and dedication to the Port and airport safety has made him a valued team member.

Dan attended Columbia Basin College’s welding program when he was hired by the Port in a temporary summer position in 2003. After finishing college, he was offered a full-time job with the Port. Dan has performed every aspect of maintenance for the Port, including welding, fabricating and equipment and building maintenance.

Dan is married to his college sweetheart, Shannon, and they have five children. When not at work, Dan enjoys any activity that takes him outdoors with his family – especially hunting, fishing and camping.



**Benton City Car Show - Spring 2019**

**Calendar of Events**

Commission Meeting	Port Administration Building	October 23
Commission Budget Meeting	Port Administration Building	October 30
Veterans Day	Port Office Closed	November 11
Thanksgiving Holiday	Port Office Closed	November 28-29
Commission Meeting	Port Administration Building	December 11
Christmas Holiday	Port Office Closed	December 24-25
New Year’s Day	Port Office Closed	January 1

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 Commission Meeting Room, 3250 Port of Benton Boulevard, Richland, Washington. March and September Commission meetings are held at the Walter Clore Wine & Culinary Center, 2140 Wine Country Road, Prosser, Washington.

For information about property acquisition and leasing opportunities, please call the Port of Benton at 509-375-3060 or visit our website.

[www.PortofBenton.com](http://www.PortofBenton.com)



**Port of Benton**

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Veolia Nuclear Solutions is centralizing its Research & Development and Testing activities at a Port of Benton facility in the Richland Business Park.

**Veolia Nuclear Solutions Accentuates Its Presence in Richland**

Veolia Nuclear Solutions (VNS) as part of the Veolia Group, continues its development by centralizing its Research & Development and Testing activities at the Port of Benton facility in Richland.

Veolia Nuclear Solutions, a world-class leader in nuclear facility cleanup and treatment of radioactive waste, recently decided the time was right to consolidate all of its capabilities and know-how inside a single facility with sufficient capacity and utilities in place. A long-time presence in the area, with an extensive team of experts and operations based in Richland, VNS was no stranger to the options available. That’s why the company decided the Port of Benton facility – referred to as the Veolia Research Center (VRC) - was the perfect choice for creating a global technology center to create the next-generation of game-changing technologies for the nuclear industry.

A number of important and innovative VNS technologies will be relocated in a single home at the VRC, including the GeoMelt® bench-scale test system and the Modular Vitrification System (MVS®). These are two of Veolia’s most promising technologies, which are already in use around the world at locations including Japan, the UK and here in the United States.

As an example of the types of discriminating technologies to be housed at the site, Veolia’s GeoMelt® technology yields the lowest life cycle cost for waste management by transforming radioactive, hazardous and mixed wastes into a volume-reduced robust, obsidian-like inert glass waste form for safe storage, transportation and disposal. Similarly important, MVS® stabilizes liquid and sludge waste by converting environmental hazards into glass, an increasingly cost-effective material for waste disposal. Having the right





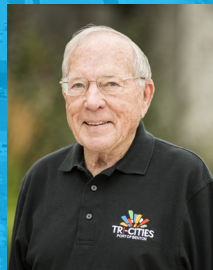
## Commissioners



**Roy D. Keck**  
Commission President



**Jane F. Hagarty**  
Commission Vice President



**Robert D. Larson**  
Commission Secretary

## Interim Executive Director



**Diahann Howard, PPM**

## Richland Innovation Center *Ready for the Future*

The Port of Benton was created to serve the community and support economic development initiatives. A major activity to support these efforts is the transition of property from Hanford to the Port.

When the Port receives former federal properties, there may be conditions or use restrictions, and there is always cost associated with its transition. The Richland Innovation Center, formerly the Hanford 3000 Area, is a perfect example. The U.S. Maritime Administration transferred this 71-acre property to the Port. The land had deed restrictions that required annual reporting and approval of all leases and uses. This federal oversight dramatically limited local development activity and private investment.

Working with Congressman Newhouse, the Port was able to get these deed restrictions lifted. The Port paid the federal government \$3 million to remove the deed restrictions and land from the MARAD property conveyance program.



This investment was a significant step for the Port since its overall budget is \$11 million, of which \$2.4 million is paid in taxes. However, the Port's persistence and action are already delivering positive results. Private sector companies are seeking to invest in this flex-industrial space, and others are exploring options to expand operations.

