

## Cashmere swimmers Dotson and Seidensticker make strides toward state



PHOTO BY AL STOVER/CVR.

Cashmere High School's Aster Dotson (left) and Tyson Seidensticker are competing in high school boys swimming for the third year.

By AL STOVER

Cashmere High School's Aster Dotson and Tyson Seidensticker are the two athletes representing the Bulldogs in boys swimming. The arrangement for the students to utilize Eastmont High School's coaches and facilities is through the athletic co-op between the two schools.

Both Dotson and Seidensticker are third-year swimmers. Last season, Dotson competed in the 2018 2A Boys Swim/Dive Championships where he finished with a 59.46 in the 100-yard butterfly while Seidensticker finished the year at districts.

The Bulldog athletes compete for Cashmere's summer swim team. They decided to swim at the high school level after their teammates and coaches recommended Eastmont's program to them.

Seidensticker said he enjoys competing in high school swimming because it brings a different environment than any other sport. Dotson noted that swimming is a low-impact sport. Swimming also allows Dotson and Seidensticker to compete alongside athletes from another school.

"They treat us like we're teammates," Seidensticker added in reference to the Eastmont athletes.

Eastmont boys swim and dive head coach Darcy Bruggman, who coaches Dotson and Seidensticker, along with Cascade's James Young, commended the dedication and positive attitude they bring to the program.

"They're hard workers and they respect the sport," Bruggman said. "I'll use them as examples to the other (Eastmont) swimmers. They're great guys."

The 2018-19 season has gone well so far for the Cashmere athletes, though they had a rough first two weeks of practice adapting to the conditioning and workouts.

"Those first few days are always super rough until you get to the first

meet and then it gets kind of easier," Dotson said. "As you push harder and harder, you can feel yourself get stronger."

Both Dotson and Seidensticker have already qualified for districts in every event they have competed in so far.

Dotson said he is currently working on achieving the qualifying state time for the 100 butterfly. His season goals are to place in the 100 butterfly at state, as well as compete in a second event in state competition.

As for Seidensticker, he is looking to place high at districts and qualify for state competition in 1-2 events.



## Steele Reports: News from State Rep. Mike Steele

### Early January Edition

Over the past few months, I've had the opportunity to meet with several community members, including school district representatives, agricultural workers, and key business leaders. We live in one of the most beautiful areas of the state, filled with caring and generous people. I appreciate each person who shared their thoughts and opinions with me. Those conversations are a vital part of my work in Olympia. Together, we can find solutions tailored to fit our region and values.

### Budget challenges

As we head into the legislative session, there will be a great deal of focus on proposals for the state's 2019-21 operating budget. Fortunately, our healthy economy has produced a more than \$4 billion increase in revenue. Despite this unexpected financial windfall, the governor's budget proposal would require taxpayers to contribute an additional \$9 billion over the next four years. This would be funded in part by a capital gains income tax, in business-tax rates for services, and a "progressive" real-estate excise tax. This plan also calls for an increase in state spending by 75 percent over the next eight years. Taxes of this magnitude could have a chilling effect on our state's recent economic growth.

### Why more spending?

State spending on operating budget items has grown by nearly \$20 billion over the past ten years. You might expect this increased spending has produced better government services. However, state agencies have consistently failed to live up to those expectations. Some examples include Western State Hospital's failure to meet federal standards of safety and care, as well as the early release of 3,200 felons by the Department of Corrections in 2015.

Instead of asking taxpayers for more money, our focus needs to be on delivering existing programs effectively and efficiently. Hard-working individuals and families deserve a government that lives within its means, not more taxes.

### Education

Recently, I was selected as the ranking member for the House Education Committee. For the past few years, this Committee has been in the spotlight as it worked to reform K-12 education funding for the state. I'm excited to tackle this new leadership role.

In 2018, we made sweeping changes to funding for K-12 staff salaries. However, the new funding model—designed to lower school districts reliance on local property taxes to pay teacher and staff salaries—may need to be re-examined and, if necessary, adjusted. In the past few years, we've invested billions of additional funds into K-12 education. However, for some school districts, the dollars are not stretching far enough. We need to dig into the numbers and find out why.

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## Chelan PUD Board affirms plan to meet 2019 performance goals

CHELAN PUD NEWS RELEASE

2019 will be another busy year for Chelan County PUD, commissioners agreed January 7 as they reviewed the District's performance plan outlining more than 70 initiatives under seven strategic objectives.

From writing a new strategic plan for 2020-2024 to continuing to pay down debt and investing in the District's physical assets and people, the 2019 performance plan is based on creating the best value for the most people for the longest period of time.

Repairs and rehab of units at Rocky Reach and in the first powerhouse at Rock Island Dam continue along with planning to modernize the 40-year-old horizontal units in the second powerhouse at Rock Island.

A decision on whether to build a new service center also is expected. A

new customer information and billing system is scheduled for 2019.

Expansion of the PUD's world-class fiber network continues with plans to reach 1,033 more locations this year.

It will be challenging, said General Manager Steve Wright. Each item is individually

identified to create clarity and accountability for highest priority actions, Wright said.

Commissioners thanked staff for committing to the plan, recognizing that the items listed go beyond the daily work of running the PUD.

"I have a great deal of respect for everyone in this room, your staff and the work you do," said board President Garry Arseneault.

"I see people here who like a challenge and rise to the challenge,"

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COURTESY PHOTO.

Re-elected board members Dennis Bolz, left and Randy Smith as they took the oath of office last week. Bolz is starting his fourth, four-year term representing at-large District B. He lives in Wenatchee. Smith, from Cashmere, moves into his third, six-year term representing District. 2. Bolz was joined by his granddaughter Sophie.

## Columbia Riverkeepers suing Cashmere's Crunch Pak

By GARY BÉGIN

As of December, the U.S. District Court for Eastern Washington was in receipt of a lawsuit from a Hood River, Oregon non-profit alleging that Cashmere-based Crunch Pak, LLC, a sliced-apple and snack producer, has discharged pollutants into the Wenatchee River near its headquarters plant and then failed to report those discharges in a timely fashion.

Attempts to reach a company spokesperson have been unsuccessful.

The suit, brought by Columbia

Riverkeeper, specifies three major violations by Crunch Pak to state stormwater permits issued by the



PHOTO BY GARY BÉGIN/NCW MEDIA.

Crunch Pak headquarters in Cashmere

Department of Ecology:

- Released industrial stormwater into the Wenatchee River from 2013 to 2018 which contained more than the allowed amount of pollutants.

- Failed to report these releases on more than one occasion.

- Did not take the corrective action required to fix pollutant levels.

Crunch Pak's attorney J. Patrick Aylward received the complaint from Columbia Riverkeeper last week, but has not returned voice mail inquiries made as late as Monday (press deadline for this week's Cashmere Valley Record).

The suit also wants the court to order the company to work with Columbia Riverkeeper in developing guidelines for its new stormwater permit.

The suit claims 42 benchmark "exceedances," or events where allowed pollutant limits were exceeded. In these alleged instances, too much copper, or other regulated material, was contained in the company's stormwater runoff.

"Riverkeeper," a so-called environmental watchdog group, wants the company to be fined \$37,500 for every day it was allegedly in violation.

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Calling abortion for what it is

42 million children are murdered every year, worldwide. And hardly anyone is batting an eye. Instead, in our own country, we have movie stars and politicians celebrating it and encouraging people to arrogantly shout that they made the choice to murder their own child. Abortion is the leading cause of death in America. When God has designed the mother's womb to be the safest place for the unborn, we have turned it into the most dangerous



