Winemakers...
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challenges include potential damage caused by insects, disease, frost and bad weather, and especially mildew. "Mildew is the biggest problem in the wine industry."

The Dingethals point to winemaker Walt Housey, 68, and his Bethany Vineyard and Winery in Ridgefield as a prime example of how people in their 50s, 60s, 70s and beyond are contributing to Washington's wine reputation. Bethany, one of four Clark County wineries, produces wines with distinct Southwest Washington flavor and character. Grown in small blocks, the hand-picked grapes are carefully selected. Visitors are encouraged to bring a picnic lunch, stroll through the lakeside vineyard and visit the winery and tasting room. The winery also features summer concerts and offers a venue for weddings, receptions and special events.

Clark College is one of just five major colleges chosen nationally to participate in the 50-Plus Initiative program. As such, the college will redesign its small business development curriculum to offer second careers through business ownership, at a wine and cooking school for wine enthusiasts and food enthusiasts. In addition, a joint program with the Area Agency on Aging will train in-home caregivers.

Clark College will also mentor two demonstration colleges, Western Dakota Technical Institute, located in Rapid City, S. Dak., and develop a national training model for baby boomers who want to become seasonal rangers and interpretive guides at national parks. Chaffey Community College, located in Cucamonga, Calif., will start a new program for baby boomer volunteers to mentor and tutor under-prepared students and help them be successful in college.

Tracy Reilly-Kelly, pilot 50 Initiative director at Clark College, notes, "Rapid City is home to Ellsworth Air Force Base and many ex-military retirees. In addition, the area hosts scenic wonders including Mount Rushmore, the Crazy Horse monument, the Badlands and the Black Hills."

Western Dakota Technical Institute is creating a training program for the National Park Service to attract seasonal workers for the diverse park programs and concessions—people age 50 and above who are looking for the kind of part-time second career that will be the hallmark of the plus 50 Baby Boomer generation in years to come."

The American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) Plus 50 Initiative is a three and one-half year effort to identify a pilot group of two-year institutions that will create or expand campus programs to engage the plus 50 population in learning, training/training programs and/or volunteer, civic, service activities. The initiative is funded by a $3.2 million grant to AACC from The Atlantic Philanthropies. AACC provided sub-grants to member colleges selected through a competitive grant process. This comprises grants of up to $70,000 (total over three years) to five mentor colleges and grants of up to $40,000 (total over 3 years) to 10 demonstration colleges. Plus 50 Initiative will serve baby boomers throughout the Vancouver-Portland area.

Clark College kicks off year-long Diamond Jubilee

Clark College will celebrate its 75th anniversary and launch a year-long Diamond Jubilee with events occurring over 75 hours, starting at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 1 through noon, Saturday, Oct. 4. Founded by a group of educators and businessmen during the darkest times of the Great Depression, Clark College (originally called Vancouver Junior College) opened its doors in 1933. The college struggled through the early years and faced declining enrollments during World War II. However, the postwar years triggered a boom that has continued to this day. With an enrollment of nearly 13,000 students each quarter, Clark is now Washington's second largest community and technical college.

Clark College President Robert K. Knight said that he looks forward to welcoming students, faculty, staff, supporters, and alumni to the celebration, as well as members of the greater community to events that include the lighting of the Clark College Chime Tower, a "Rock the Vote" rally, two dedication ceremonies and a Thanksgiving feast with food and fun for the community as well as alumni hospitality suite. "Clark College is located at 1933 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver, Wash."

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