

Brian Lumsden turned his experiments with barbecue rubs into a side business that's almost outgrown its available space.



Cheryl Schweizer/Columbia Basin Herald

A man for all seasonings

OTHELLO — It was the Christmas bazaar in Othello that told Brian Lumsden that something he had been pursuing as a hobby could work into something bigger. And the Othello community has been a part of making that happen.

Lumsden had been making spice rubs for a long time, looking for the proper accompaniment for pork, beef, chicken, fish and vegetables. Cooking has always been an interest of his.

"As a kid I was in the kitchen all the time," he said.

The experiments in barbecue started when he was in college.

He came up with a mix of garlic, chipotle, sugar and smoked salt that he liked, and when he gave it as presents, other people liked it too. He hadn't thought of selling it until people offered to buy it, he said.

Even then, Lumsden said he didn't think of selling it,

Othello man turns a hobby into a small business — with local helpers, fans

By CHERYL SCHWEIZER
 Staff Writer

until his wife, Tamar, came up with a suggestion.

"She said, 'Why don't you try to sell them at the Othello Christmas bazaar?'" he said.

So Lumsden bought some small deli containers and labels. "I had 100, and I was hoping to sell 10 of them," he said. He sold out in a couple of hours, and that was the

start of B's Rubs.

Lumsden is a history and civics teacher at Othello High School and the OHS golf coach. The spice rub business has to fit around his day jobs. But Lumsden is used to juggling multiple careers.

"Most of my life I've had a business of some kind," he said.

Lumsden started with two options, his original Smoked Rub and the Spiced Apple Rub. Now he's up to 10 rubs. All are low-sodium and gluten-free and do not contain MSG, he said. He also sells a kit designed to teach people how to cure small batches of their own bacon.

In cooking, a rub has a specific job to do. "A rub is a collection of seasonings that are put together by intention, that pairs well with different meat and vegetables," he said. Rubs can be salty or spicy, sweet or savory, or any combination thereof.

The development process



Cheryl Schweizer/Columbia Basin Herald

B's Rubs owner Brian Lumsden has created 10 options for barbecue aficionados.

starts with the end goal. The Big Squeeze rub, for instance, was developed when customers asked him for a lemon pepper mix. "I wanted mine to be tart and hot," he said, so he added some chili peppers for that extra kick.

The Batch No. 9 started as

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A most famous and familiar story of the unexpected

By Rev. WALTER KLOCKERS
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The Parable of the Good Samaritan from Luke's Gospel, Luke 10: 25-37, from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, says:

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is



your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him,

written in the law? What do you read there?" He

answered, "You shall love the Lord

"You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live." But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw

him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care

of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, "Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend." Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

There's a lot to

unpack from this parable. Among them is the call to examine what "neighbor" truly means. There is also the irony of Jewish religious figures showing indifference to the man in the ditch; both passed him by. In part, this was because the man was "half-dead." If they were to lend him aid and he died on the journey, they would be considered

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