A WALK WITH PASTOR JOHN SMITH

environment for a child. 4,000 children die every day in this country because of abortion and 1 in 3 women have made the choice to terminate the life of their baby. Realize these are women that you know, work with, sit next to you in church, who for whatever reason had an abortion. They may have been forced, coerced, or duped, but the result is still the same—a murdered baby. Now I recognize that this issue and using terms like "murder" to describe abortion is far from popular. In fact, surprisingly

enough, some even in pro-life circles cringe at its usage because it is unappealing, choosing to avoid the word altogether. Yet when someone maliciously premeditates the ending of a person's life, legally we call that murder. I ask, why does that language apply to those who are born and not to those still in the womb? It is because we don't really believe that the unborn are people. It is easy to understand why. After all, a 12-week child in utero can't communicate with the outside world. They don't go to school or are learning a trade. They are hidden and tragically denied personhood from most. But in God's eyes, the Imago Dei (the Image of God on humanity) extends to all

people across all stages of development. The fertilized embryo is still as much of a person as a grown adult. The same as a toddler is still as much of a person as the elderly. We don't have the right to determine personhood, that is God's business. Nor do we have the authority to change God's definitions regarding His Law. Abortion, according to God's standard, is murder (Gen. 9:5-6, Exodus 20:13, Rom. 13:9). Plain and simple. And likewise, according to God, those who murder are called murderers. Why call men and women who are involved in abortion "murderers"? Isn't that unloving or unkind? Not in

the least, because we all need to recognize the gravity of sin. When we do, then we can appropriately repent from it. If we continue to soften the Biblical language or God's view on abortion then it remains innocuous and people are left unphased about its grim reality. Not only is calling abortion what it really is, and using Scripture to address this issue important to lead people to repentance, it also helps us understand the power of God's grace. God is in the business of saving sinners—even those who murder their own children. God's grace is greater than all of our sin and that is not to say, excuses the evil of abortion rather it presents

the parents who aborted their baby, hope. Abortion can be forgiven. The gospel can prevail in an individual's life regardless of what they did in the past. That is good news. So, as we approach the 46th anniversary of Roe v. Wade this January and remember the millions of lives taken because of that decision, let us remember to be honest and upfront about what abortion is. And lastly, to point to the gospel of grace that has the power to save and redeem. Pastor John Smith of Evergreen Baptist Church in Cashmere can be reached at pastorjohnsmithbc@gmail.com.

Chelan PUD

Continued from page A1 said Commissioner Ann Congdon. "It's the old adage, 'If you want something done, give it to a busy person.'" Commissioners started the new year with applause for re-

lected board members Dennis Bolz and Randy Smith as they took the oath of office. Bolz is starting his fourth, four-year term representing at-large District B. He lives in Wenatchee. Smith, from Cashmere, moves into his third, six-year term representing District 2.

A forecast for electric load growth of 3.5 percent this year is one of many drivers of the work called for in this year's performance plan, specifically substation planning and construction. In 10 years, the PUD's electric load now of about 200 megawatts is forecast to increase by 48 megawatts.

In other business, commissioners: Were updated on plans for Customer Relations staff training on Jan. 21, Martin Luther King Day. PUD offices are open, but lobbies and customer operations will close so employees all can attend the first training on the new

Customer Information System set to go live in late summer/early fall. Heard that Chelan PUD Sunday sent two crews, flaggers and equipment to help Puget Sound Energy (PSE) restore power to customers left without service after last weekend's windstorm in King and Pierce

counties. Crews and equipment also helped Snohomish PUD and PSE restore service following a December storm, returning home on Christmas Eve. Set a special meeting at 9 a.m. on Jan. 21, before the regular board meeting, for orientation on the BoardEffect paperless boardroom system.

Indoor Tropics a 'specialty gardening' mecca



PHOTO BY KALIE DRAGO/NCW MEDIA.

A glimpse in the room Walter uses to refurbish and display a variety of plants.



PHOTO BY KALIE DRAGO/NCW MEDIA.

A close up of the different types of plants offered. There's something for everyone.



PHOTO BY KALIE DRAGO/NCW MEDIA.

A look at some of the other products offered outside of plants and wholesale items.

By KALIE DRAGO

Located parallel to Highway 97, on Sunburst Lane in Cashmere, is Indoor Tropics, a place that bustles with life - not just in human form. Plants, fertilizer and friendly owners that have strong roots in understanding plants are just some of the things offered at the local gardening specialty store. Indoor Tropics has been a staple in Cashmere since 2008, but in October made a transition to a facility that better serves the needs of the customers and the plants. Owner, Kelsey Walter, explained why the move to what she called the 'showroom' tangent of the business was crucial.

"Now we have plenty of room and I have that area where can I have my refurbished plants waiting their turn to go out again and then I also am able to stock those pallets or truckloads of product," said Walter. "The other location is still our 'warehouse' but the main difference in this spot is that you can display products better." Walter was visibly overflowed with enthusiasm over the store her and her husband started together - and passion about the product they're selling is always a necessary foundation to a thriving business. Her enthusiasm rolled over into her detail and care when it comes to plants and refurbishing

them - that then inspired her to make use of the layout of the new location. When a customer first steps inside Indoor Tropics, they're faced with endless options for fertilizers, pesticides and various other gardening tools. If one were to mill around the corner, they would then be offered plants like a ficus, a fern and 'oddball' plants as Walter's lovingly referred to the funky looking ones. "When we first were going to move into this new place, we were like what are we going to do with this weird area and I go 'I know! We can put the plants there and can be all by themselves there and be more climate controlled,'" said Walter.

Walter clearly crafts and tailors her business to fit what individual customers are searching for. "It's really nice (the layout) because if someone comes in for soil, maybe they're interested in plants but maybe not and just need their garden supplies and leaving," said Walter. So the new layout helps lessen the complication of browsing through aisles that don't fit their need. "It's like a specialty gardening we really cater to," said Walter. However, while majority of sales done is outdoor gardeners, according to Walter, there is something for everyone who has an affinity for horticulture or plants. The store helps

customers find a plant that fits their lifestyle and personality, the store associates will look up questions even they're stumped on and sell items that range from acidic fertilizer for blueberries to ladybugs to help with that apricot tree. There are three entities of the business: houseplants, the hobbyist that's gardening on a small scale (retail), and selling wholesale to farms and nurseries. However, Walter made it clear that regardless of what a customer is looking for, Indoor Tropics continues to grow to help fit those needs. "We really try to help the plant and the customer succeed in their goal of whatever it is that they're trying to do," said Walter.

Crunch Pak

Continued from page A1

Columbia Riverkeeper's motto is, "... working to protect and restore the waters of the Columbia River and all life connected to it, from the headwaters to the Pacific Ocean," according to its website. Another "Riverkeeper" website states, "Columbia Riverkeeper is a team of community organizers, environmental lawyers and scientists fighting for clean water." The group has coordinated legal and protest actions in the past with the Sierra Club and Northwest Environmental Defense, against the Washington State Department of Energy, Hanford Nuclear site, private and public entities as well as other government agencies. Crunch Pak is by far the largest employer in Cashmere and has plants in several other states, producing snack foods paired with its patented sliced-apple product. "Crunch Pak is the industry leader in fresh pre-sliced apple packs. Your healthy snack on the go that is both nutritious and delicious," states the company's website. Last summer "Riverkeeper" sued Chelan County PUD for polluting the Columbia River by discharging toxic water at its Rock Island Dam site. The PUD had no comment at the time.

UPPER VALLEY CHURCH GUIDE New to our area? On vacation? These churches welcome you! TO PLACE INFORMATION IN THE CHURCH GUIDE CALL 548-5286 CASHMERE CASHMERE BAPTIST CHURCH, CASHMERE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, CASHMERE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, CHRIST CENTER, DRYDEN DRYDEN COMMUNITY CHURCH, MID-VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH, LEAVENWORTH CASCADE MOUNTAIN BIBLE CHURCH, AWANA, COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST, CORNERSTONE BIBLE CHURCH, CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS, FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA, SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH, SPIRIT LIFE CENTER, MONITOR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, PESHASTIN LIGHT IN THE VALLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH, PESHASTIN ASSEMBLY OF GOD, NEW LIFE FOURSQUARE CHURCH, GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH, OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION, FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LEAVENWORTH, SBC, LEAVENWORTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE, OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION



PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

Grantor: Patrick O'Reilly
Current beneficiary of the deed of trust: Maple Valley Capital, LLC
Current trustee of the deed of trust: David Kazemba
Current mortgage servicer of the deed of trust: WADOT Capital, Inc.

Reference number of the deed of trust: 2267354
Parcel number(s): 241905220050
I. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned Trustee will on the 25th day of January, 2019, at the hour of 10:00 o'clock A.M. at the main entrance to the Chelan County Courthouse, 350 Orondo St., Wenatchee, WA 98801 in the City of Wenatchee, State of Washington, sell at public auction to the highest and best bidder, payable at the time of sale, the following described real property, situated in the County of Chelan, State of Washington, to-wit:

LOT 3B AS DELINEATED ON THAT CERTAIN SURVEY RECORDED MAY 23, 1996 IN BOOK 35 OF SURVEYS PAGE 50, BEING A PORTION OF THE WEST HALF AND THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 5, TOWNSHIP 24 NORTH, RANGE 19 EAST OF THE WILLAMETTE MERIDIAN, CHELAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON.

which is subject to that certain Deed of Trust dated October 3, 2007 and recorded October 5, 2007, under Auditor's File No 2267354, records of Chelan County, Washington, from Patrick O'Reilly, as Grantor, to Land America Transnation Title Insurance Company, as Trustee, to secure an obligation in favor of WADOT Capital Inc, as Beneficiary, the beneficial interest of which was assigned to Maple Valley Capital, LLC, by Assignment recorded October 5, 2007, under Chelan County Auditor's File No. 2267355.

