

New Paltz Times, December 5, 2008

To the Good Readers of the New Paltz Times,

I am a wine maker in the Rogue Valley of Southern Oregon. I happened on the Rivendell Winery home page and was astounded to read the local zoning board doesn't consider the making and selling wine an agricultural process. I must assure those involved in the making of this decision that you are alone in the world in this view. I won't even wade into the nuances of this argument; suffice it to say an outside entity finds your local zoning commission to be foolish, overly dogmatic and backwards. In fact a tasting room is a gift to a community as wine is more profitably marketed in the bigger cities. I will conclude my response and argument by saying simply, wow.

Patrick Carrico
Southern Oregon Wine Maker