The Richland Innovation Center provides vast possibilities going forward to fulfill the Port's commitment to the community: creating new economic opportunities, investments and jobs.

For more information contact:  
**Teresa Hancock at 509-375-3060.**

## Veolia Nuclear Solutions (cont'd)

facility to house, test and demonstrate these types of technologies is critical to deploy efficient solutions that can tackle the toughest challenges of the industry. Clearly, the Port of Benton facility is the perfect location combining features and functionality to house VNS' innovative technologies in a single space. In 2015, the company leased 20,000 square feet in order to meet the immediate need to start construction of the Modular Detritiation Technology (MDS®) and to have sufficient capacity and utilities to allow future consolidation of the other Richland facilities.

Clients and partners who have toured or contracted through VNS to use the Port of Benton facility include the U.S. Department of Energy and its site leadership (e.g., Hanford, INL), Japan (TEPCO, NDF) the UK (NNL, NDA), U.S. National Laboratories (PNNL, SRNL) and other prime contractors. Veolia is a global leader in technology and this



*Veolia Nuclear Solutions is located in the Port of Benton Richland Business Park along Stevens Drive.*

facility represents our desire to be a world-class technology solution provider for the Nuclear Industry.

Marc Rood, Vice President of Veolia Nuclear Solutions states, "Veolia's goal is to become the global leader in environmental restoration and cleanup for the nuclear industry as well as to provide enabling waste management technologies that will positively impact the global environment for future generations to come. We are happy to team with the Port of Benton in helping us accomplish our goals both locally and globally."

Learn more:  
**[www.nuclearsolutions.veolia.com](http://www.nuclearsolutions.veolia.com)**



*Jessica Munnell, Tom Merkle and Rachel Mercer.*

## The Port's Vintner's Village Welcomes *Wautoma Springs Winery*

In 2010, Jessica Munnell and Tom Merkle made their first vintage of Wautoma Springs wine. Winemaking began as a passion project with 50 cases here, 80 cases there. Over the past year, they've ramped up production and are taking the boutique winery to the next level.

Rachel Mercer is bringing her culinary skills and wine knowledge to manage the new Wautoma Springs Tasting Room and Tapas Bar at Vintner's Village in Prosser.

Rachel will feature Wautoma Springs wines, Spanish style tapas and offer beer by the bottle. The minimalist tasting room will feature a 27-foot grapevine from Tom's vineyard and is planned to open by the end of October 2019.

## Port Earns Economic Development Award

Prosser's Economic Development Association awarded the Port of Benton as its Contributor of the Year during the Association's spring meeting.

The award recognizes the Port's valuable contributions in support of economic development in Prosser.



*Commissioners Roy Keck and Jane Hagarty accepting the award.*



## WINGS & WHEELS

Nearly 3,500 people attended the third annual Wings & Wheels event on August 17 at the Port of Benton's Richland Airport. The free event featured 90 vintage planes including experimental, warbirds and antique. More than 100 vehicles from hot rods, classic cars, and muscle cars to military vehicles and a dozen motorcycles were also on display.

## Commission President Message

The Port Commission and staff are actively engaged in supporting key community initiatives such as MyTRI 2030, the Manhattan Project National Historical Park and Mid-Columbia Energy Initiative.

We are also making investments to support economic development within the Port district. These investments are visible in the growth of the Chukar Cherry Company and new tenants in the Port's development building in Prosser, including two wineries, a BBQ restaurant and office space for our community partner the Prosser Economic Development Association. Port development buildings are helping spur activity in downtown Benton City.

More than 2,000 acres in North Richland continue to transform following an initial \$11.9 million Local Revitalization Fund investment from the Port and City of Richland in 2009. The money paid for infrastructure work including broadband, roads and utilities. These improvements at the North Richland property have resulted in \$494 million in new facilities and private investments to date such as the Wine Science Center, Preferred Freezer, Lamb Weston plant expansion and most recently Packaging Corporation of America. To build on the momentum in North Richland, the City and Port are exploring a Local Revitalization Fund investment in the adjacent 1,300 acres. Parcels on that property would potentially be available in 2020-2021.

We are excited about the future! Working in collaboration with our economic development partners, cities and Benton County, we will continue to serve our district by providing opportunities for companies large and small as we build a more diverse economy.

**Roy Keck**  
Commission President