

Lincoln County EDC Newsletter

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Transloading from a central rail location to trucks for local delivery is one of the strategies being considered by EWG to diversify and 'grow the business'

Celebrate Lincoln County Businesses Event

The EDC Board and Scott's Tire Service of Davenport hosted an event on the evening of June 21 that drew a healthy crowd of 40 people who shared an interest in the economic trends of Lincoln County.

The evening was led by a presentation from the Davenport, Wilbur, Harrington, Odessa and Reardan Chambers of Commerce. Each Chamber President was excited about what the future holds for his/her community.

John Howell, General Manager, Eastern Washington Gateway Railroad (EWG), the new operator for the PCC Rail Line, said their main objective is to "Grow the Business" through reliable service based on customer feedback and good planning.



John Howell, General Manager, Eastern Washington Gateway Railroad

John announced that EWG will launch a pilot project using biodiesel from the Columbia Bio-Energy plant in Creston to fuel its engines. Gary Cooper, EWG engineer, said that he had barely missed two teens who were walking on the tracks the day before the meeting and he urged people to stay off the tracks.



Dale Swant, Reardan Chamber, spoke about the Inland Empire Railway Historical Society's progress in bringing their museum cars and the plans to build a railroad museum building west of Reardan.

Dale Swant, EDC, V.P., presented a draft of the Lincoln County map/brochure that will highlight attractions/businesses and be distributed in the PNW region.



Dale Swant reporting on progress of the Reardan Railroad Museum

Pam Kelley, EDC Director, explained that the EDC is a private non-profit organization supported by its membership, which opened its doors on July 1, 2006, and is dedicated to creating new jobs. (For her presentation: www.co.lincoln.wa.us/EDC/)

All participants worked on brainstorming ideas that would benefit Lincoln County.

#1 Goal to be achieved in 6 months: *Create a County-wide Business Directory on the web to be kept current on a monthly basis.*

#2 Goal to be achieved in 1 year: *Lincoln County Recreation/business Map*

#3 Goal—Long term: *Attract telecommuters and develop Off Highway Vehicle trails throughout Lincoln County*

Lincoln Cty EDC Members

Government Entities

- Lincoln County
- Town of Almira
- Town of Creston
- City of Harrington
- Town of Odessa
- City of Sprague
- Town of Reardan
- Town of Wilbur

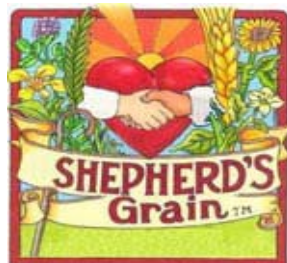
Sun Rock Bakery - Wilbur's Artisan Bakery

Diane and Ron LeMay like the Wilbur School District so much that they transported their daughter, Mariah, to and from school every day while running the Columbia River Inn they owned for 13 years in Coulee Dam. Once Mariah got into 6th grade and their son Kyle entered 1st grade, they decided to sell the hotel, go to baking school, remodel the Reeves building built in 1895 and open an artisan bakery.

"It is very easy to do business in Wilbur. The Town Council and the people are very business friendly", said Diane

Each loaf of special breads, each scone, muffin, croissant and cookie is made by Diane and her staff with natural fresh ingredients.

All of their baked goods are made exclusively with Shepherd's Grain flour produced by a regional alliance of farmers who practice sustainable agriculture and grow high-quality wheat.



www.shepherdsgrain.com

Sun Rock Bakery is more than a bakery. Ron and Diane would like to make it the *hub* of the community. It offers a warm atmosphere that makes you want to sit for awhile with friends in either the 'conversation corner' or outside at the sidewalk tables and enjoy the great quality of life available in Wilbur.



Tourists are Sun Rock's secondary customer. Diane and Ron are most interested in serving the local region and providing for their local customers' needs.

Diane and Ron will be providing bread at the Whitestone Winery "Dine in the Vines" event on July 28, 2007.



"Conversation Corner"

Aside from the baked goods, Sun Rock serves Espresso coffee drinks, soups and sandwiches, as well as, a wide array of culinary utensils and gift items, including cookbooks, appliances and pretty much any tool you would need to bake your own specialties!



www.sunrockbakery.com

Check out the Sun Rock Bakery website and find out what the different *daily breads* are for each day of the week. The summer hours are Wednesday thru Saturday: 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.



"Wilbur has the best, friendly, clean and safe community. A Great Town!"