II. No action commenced by the Beneficiary of the Deed of Trust is now pending to seek satisfaction of the obligation in any Court by reason of the Borrower's or Grantor's default on the obligation secured by the Deed of Trust.

III. The default(s) for which this foreclosure is made is/are as follows: Failure to pay when due the following amounts which are now in arrears:

Table with financial details: Principal Balance \$74,447.70, Unpaid Interest \$3.00, 24% default per diem interest of \$49.63 for 10/1/2017 - 1/25/2019, Loan modification fee per Sec 2.1 of August, 2010 first loan modification \$1,650.00, etc.

Total amount in arrears excluding unpaid fees/ costs \$117,402.82

(together with any subsequent payments, late charges, advances, costs and fees due hereafter)

IV. The sum owing on the obligation secured by the Deed of Trust is: principal of \$74,447.70, together with interest as provided in the note or other instrument secured from the 2nd day of October, 2007, and such other costs and fees as are due under the note or other instrument secured, and as are provided by statute. Interest and late charges may continue to accrue and additional advances to your loan may be made. It is necessary to contact the servicer or Trustee prior to the time you tender the payoff amount so that you may be advised of the exact amount you would be required to pay.

V. The above-described real property will be sold to satisfy the expense of sale and the obligation secured by the Deed of Trust as provided by statute. The sale will be made without warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances on the 25th day of January, 2019. The default(s) referred to in paragraph III must be cured by the 14th day of January, 2019 (11 days before the sale date), to cause a discontinuance of the sale. The sale will be discontinued and terminated if at any time on or before the 14th day of January, 2019 (11 days before the sale date), the default(s) as set forth in paragraph III is/are cured and the Trustee's fees and costs are paid. The sale may be terminated any time after the 14th day of January, 2019 (11 days before the sale date), and before the sale by the Borrower, Grantor, any Guarantor, or the holder of any recorded junior lien or encumbrance paying the entire principal and interest secured by the Deed of Trust, plus costs, fees, and advances, if any, made pursuant to the terms of the obligation and/or Deed of Trust, and curing all other defaults.

VI. A written notice of default was transmitted by the Beneficiary or Trustee to the Borrower and Grantor at the following addresses:

Patrick O'Reilly
PO Box 244
Cashmere, WA 98815

Patrick O'Reilly
9610 N Fork Rd.
9610 Olalla Canyon Rd.
Cashmere, WA 98815

by both first-class and certified mail on the 29th day of August, 2018, proof of which is in the possession of the Trustee; and the Borrower and Grantor were personally served on the 31st day of August, 2018, with said written notice of default or the written notice of default was posted in a conspicuous place on the real property described in paragraph I above, and the Trustee has possession of proof of such service or posting.

VII. The Trustee whose name and address are set forth below will provide in writing to anyone requesting it, a statement of all costs and fees due at any time prior to the sale.

VIII. The effect of the sale will be to deprive the Grantor and all those who hold by, through or under the Grantor of all their interest in the above-described property.

IX. Anyone having any objection to the sale on any grounds whatsoever will be afforded an opportunity to be heard as to those objections if they bring a lawsuit to restrain the sale pursuant to RCW 61.24.130. Failure to bring such a lawsuit may result in a waiver of any proper grounds for invalidating the Trustee's sale.

X. NOTICE TO OCCUPANTS OR TENANTS: The purchaser at the trustee's sale is entitled to possession of the property on the 20th day following the sale, as against the grantor under the deed of trust (the owner) and anyone having an interest junior to the deed of trust, including occupants who are not tenants. After the 20th day following the sale the purchaser has the right to evict occupants who are not tenants by summary proceedings under chapter 59.12 RCW. For tenant-occupied property, the purchaser shall provide a tenant with written notice in accordance with RCW 61.24.060

Dated this 22nd day of October 2018

/s/

David A. Kazemba, Successor Trustee
Address: Overcast Law Offices, PS
23 S. Wenatchee Ave., Suite 320
Wenatchee, WA 98801
(509) 663 5588

Published in The Leavenworth Echo/ Cashmere Valley Record on December 26, 2018 , and January 16, 2019. #83475

CHELAN COUNTY SHERIFF, FIRE & EMS REPORTS

Leavenworth
January 4
05:14 Disturbance, 817 Commercial St.
11:37 Disturbance, 707 US Hwy 2, Black Orchid.
13:46 Public assist, 517 Birch St.
15:36 Theft, 185 US Hwy 2.
18:00 Disturbance, Front & 8th Streets.
22:07 Traffic offense, US Hwy 2 & Front St.
22:09 Public assist, 9191 Icicle Rd.
January 5
07:58 Parking/abandon, 2467 Salal Dr., Lake Wenatchee.
10:21 Suspicious, Icicle Ridge Trailhead.
11:16 Accident, no injury, 585 US Hwy 2, Icicle 76.
16:46 Traffic offense, Sumac Ln. & Chiwawa Loop Rd.
16:58 Vehicle prowl, 347 Division St.
18:56 DUI, Saunders Rd. & US Hwy 2., Peshastin.
19:06 Juvenile problem, 10600 Titus Rd.
20:32 Suspicious, 228 Chumstick Hwy.
21:12 Fireworks, 17500 Blk River Rd., Plain.
21:14 Domestic disturbance, 15361 US Hwy 2, 59er Diner.
January 6
00:15 Noise, 34491 US Hwy 2, Stevens Pass.
00:36 Disturbance, 843 Front St., The Loft.
04:44 Hazard, Chumstick Hwy

11:43 Parking/abandon, 18135 River Rd., Plain.
12:12 Parking/abandon, 617 Front St.
14:22 Traffic offense, Chumstick Hwy Mp 1.
14:34 Accident, no injury, 10190 Chumstick Hwy.
14:36 Trespass, 10190 Chumstick Hwy.
15:44 Disturbance, US Hwy 2 & River Bend Dr.
16:51 Civil, 817 Commercial St.
17:55 Domestic disturbance, 11687 Sunitsch Canyon Rd.
18:01 Civil, 7400 US Hwy 97, Peshastin.
18:04 Traffic offense, 18226 Chumstick Hwy.
18:43 Trespass, 1016 Commercial St.
January 10
08:34 Accident unknown, 2805 Mission Ridge Rd.
09:15 Public assist, 0Blk Camas Creek Rd., Peshastin.
13:57 Hazard, Titus Rd. & Pine St.
17:44 Animal problem, 12th & Commercial St.
18:12 911, 12790 Fish Hatchery Rd.
20:14 Parking/abandon, 8746 Icile Rd.
21:02 Suspicious, 24611 Spur St., Plain.
22:57 Domestic disturbance, 21000 Morgan St., Plain.
22:59 Suspicious, Icicle Rd. Mp 1.
Cashmere
January 4
00:38 Public assist, 302 Fisher St. #107.
04:18 DUI 4000Blk Mission Creek Rd.
10:49 Traffic offense, 300 Aplets Way, Hometown Market.
12:21 Accident, no injury, 5710 Vale Rd.
13:50 Welfare check, 6125 Hay Canyon Rd.

January 5
14:17 Suspicious, 302 Fisher St.
19:00 Trespass, 302 Fisher St.
20:20 Animal problem, 7115 Stine Hill Rd.
January 6
03:30 Welfare check, 4783 Valley St.
04:33 Animal problem, 6125 Hay Canyon Rd.
14:15 Suicide threat, 3601 Selfs Motel Rd. #3.
17:06 Drugs, 201 Riverside Dr.
January 7
13:59 Theft, 300 Sunset Hwy, Crunch Pak.
16:05 Accident, no injury, 329 Tigner Rd., Cashmere High School.
18:29 Court order violation, 300 Paton St. #A.
January 8
00:45 Animal problem, 5401 Hinman Dr.
02:17 Parking/abandon, 225 Independence Way.
02:34 Warrant, 346 Sunset Hwy.
12:07 Trespass, 302 Fisher St.
13:14 Traffic offense, 108 1/2 Cottage Ave., Club Crow.
18:23 Disturbance, 319 Tigner Rd.
January 9
02:49 Vehicle theft, 708 Rusty Spur Ln.
07:17 Hazard, 0Blk Sunburst Ln.
08:31 Trespass, 201 Cottage Ave., Weed Cafe.
12:59 Parking/abandon, Pine Flats Loop Rd.
13:31 Public assist, 5069 Mission Creek Rd.
15:07 Welfare check, 4680 Mission Creek Rd.
16:28 Court order violation, 300 Tigner Rd., Cashmere Middle School.
19:28 Court order violation, 5701 Evergreen Dr.

