

# Progress In Motion

- Edition VI 2006

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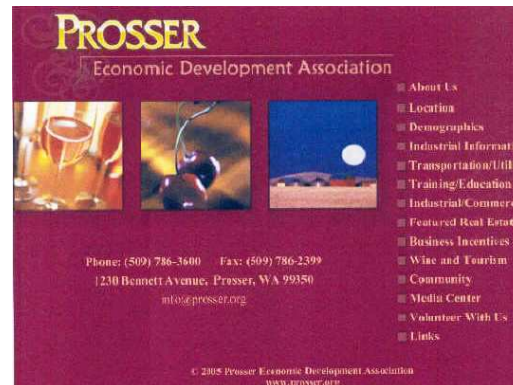
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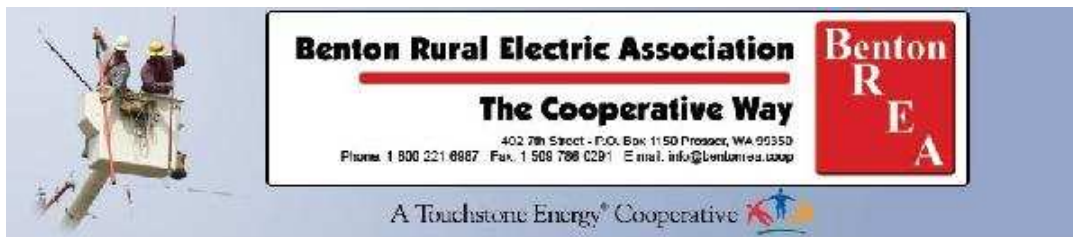
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## Benton REA Promotes Development "The Cooperative Way"



Benton Rural Electric Association, a Prosser EDA Contributing Partner, recognizes that quality, reliable electric service is essential to the success of any business or industry. Of equal importance is a positive business climate. Benton REA and its community partners play an active role in bringing new business and industry to the community. They also work with existing businesses to support and improve their operations.

Benton REA, a Touchstone Energy Cooperative, now provides an avenue for local property owners within its service area to market "For Sale" commercial and light industrial properties via

the internet. Sites Across America is a free service available for Rural Electric Cooperatives to offer their members. Another element of Benton REA's economic development efforts is the Revolving Loan Fund to assist businesses within its' service area with expansion or operational improvements.

Benton REA's Powernet offers computer and internet technology to the Yakima Valley to both business and residential customers. It is the Lower Valleys' leading internet service provider offering high speed wireless, broadband, and basic dialup; as well as administrative and consulting services.

If you wish to discuss development opportunities, would like to find out more about the Sites Across America program, the Revolving Loan Fund or any other services contact the Benton REA at 509 786- 2913.

## Sites Across America

### Everything You Wanted To Know About Grapes & Wine at YVCC



The Yakima Valley Community College Viticulture & Enology Program was helped along with a two year "Workforce Development/Rural Grant from the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges a few years ago. The grant enabled YVCC to hire a faculty member/coordinator, instructional supplies and equipment. The Workforce Development/Rural Grants were earmarked for curriculum start-up of high demand programs linked to economic development with funding allocated to rural counties as defined under RCW 43.160.020(12).

YVCC Grandview Campus offers grape and wine degree programs, certificates, short courses.

### Scholarship \$'s Available

The Washington Association of Wine Grape Growers offers scholarships to qualified graduating seniors planning to pursue a degree in viticulture and/or enology. Washington State Grape Society awards an annual Memorial Scholarship to aid in the training and education of persons interested in improving their knowledge of grape growing and to help provide future leaders for the industry.

[WAWGG WSGS](#)

### Bettering Your Business!

The Prosser Chamber of Commerce along with Grandview and Sunnyside Chambers are hosting a series of Business Workshops at the YVCC Grandview Campus. Chamber members can attend these seminars FREE OF CHARGE while non-members pay a fee of \$65.00 per seminar. These seminars will be held at the YVCC campus in Grandview. Topics, times, and dates are listed below:



- October 11th 1-4 pm - Marketing
- November 8th 1-4 pm - Attracting New Customers
- January 10th 1-4 pm - Tourism
- February 8th 6-9 pm - Team Building/Group Problem Solving
- March 8th 6-9 pm - Performance Management
- April 12th 6-9 pm - Time Management

Registrations taken on a first-come, first serve basis. To register contact the Prosser Chamber at 509 786- 3177 or YVCC at 509 882-7000

### CBC - Biofuels Summit I

**Biofuels Summit I - Columbia Basin College Nov. 2 & 3, 2006**  
**Exploring Long Term Feasibility of Oilseed Industry in the Columbia Basin**

Highlights of the conference include:

- The importance of biofuels to the national economy
- State legislation affecting biofuels
- The science of biofuels
- Oilseed production techniques
- The economics of biofuels
- The farmer as producer and processor
- Public and private funding for biofuels projects

Join farmers and growers, business leaders, elected officials, public agencies, ag-lending institutions, college and university researchers in biofuels and a host of others for one day to learn about the opportunities and challenges of pursuing an oilseed industry in the Columbia Basin.

**More Information**

#### **Benton PUD – 60 Years of Service**

Benton PUD began serving customers in Benton County on September 12, 1946. Through the years they have worked hard to ensure reliable, efficient cost based power. To celebrate PUD's 60 years of service, Customer Appreciation Days will be celebrated from 10 am. to 3 pm. on September 28th at the Prosser Office, 607 5th Street and on September 29th from 10 am. to 3 pm at the Kennewick Office 2721 W. 10th Avenue. Stop by and receive a FREE fluorescent light bulb furnished by the BPA funded conservation program.

#### **35th Annual WA State Grape Society Trade Show**

The 35th Annual WA State Grape Society Trade Show will be held on Thursday and Friday November 16th and 17th 2006 at the Nazarene Church in Grandview, 500 North Elm. The two day event begins Thursday from 1pm to 5pm and continues Friday from 8am to 5pm. WSGS provides a quality Trade Show with over 350 grape and diversified growers attending.

Featured speaker for this years event is Dr. Terence Bates, a member of Cornell University's department of Horticultural Sciences. Bates received his B.S. in Biology from St. John Fisher College in Rochester, NY, in 1992 . He received his M.S. in Horticulture in 1994 and his Ph.D in Plant Physiology in 1997, both from Pennsylvania State University. Bates has authored or co-authored numerous publications. He was awarded the Walter Thomas Memorial Scholarship, and made a National Science Foundation Root Biology Fellow. He is a member of Sigma Xi, the National Honor Society of Agriculture, and of the American Society of Plant Physiologists.

For more information on the Trade Show visit the grape society website.

**More Information...**

#### **Prosser Economic Development Association**

email: [economicdevelopment@prosser.org](mailto:economicdevelopment@prosser.org)

Phone: 509 786-3600

web: <http://www.prosser.org>

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