Diane LeMay

Lincoln Cty EDC Members
Chambers of Commerce PDA's

- Davenport Chamber
- Odessa Chamber
- Reardan Chamber
- Wilbur Chamber

- Odessa PDA
- Reardan Area PDA

Lincoln Cty EDC Members

Businesses

- Almira Farmers Warehouse
- Brock, Carpenter, McGuire & DeWulf
- Columbia BioEnergy
- Eastern Washington Gateway R/R
- J & E Schaffer Farms, Inc.
- Leffel, Otis & Warwick
- Odessa Union Warehouse
- Reardan Grain Growers
- Scott's Tire Service
- Seed-Rite, Inc.

Whitestone Winery Wows Washington!

100 years ago settlers figured out that the Whitestone Rock area of what is now Lake Roosevelt was a good place to grow grapes. For 35 years, until the river became a lake and flooded the vineyards, the Whitestone vineyard was one of the largest grape producers in Eastern Washington.

Walter and Judy Haig read a study prepared by WSU viticulturists in the 1970's that pinpointed the Whitestone area as an ideal place to grow French Bordeaux grape varieties, including Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon.

In 1994, with the assistance of WSU, the Haig's vineyard was planted and in 1996 the first harvest was shipped to Walla Walla to supply grapes for those fine Washington wines we are so proud of.

In 2001, Walter and Judy decided to branch out and use their grapes to make their own wines and what a success that



Aerial view of Whitestone Rock at Lake Roosevelt



Whitestone Winery and Tasting Room in Wilbur, Wa. Open Fri & Sat 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. www.whitestonewinery.com

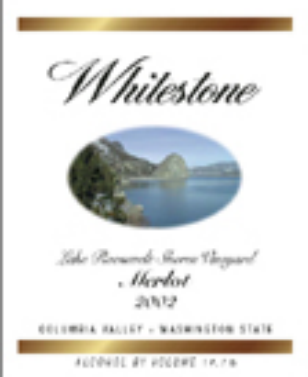
has been! In the Fall of 2005 the Whitestone Winery and Tasting Room was opened in Wilbur and for the first time not one grape was exported outside of Lincoln County!

After years of study and training Michael Haig, Walter and Judy's son, has taken over the care of the vineyards and the making of the wine. Whitestone Winery is a true family-owned business where every facet of the operation is performed by a family member.

"Wilbur has been very supportive of Whitestone," says Michael Haig. "We're a source of pride for the community, and people view us as a big boon. I'd love to see more vineyards take root in the area."

Michael has a vision of marketing a loop around Lincoln County that directs tourists to local businesses and activities, which coincides perfectly with the recreation/business brochure being prepared by the EDC!

Wine can be ordered online or call for outlets at 509-647-5325. Also, ask about the "Dine in the Vines" event on July 28, 2007.



2002 Merlot was voted #1 Washington Merlot of 2007 by CEO Magazine!

Whitestone Winery returns from the past to put Wilbur on the map!

Lincoln Cty EDC Members

Individual Memberships

- Wesley & Julia Hill
- Doug & Nancy Plinski
- Steve & Linda Powell

Lincoln County Economic Development Council

LINCOLN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

P.O. Box 1305
Davenport, WA. 99122

Phone: 509-775-1170
Fax: 509-775-1172
pkelley@co.lincoln.wa.us
jmings@co.lincoln.wa.us

Lincoln County EDC Board

Sam Braun, President
Dale Swant, V. President
Rex Harder, Treasurer
Lauri Long, Secretary
Scott Hutsell, Member
Ted Hopkins, Member
Billie Herron, Member
Lynn McWhorter, Member
Gary Green, Member
Howard Nelson, Member
Mike Evans, Member

Staff

Pam Kelley, Ex. Director
Joyce Mings, Assistant

What is the Lincoln County EDC?

The Lincoln County EDC is a member supported non-profit organization dedicated to business recruitment. The EDC is overseen by an eleven-member Board of Directors. It opened its doors on July 1, 2006 with Pam Kelley, Executive Director and Joyce Mings, Administrative Assistant. The office is located at 303 6th Street in Davenport in the Lincoln County Courthouse annex shared with WSU Extension.

The EDC has a diverse set of goals to include the following:

- Business assistance & training
- Project planning & development
- Grant writing
- Member in statewide economic development organizations
- Assist local PDA's to attract new businesses
- Assist in funding infrastructure improvement
- Foster an economic development network within Lincoln County

The EDC depends heavily on membership support in order to function at a competitive level.

The EDC Board is grateful to those businesses who have already stepped forward with generous membership contributions. If you are interested in becoming a member please call Pam or Joyce at 509-725-1170

Lincoln County EDC
P.O. Box 1305
303 6th Avenue
Davenport, WA. 99122