Taking thyroid medicines

Q: On the bottle of my thyroid medicine it says to take it in the morning on an empty stomach. But sometimes I forget to take it until after I've started my breakfast. Is it still safe to take it then?

My mother also took a thyroid replacement medicine, called levothyroxine, and her prescription bottle said to take it 30 minutes before breakfast. She was constantly worrying about what might happen if she didn't take it "correctly".



bedtime. Since her dinner was at 6 pm, it was usually more than 4 hours since her last meal.

She appreciated sleeping in, having a cup of coffee or tea before her breakfast, and only having to remember to take her medicine twice daily. "It's a relief to have less to keep track of, and it's wonderful to have more energy!"

Here are 6 Tips on Getting the Most from Taking Your Levothyroxine:

1. Take it at the same time every day if possible. You can take levothyroxine with breakfast as long as you always take it that way. The amount you absorb from each tablet may be lower, but as long as it is taken the same way, it can work, because your dose is adjusted to what you need.

2. Watch out for coffee and tea. Coffee and tea can decrease the amount of levothyroxine you absorb by about 30%, so it's important to be consistent in whether you drink coffee and tea or with your medicine.

3. Try taking it at bedtime. If it has been at least 4 hours since your last meal, you will absorb all of your medicine.

4. Don't skip your dose completely. Take it anyway, even with food or coffee. Getting even SOME of your thyroid medicine absorbed is FAR better than getting none!

5. Watch out for minerals. Calcium and iron supplements as well as multivitamins with minerals should be spaced out 4 hours from your dose of levothyroxine. An easy way to do this is to take your multivitamins or mineral supplements at your lunch or dinner meal.

6. You can take your bone building medicine and thyroid medicine together. If you take alendronate (Fosamax®) first thing in the morning as well as levothyroxine for thyroid replacement, it's been shown that it's fine to take them both at the same time.

Dr. Louise Achey, Doctor of Pharmacy is a 40-year veteran of pharmacology and author of Why Dogs Can't Eat Chocolate: How Medicines Work and How YOU Can Take Them Safely. Your questions and comments are always welcome at www.AskDrLouise.com

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# Horticulture 2019

## 73rd Lake Chelan Horticulture Day

### January 21, 2019

#### Lake Chelan Horticulture Day in its 73rd year



LCM File Photo  
Chris Willoughby, left, and Dan Mogan, middle, both of Manson, talk shop with Luis Guerrero, right, of Johnny's Ladders at the 2017 annual Horticulture Day held at Chelan High School.

#### Jan. 21 at Chelan High School PAC

BY DIANA PIÑON  
STAFF WRITER

CHELAN - For its 73rd year, the Chelan Horticulture Day will take place on Monday, Jan. 21. Chelan FutureFarmers of America (FFA) and Washington State University Extension will be co-sponsoring the event, which will begin at 8:30 a.m. with registration, announcements and a FFA introduction.

the opportunity to learn and network by attending nine different panels and presentations offered at Chelan High School throughout Hort Day. The presentations will be given by specialists in 30 minute blocks.

**Jan. 21**  
**8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.**  
**Chelan High School**  
**215 Webster Avenue**

**Vendors will set up shop as part of this year's trade show**

**See full agenda on page B2**

After registration people will have the chance to hear from Hannah Walters on how to manage little cherry virus. Following her presentation, Nick Ibuki will take over and inform the public on the different cherry varieties.

SEE 73RD HORT ON PAGE B2

#### Water, wages, labor, trade lead 2019 ag agenda

BY MIKE MALTAIS  
STAFF WRITER

BREWSTER - January 2019 is a busy month for Jon Wyss, Government Affairs Analyst for Gebbers Farms as he reviews the lineup of regulatory issues to monitor this year and gets his calendar in order for the many conferences and committees he will attend.



Jon Wyss serves as Government Affairs Analyst for Gebbers Farms.

Wyss sits on the American Farm Bureau Labor Committee Board, is vice president of USA Farmers, and serves as chairman of the Okanogan County Long Term Recovery Group among other duties. In mid-January he was scheduled to speak at an Oregon state labor convention on behalf of the Washington Farm Labor Association.

planning and administration.

"When they redo the WRIA for all the water, how it gets used in mitigation measures for home and building and construction, the only water to mitigate is ag," Wyss said.

The WRIAs were established by the Department of Ecology (DOE) after the state Legislature approved the Watershed Management Act in 1998. The state Supreme Court's HIRST decision in October 2016 that restricted the way counties approve new water wells hit hardest in rural counties like Okanogan. Senate bill 6091 passed by the Legislature in January 2018 to ensure water availability to support development was the state's HIRST fix but requires WRIAs like Okanogan to update their watershed plans in accordance with new guidelines.

Wyss, a member of the all-volunteer 33-person watershed planning unit

WATER  
"Water is the lifeblood of everything," said Wyss. "I like to say that the West was settled with water and a gun, and the gun was optional."

Wyss said that Okanogan County and agriculture are going to face a big challenge as the Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) is addressed this year. Okanogan County is WRIA 49, one of 62 in Washington state for water resource

SEE WATER ON PAGE B2

#### A look inside the Viticulture class at Chelan High School

BY DIANA PIÑON  
STAFF WRITER

CHELAN - The very first viticulture class in Washington State to be offered to high school juniors and seniors happened in Chelan during the 2017-2018 school year.

Two years previous the class starting, Chelan High School's Associate Principal and CTE Director Crosby Carpenter and Julie Pittsinger, owner of Karma Vineyards got together and brainstormed on the idea of having the kids participate in the thriving industry of wine in Chelan.

Carpenter in 2016, contacted the state's Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to share the idea of teaching a plant and soils class and turning it into a viticulture type class.

Interestingly enough the OSPI board was in the process of thinking about writing a viticulture framework. From there Carpenter along with other educators worked on creating standards and units for the class.

"We were the first high school in the state of Washington to roll that out as a full class ... once we knew we were able to run the class we called Julie and other industry partners, Rocky Pond Winery," explained Carpenter.

The class now in its second year, takes place during the first semester of the school year and it's a five days a week class. On Tuesdays and Thursdays the class starts at 7 a.m. and the kids are usually out in the vineyards, production facilities or at the winery.

One of the unique things about being a part of the viticulture class is that it serves as a dual credit for students enrolling at Yakima Valley College. "They get three to five credits as long as they get a B or better," Carpenter said.

The class also gives students a credit equivalency for a science lab class, "it counts as a graduation



Photos courtesy of Chelan High School's Facebook  
ABOVE: Viticulture students worked the sparkling wine bottling like at Karma Vineyard's processing facility in Entiat. The wine is fermented in the bottle with the yeast and then the yeasts gets removed in this process, the machine helping put in the final cork to the highly pressurized liquid.  
BELOW: Students in Viticulture braved the cold along the Columbia River by removing grow tubes from young grape vine plants. The grow tubes protect the young vines from critters and from farm equipment, as well as holding in moisture and warmth.



requirement," clarified Carpenter.

To Crosby living in Chelan is a unique opportunity. "We can really capitalize on our local resources which are great, without partners

like Rocky Pond and Karma there's no way we would be able to do this," he said.

Rocky Pond has donated a block of land down by the Columbia River which is now the Chelan High School

Viticulture Teaching and Learning Vineyard. So far, the kids have been working on that piece of land. Yet there's a few years ahead before it

SEE CLASS ON PAGE B3

#### Learning about Chelan's Viticulture Class with April Slagle

BY DIANA PIÑON  
STAFF WRITER

CHELAN - Running the Viticulture Class at Chelan High School for the second year is April Slagle. "I had the idea and we had the right person at the right time," said Chelan High School's Associate Principal and CTE Director Crosby Carpenter. Slagle teaches the 14 students who are currently enrolled in the class, throughout the 90 day semester which begins at the end of August and wraps up towards the end of January.

The Lake Chelan Mirror was able to contact Slagle and ask her a couple of questions regarding her Viticulture experiences and the class.

How did you get involved with the Viticulture class?

I have a certification in Agriculture for Career Tech Ed in Washington and Crosby Carpenter asked me if I'd teach it ... said yes.

What is your background in Viticulture?

Very little to begin with

... parents had grapes (Concord) on our farm growing up but not cultivated for wine or juice -- just eating. Learned a lot these two years along with the kids from the really great community partners we have, Rocky Pond and Shane Collins, and Karma Vineyards and Julie Pittsinger. They both help run high class operations that employ lots of local folks and provide interesting opportunities to young folks.



April Slagle, LCSO Viticulture Class teacher

What are some of the things students get to do in the class?

Students get to work alongside the regular workers in the vineyards harvesting grapes, scouting for diseases and pests, learning about the installation and maintenance of vineyards across the span of one year, season to season;

they work in the winery to learn about the processes of taking grapes and making them into wine; they take field trips to visit other local vineyards and wineries, as well as visit 14 Hands Winery in Prosser and the massive grape orchards in the south of Washington so that they can compare and contrast their experiences; they learn about different careers and jobs that are available in the fields of Viticulture and Enology around the globe by seeing those various people working in those jobs directly or by hearing those in the field talk about people they have hired or they work with in this field.

How do students like the class?

It gets good reviews for the content they are learning. However, some of the kids

don't like getting up early two times per week to go out to the vineyards and wineries generally at 7 a.m. The students do like "doing" the things that they are asked to do in the winery and in the vineyards, whether picking grapes, packing cider, or being a grunt on the sparkling wine bottling line.

How do you think this class will help students in the future?

It introduces them to another career pathway and in this career pathway, there is room for everyone ... from someone who wants to work hands on in farming crops directly to being a sommelier and talking about wine details in upscale restaurants to customer; from planning and preparing for events at the winery to carrying out the science of chemistry and microbiology in the wineries to generate good products; from the art and science of being a winemaker who creates a likable and drinkable product to the business of marketing and selling that product to the world.

# 73rd Annual Lake Chelan Horticultural Meeting

January 21, 2019 • Chelan High School

Co-sponsored by:  
WSU Extension and Chelan High School FFA

- 8:30 – 9:00 a.m. Registration, Announcements, FFA Introduction
- 9:00 – 9:30 a.m. Managing Little Cherry Virus\* – Hannah Walters, Stemilt
- 9:30 – 9:55 a.m. Cherry Varieties – Summerland – Nick Ibuki, Summerland Varieties Corp
- 10:00 – 10:20 a.m. Coffee Break
- 10:20-10:50 a.m. Blue Orchard Bees for Improving Pollination\* Natalie Boyle, USDA ARS
- 10:50-11:15 a.m. Assembling the Pear IPM Toolbox\* Louis Nottingham, Chris Strohm, WSU Extension TFREC
- 11:15 -11:45 a.m. Using Native Covers to Attract Beneficial Predators and Pollinators\* – David James, WSU Prosser
- Noon-1 p.m. Lunch: Support Chelan FFA – Join us for Lunch!
- 1:00-1:30 p.m. Getting Produce Safety Rule Ready for 2019 – Faith Critzer, WSU Food Safety Specialist
- 1:30-2:00 p.m. d'Anjou Pear Sorting by Predicting Dry Matter and its Effect on Consumer Preference – Sara Serra, WSU Horticulture
- 2:00-2:30 p.m. Blossom Thinning – 50 years of research & reminders – Tory Schmidt, Tree Fruit Research Commission
- 2:30-3:00 p.m. Managing Post Harvest Diseases\* – Achour Amiri, WSU Plant Pathology
- 3:00 p.m. Pesticide Credits and Closing

- \* 3 pesticide education credits will be awarded for program attendance – WSDA approved.
- \* Extension programs and employment are available without discrimination. Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through your local Extension office.
- \* If you are interested in joining our trade show contact: Bailey Dezzillum dezellemb@chelanschools.org 509-860-1950. Proceeds benefit the Future Farmers of America Scholarship.

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said the group is just getting started and is required to have its work completed in 2020. The working group of six principal stakeholders includes municipal water rights holders, tribal, private water rights holders, initiating governments, organizations such as Farm Bureau, well drillers, and Land Trust, and interests such as landowners, timber, and environmental entities.

"It's going to be a big one to watch for the entire year," said Wyss. "The Methow (WRIA 48) is fine and was left alone but Ecology has closed the entire French Creek Basin to all wells, including cattle."

**LABOR**

"Labor is always a top priority," said Wyss. "It's important to remember the economy of scale of what ag creates. For every ag job there are five created down the line."

Wyss cited the uptick in H-2A applications filed so far this year to illustrate the labor crunch.

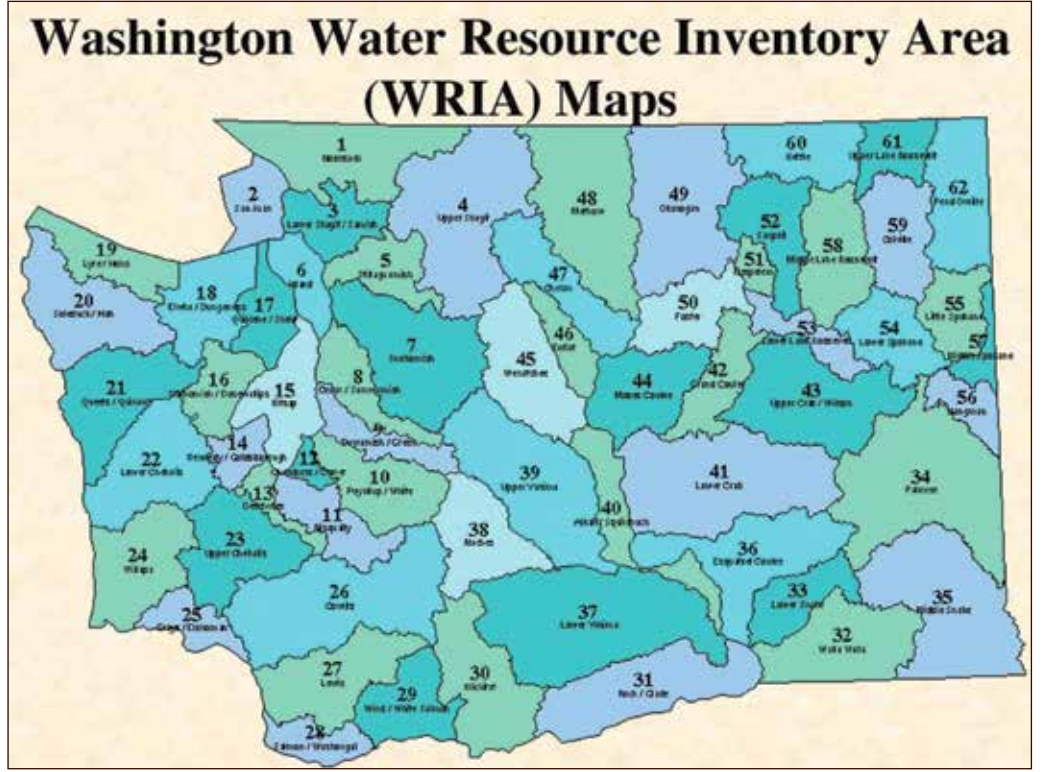
"In 2007 we had 31 applications," said Wyss. "Right now, there are 65, more than double 2007 in just the first month of the year."

Wyss said that last year more than 24,000 workers came into the state under the H-2A program, nearly a third of the 96,000 that were needed.

"You can't even use that (H-2A) program until you get a certificate that says you tried to hire everybody locally within the area of intended employment," Wyss said.

The growth in the number of applications reflects the growing number of employers who have tried. With unemployment in the state at an all-time low and 315,000 new jobs looking to be filled, "the economy is humming," Wyss said.

A related concern is a new bill proposed by the Employment Security Department (ESD) that employers using the federal H-2A route pony up an



Map courtesy of Washington State Conservation Commission  
**Washington state has 62 Water Resource Inventory Areas. Okanogan is No. 49 and Methow No. 48.**

additional \$100 per worker and \$1,000 per application to process them.

"If that passes it will be hugely harmful for everyone who tries to use legal labor because it will just add more costs," said Wyss. "(ESD) already gets money from the federal government to run and manage the program."

The H-2A guest worker program first appeared in 1952 and was modified in 1986 for uncapped numbers of ag temp workers and capped numbers for other industries. It allows U.S. employers to import foreign nationals to perform full time and season ag work.

**WAGES**

Initiative 1433 passed by the voters in 2016 raised the minimum wage for both ag and non-ag workers incrementally to \$11.50 in 2018, \$12 in 2019, and \$13.50 in 2020.

"January 1, family medical leave started being withheld from peoples' paychecks for one year; a portion from both employee and a portion from the employer," said Wyss. "They will collect all

that money and on January 1 of 2020 they'll be able to start pulling money from that fund."

Wyss is also watching what California laws are doing because Washington state often follows suit.

"California did away with the exemption for overtime in agriculture and California agriculture has been decimated from that," said Wyss who is concerned that the state Legislature may consider a similar measure down the road. "There's no overtime in ag right now unless you're handling someone else's product."

Wyss said the added expenses are a concern because "prices at the store are not going up to cover the increase in costs."

**TARIFFS & TRADE**

Washington is one of the most trade-dependent states in the nation," Wyss said emphasizing the need for access to markets. "We're No. 1 in 13 ag commodities and they all get exported whether it be domestic or international."

Wyss said access to ports

is a critical component of that flow.

"The (2015 West Coast) port shutdown was brutal for ag because they couldn't move their product" said Wyss "and this year the negotiation is for the New York ports."

Wyss said tariffs are another big challenge but if future agreements result in terms similar to the reworked North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) the market for ag products should improve apace. Now called the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) the new accord increases the hourly wages Mexico is now required to pay its automotive workers to \$16 an hour.

"And the minimum wage is mandated at \$5 an hour," said Wyss, "Mexico's never had that."

Wyss believes the rise in real wages for Mexican workers will reduce the numbers of those coming to the U.S. for work., reduce the need for foreign aid, and increase the demand for U.S. products.

"It fixes a lot of problems," Wyss said.

## Learn why the Douglas County Voluntary Stewardship Program helps you avoid additional regulations

By AARON ROSENBLUM, WSU

WENATCHEE/EAST WENATCHEE-The Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP) provides a non-regulatory, incentive-based method of critical area protection on lands that intersect agricultural activities. VSP is an alternative to the traditional method to protect critical areas, which is to enforce regulations adopted

under Critical Area Ordinances of the Growth Management Act (GMA). The five critical areas the GMA identifies are: (1) fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas (2) wetlands (3) geologically hazardous areas (4) frequently flooded areas (5) areas with a critical recharging effect on aquifers used for potable water.

Tree fruit growers of Douglas County, this program affects

you. Want to learn more? Foster Creek Conservation District, in conjunction with the VSP work group, will be available at the following events to meet you and answer your VSP questions:

- Tree Fruit Days (apple and cherry days) at the Wenatchee Convention Center. Come see our booth and visit us during the luncheons.
- Douglas County VSP kick-

off workshop on Wednesday, Feb. 27, 2019 from 2:00-3:30 pm at the Douglas County PUD auditorium located at 1151 Valley Mall Pkwy, East Wenatchee, WA 98802. (RSVPs appreciated but not required)

More information and resources for producers can be found online at <http://www.fostercreekcd.org/programs/voluntary-stewardship-program>

## 73rd HORT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

At 10:00 a.m. there will be a 20 minute coffee break to keep the energy before moving on to Natalie Boyle's block time. Boyle will hit on the topic of Blue Orchard bees for improving pollination.

From the WSU Extension TFREC Loius Nottingham and colleague Chris Strohm

will transition into talking about the assembly of the pear IPM toolbox.

Continuing on with the WSU presenters, David Hames of Prosser will quickly describe the use of native covers to attract beneficial predators and pollinators.

Lunch will be served in support of Chelan FFA from noon to 1:00 p.m.

Once lunch is over, WSU Food Safety Specialist Faith

Critzer will stand in front of the attendees and present information on getting produce safety rule ready for 2019. Sara Serra also from WSU at 1:30 p.m. will lead her talk titled, "d'Anjou Pear Sorting by Predicting Dry Matter and its Effect on Consumer Preference."

Tory Schmidt of Tree Fruit Research will be in charge of the second to last presentation. Schmidt will review blossom thinning

after 50 years of research and will go over some reminders.

In the closing session people will learn about managing post-harvest diseases by WSU Plant Pathologist Achour Amiri.

Three pesticide education credits will be awarded for program attendance at the end of the event, followed by closing remarks.

Hort Day at Chelan High School is free of charge and open to the public.

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Photos courtesy of Chelan High School's Facebook  
**ABOVE:** Viticulture students presenting their ideas for Cider labels at Karma Vineyards. Students were learning the legal requirements for marketing wine and hard cider, as well as designing their own labels for non-alcoholic cider that Karma will donate to the Viticulture students as a fundraiser. Pictured presenting is Martin Castro, Lucas and Alex Neri, as well as Pam the district viticulture bus driver.  
**BELOW:** Viticulture students gained knowledge on sparkling wine at Karma Vineyard's processing facility in Entiat.



**CLASS**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

starts to bear fruit.  
 "I committed to being there a couple days a week in the mornings and walk the kids through everything," said Pittsinger.

As she describes, "they get to witness the whole picture from beginning to end." From the growing to picking, to the cultivating of the vines, the crushing of the grapes and everything in between to the marketing side Pittsinger is there to teach the kids.

Pittsinger is in charge of the practical work and allows the kids to have hands on experiences. For example, the kids in the viticulture class get to draw bottle labels which then are submitted to the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB).

Seeing kids find a passion is why Pittsinger does this. "life is about finding something that keeps you up at night that is so exciting."

Learning about the industry opens a lot of doors to many of these kids in the future, "there are 37 potential jobs at my winery that they can do,



**Crosby Carpenter, Chelan High School's Associate Principal and CTE Director** from accounting all the way to wine making ... they had no idea that those were the opportunities," said Pittsinger.

She says her goal as a partner to the Lake Chelan School District is to get the kids to see the true vision of what the wine industry is.

The class has also participated in field trips to other local wineries in which they get to hear the story behind the winery and see other business perspectives.

Carpenter would like the viticulture class to grow into another class that is more science focused in which kids will get the chance to understand fermentation and the science behind it. "We are waiting to see where this is going to go," he said.

**A mother, daughter duo talks agriculture**

By KALIE DRAGO  
 STAFF WRITER

PESHASTIN - Circa 1905, a family business was planted and now over a hundred years later, Teri and Rachel Miller are two women who keep the Miller Orchard prospering. Teri married Charles Miller in 1983, who was the fourth generation to run the orchard and Rachel is their daughter, which makes her the 5th generation to operate the orchard.

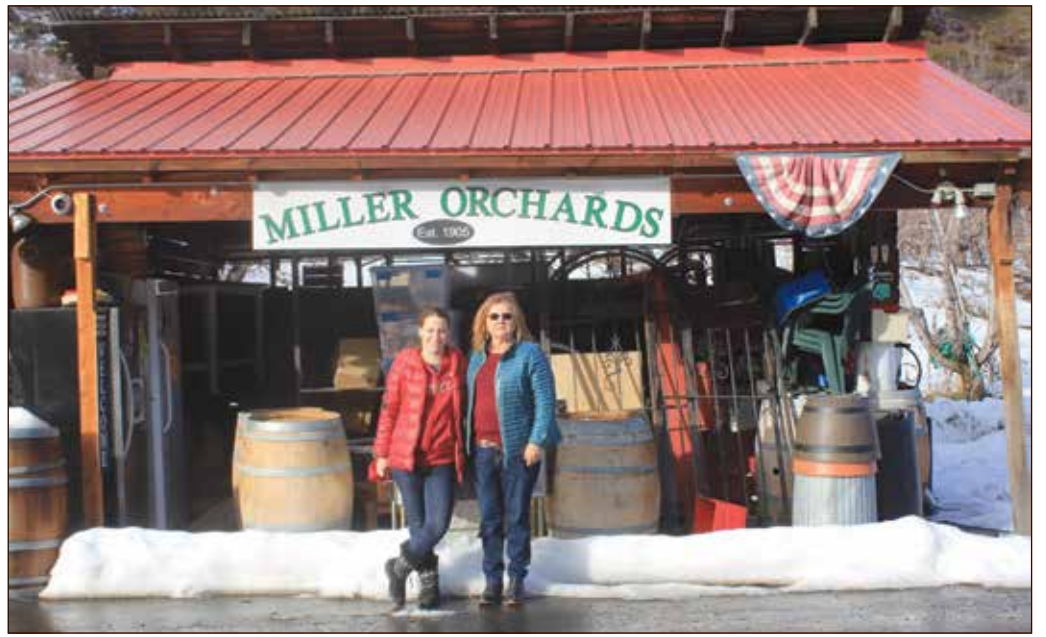
During May through November the farm is open to any guests who want to purchase produce from local asparagus, apples, pears, cherries, nectarines, plums and eggs - and have the luxury of getting greeted by the family's dogs.

"My favorite group of visitors are the AKC dog people and seeing all of the unique breeds, we're dog people," said Rachel.

The duo not only shares a love for dogs, but simultaneously answered their favorite perk of running the orchard

"(What I enjoy most about running the orchard) is being your own boss and meeting diverse groups of people," said Teri.

Despite being a historically male dominated industry,



Rachel (left) and Teri (right) Miller smile in front of their fruit stand.

Photo by Kalie Drago

there are now more women in farming and agriculture than ever, Miller women included.

"(For young women wanting to go into agriculture) go for it, study STEM related programs. It's a hard industry to get into," said Teri Miller.

Rachel is no stranger to studying her trade and all the components within it. She followed in her father's footsteps and studied at Washington State University. Rachel also got

the jump on her agriculture profession when she was younger by going to the local farmers market and selling cherries, eggs and eventually brought along chicks because her eggs were selling out so quickly - she was one of the first ones in the state to sell eggs at a farmers market.

"It can be a steep learning curve. It's trial and error and it's a lifestyle," said Rachel.

Rachel doesn't tolerate

errors when it comes to food safety though. She travels to farms and performs audits regarding food safety.

"It's my way of giving back to the industry in the area, to become an auditor," said Rachel. "Farmers are happy when I show up."

With 30 acres, a lot of diligence studying farming and apparent passion for what they do, the mother daughter duo clearly are invested in their business and agriculture as a whole.

**DW Orchards: husband and wife duo first generation farmers**

SUBMITTED BY  
 KATHY DRINKWATER,  
 DW ORCHARDS

ORONDO - I grew up in Manson, vast majority of work options for kids to make money was local farms; raking brush, thinning, irrigation and harvest help. In the winter I helped my mom after hours cleaning at the Manson Growers apple warehouse.

My Husband Earl and I purchased our first two orchards in 1982, Earl was working as a foreman for local Grower Harold Hawkins and I was working in banking at Central Washington Bank. From there I had the great opportunity to help start a new bank in town with a focus to service and support local area farmers, North Cascades National Bank until retiring at the end of 2000.

Earl and I are first generation farmers, we always wanted to stay in the Lake Chelan area, at that time we believed our best option for success was to buy and control our own farming operation.

In 1989, we purchased an



Submitted by Kathy Drinkwater  
 Kathy and Earl Drinkwater with their kids Laurel and Adam at the farm.

orchard and land to develop

and moved from Chelan to Douglas County on the Columbia River near Orondo where we have worked over the years planting, grafting and growing several different varieties of apple and cherries while raising our two kids Adam and Laurel.

At DW Orchards, we currently have four full-time employees, this increases to between eight and 15 during the growing season.

Our goal is to farm profitably and someday debt free,

hopefully while maintaining a healthy quality of life, which includes lots of play time with our new first grandbaby Jillian.

I have great opportunity to work with women and men in our industry developing my positions as a local farmer, Chelan Fruit Cooperative Board Member and as a contractor helping farmers comply and deal with internationally required Global Gap Inspections and compliance for farms and

farmers.

I believe there is tremendous opportunities for young women and young men as long as they are willing to work. Earl and I started our working life doing what it takes to get the job done, that's how we raised our two children. We started with regular jobs and worked our way into a quality of life we are proud of. We had great mentors, advisors and help along the way. When the opportunity becomes available to us we pay that help forward.

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## North Central Washington Packing Sheds

### Blue Bird Inc.

A peek inside the 105 year old fruit packer - Blue Bird Inc.

By KALIE DRAGO  
STAFF WRITER

**PESHASTIN / WENATCHEE** - There is no shortage of fruit, fruit stands or fruit packers in the Upper Valley. And celebrating its 105th anniversary is a local fruit packer - Blue Bird Inc. has been around since 1913 in the original location in Peshastin. Formerly known simply as Peshastin Fruit Growers, in the mid to late 1990s, the company decided to rebrand as the well known Blue Bird Inc.

The main corporate location has remained in Peshastin despite evolving into a large scale corporation with additions and tweaks over the years. One major addition to the company was a Wenatchee plant where the dedicated organic line is. The plant also houses the cherry line.

Blue Bird has not only kept business stable over the course of time, but has kept business flourishing and expanding. In 2018, combining conventional and organic products, the



Photo by Kalie Drago  
**Pears being rinsed off before heading to the next step prior to be packed.**

company sold 1.8 million pears and 1.5 million apples. In the past 2018 summer, the company packed 1.1 million cherries. Also not to be forgotten, is that in the summer Blue Bird also packs some apricots as well.

According to President Ron Gonsalves, the company has a total of 250 growers that they service along with non-member growers that

also contribute additional numbers.

"Those growers geographically range from the Canadian border all the way to Southern Washington, Oregon border," said Gonsalves.

With an impressive line of pears, apples and cherries along with packing a full line of organics as well, the oldest co-operative in Central Washington stays



flushed with business. Taking a glance around the boxes loaded up, waiting to be transported to customers, some are labeled to places as far as Mexico, New York, Ohio and Miami, Florida.

Blue Bird has just shy of 3,000 acres in production to represent the 250 growers. Gonsalves also noted that the co-op also owns orchard as well so they own and farm a total of about 1,100 acres of orchard, most of it being organic pears and apples.

Blue Bird employs year round at the Peshastin location nearly 270 workers that are full-time and work throughout the seasons. Packers, truck drivers and the line employees are a large part of what keeps Blue Bird moving effectively and productively.

"What I think makes Blue Bird so successful is our core group of growers. We have many are third or fourth generation growers and so it's that dedication to quality and dedication to farming here in the Upper Valley and throughout the state," said Gonsalves. "I think what really makes Blue Bird unique is that core group of growers and that commitment they have to be successful growers."

### Auvil Fruit Company/Gee Whiz



Photo courtesy of Auvil Fruit Company Facebook  
**Packing facility of Auvil Fruit Company Inc.**

**ORONDO** - Auvil Fruit Company Inc. established in 1928, grows, packs and ships their own fruit all by one grower. With 1,800 acres in production and a peak number of 1,000 employees in 2018, 2.2 million boxes of apples and 100 thousand boxes of cherries were produced.

**Company Overview:**  
Grady Auvil, Founder of Auvil Fruit Company, brought passion and vision together to produce world-class fruit with exceptional flavor. This blend propelled the company forward and dramatically influenced the entire industry for generations yet to come. Grady is recognized for introducing Granny Smiths, establishing M26 root stock, and fostering quality production of Fuji Apples in Washington state. He also



pioneered the successful marketing of Rainier Cherries.

Along with establishing new fruit varieties, Grady earned a reputation for innovative farming practices that created benefits for growers throughout the industry. Grady's achievements left an enormous footprint in the fruit industry and his visionary practices continue to anchor the production of every piece of Gee Whiz Fruit grown today. Thanks to Grady, flavor is our North Star and our people are the compass, still holding us true to his vision.

### Manson Growers



Photo by Manson Growers Coop's Facebook  
**Stacks of Manson Growers boxes in the warehouse.**

**MANSON** - Manson Growers was established in 1959, and employees 120 people during the peak harvest season. With 90 growers from Quincy to Tonasket, mainly from the Lake Chelan Valley they have 2,500 producing acres. 1.5 million boxes of apples were packed in 2018.

**Company overview:**  
Over 100 years ago, Manson Growers' families discovered the world's greatest place to grow apples. Today, Manson Growers' 4th and 5th generation growers continue the tradition of sharing Washington's finest with the world.

Manson Growers is a cooperative with packing, shipping, and sales operations located in the Lake Chelan valley, which primarily focuses on fruit sales to export markets.

Manson Growers has always valued the contribution from its growers, its employees, and its buyers to build a world-class brand.

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## North Central Washington Packing Sheds

### Chelan Fruit Cooperative

CHELAN - Chelan Fruit Cooperative established in 1923, is a 300-member, grower-owned cooperative based in North Central Washington. Its roots are in three former regional cooperatives: Trout, Inc, Blue Chelan, Inc, and MAGI, Inc.

Grower members elect a Board of Directors which guides and directs the management of the warehouse. Chelan Fresh Marketing markets the boxes produced annually at Chelan Fruit's six production plants. In 2018, 4 million apple boxes, 1.5 million boxes of pears and 1.5 million boxes of cherries were produced.

Currently Chelan Fruit receives and produces bins of conventional and organic apples, pears, cherries, plums and pluots from 12,750 acres located from the Canadian border south to Central Washington. They employ 600 employees, peaking at 1,600 employees during cherry season.

Trout Incorporated was incorporated in July 1921 as Lake Chelan Fruit Growers by eight growers. In 1921,

fruit was hand sorted and packed, then shipped in one bushel wood boxes with labels glued on the ends identifying whose fruit was in the box. The Trout label is now a collector's item. K.J. Hendershott was appointed manager of Trout, Inc. in 1921, and led the organization until 1966. To recognize his years of service a scholarship fund to further education in the agriculture industry has been established in his name.

Blue Chelan Incorporated was established in 1942 as Chelan Manson Fruit Cooperative by 26 local growers. At that time they brought in approximately 160,000 boxes of apples at each warehouse.

It took nearly 100 days to pack all the apples produced. Each year's crop had to be packed and shipped in a maximum of four months because apples could not be kept and stored beyond that time. Therefore, from January to August each year, the warehouse would virtually shut down until the new crop was delivered.

In September of 1995, Trout, Inc. and Blue Chelan, Inc. merged to form Trout-Blue Chelan, Inc., the largest apple packing cooperative in the world.

Mutual Apple Growers Incorporated (MAGI) was established in 1937 when a



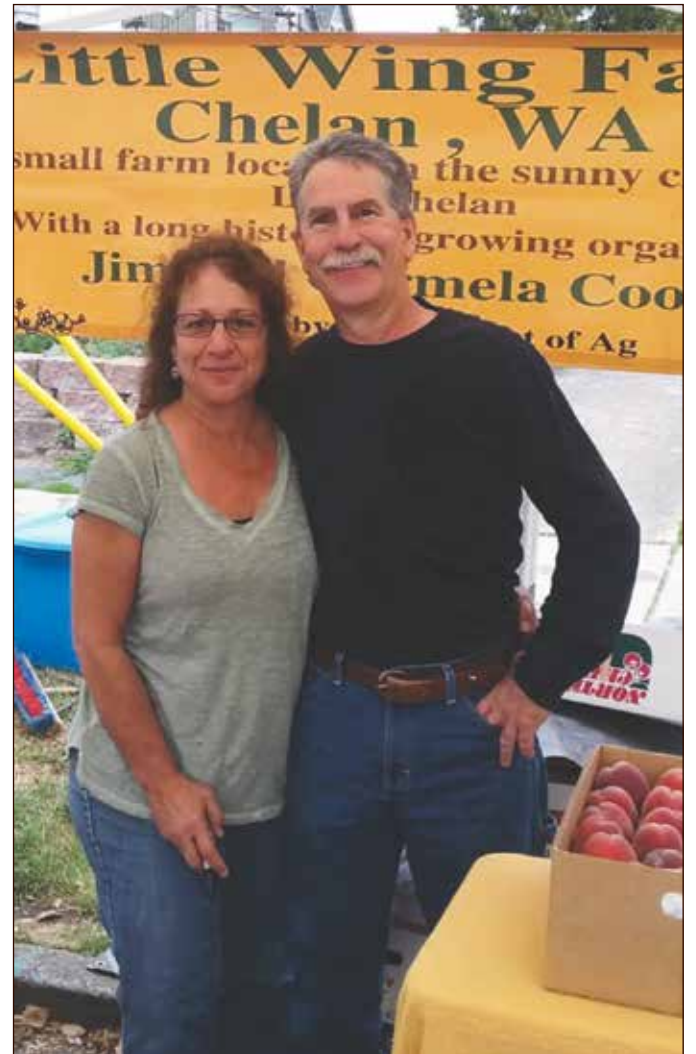
Photo courtesy of Chelan Fruit Facebook  
Boxes of packed apples with the Trout label, which is now collector's item.

dozen growers got together and formed Brewster Cooperative Growers. In 1969 a merger of Brewster Cooperative Growers together with Mutual Apple Growers formed the Brewster Mutual Growers Association. In 1974 Omak Fruit Growers merged with the Brewster Mutual Growers Association which

resulted in the official name change to MAGI.

MAGI continued to grow with the addition of Caribou Growers in 1987, Star Crisp Growers, Inc. of Okanogan in 1989, and Crisp N' Spicy Growers in 1998, resulting in their largest crop of 240,000 bins. In 2004, MAGI merged with Trout-Blue Chelan, Inc.

### Little Wing Farm



CHELAN - Jim and Carmela Cook owners of Little Wing Farm started their agricultural adventure in Orondo, Wash. in 1977. Ten years later, in 1986, both moved to the Lake Chelan region where in 2005 they established their little organic farm. The Cooks own and operate two-acres of land, in it they grow organic tree fruit. Seven thousand pounds of cherries, apricots, peaches, apples, pears and grapes are produced each year. Jim and Carmela sell their produce during the summer months at Columbia City Farmers Market in Seattle.

See more NCW Packing Shed Profiles on page B6



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# NCW Tree Fruit Days Jan. 17-21, Feb. 5

SUBMITTED BY TIANNA DUPONT, WSU TREE FRUIT RESEARCH

NCW - Join us for WSU Tree Fruit Extension Programs in North Central Washington on Jan. 17, 21, and February 5, 2019.

Co-sponsored by Northwest Cherries, Pear Bureau Northwest, NCW Fieldmen's Association, Chelan Future Farmers

of America and the Okanogan Horticultural Association. These events provide the latest research-based information on horticulture, pest and disease management. We hope you will join us to network and learn this winter.

For agendas and additional information visit [treefruit.wsu.edu/events](http://treefruit.wsu.edu/events)

Pesticide update credits will be awarded for program attendance 2-3 credits per

session dependent on WSDA approval. No pre-registration required for sessions.

## North Central Washington Apple Day

Thursday, January 17, 2019, 8:45 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Wenatchee Convention Center. Co-Sponsored by WSU Extension and NCW Fieldmen's Association. Topics include: Horticulture for WA38 and other New Varieties; Learning from Recent Research - Respiration and Stem Clipping in WA38; Nutrient Absorption and Distribution in WA38, Honey Crisp, Gala, Fuji and Granny Smith; WA38 Horticulture Research Update; Getting Produce Safety Rule Ready for 2019; Old Diseases New Viruses; Codling Moth Management; Evaluating Fire Blight Cultivar Susceptibility; Fire Blight - Using Apogee and Regalia at Pink to Reduce Flower Infections; Fire Blight Management. Agenda at <http://treefruit.wsu.edu/event/new-apple-day-2/>

## Lake Chelan Horticultural Day

Monday, January 21, 2019, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Chelan High School. Co-sponsored by WSU Extension and Chelan Future Farmers of America. Topics include: Managing Little Cherry Virus; Cherry Varieties - Summerland; Blue Orchard Bees for Improving Pollination; Pear IPM; Using Native Covers to Attract Beneficial Predators and Pollinators; Getting Produce Safety Rule ready for 2019; d'Anjou Pear Sorting by Predicting Dry Matter and its Effect on Consumer Preference; Blossom Thinning - 50 years of research and reminders; Managing Post Harvest Diseases Agenda at <http://treefruit.wsu.edu/event/chelan-hort-day-2019/>

## Okanogan Horticultural Society Meeting

Tuesday, February 5, 2019 Agriplex, Omak, Wash. Co-Sponsored by Okanogan Horticultural Society Topics include: Sterile codling moth distribution in the orchard; Sterile Insect Release for Codling

Moth Control; Getting to Know the Good Guys in our Orchards; Secondary Pest Update: Apple Maggot, Clear Wing, Apple Leaf Curl Midge, BMSB; Cherry Powdery Mildew Management and Fungicide Resistance Results; Fire Blight Common Questions and Answers; Afternoon Spanish Session: Manejo de Fuego Baeteriano\* (Fire Blight Management); Cuidando su Salud en la Huerta\* (Pesticide Safety); Palomilla de Manzana\* (Codling Moth Management); Conociendo los Insectos Buenos en la Huerta\* (Getting to Know the Good Guys in our Orchards). Agenda at <http://treefruit.wsu.edu/event/okanogan-horticultural-meeting/>


For more information visit [treefruit.wsu.edu/events](http://treefruit.wsu.edu/events) or contact Tianna DuPont [tianna.dupont@wsu.edu](mailto:tianna.dupont@wsu.edu) (509) 293-8758. Extension programs and employment are available without discrimination. Evidence of non-compliance may be reported through your local extension office.

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**Crane & Crane**  
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Product: Apples, pears, cherries

**Gebbers Farms**



Location: Brewster  
Acreage: 10,000-plus  
Product: Apples, cherries, pears  
Sales: Chelan Fresh Marketing, LLC

**Gold Digger Apples**  
Founded: 1938  
Location: Oroville  
Product: Apple, pears, cherries, grapes  
Sales: Chelan Fresh Marketing, LLC

**Honey Bear Growers**



Founded: 2004  
Location: Brewster  
Product: Apples

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