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Chelan County shines in Washington's employment landscape

In the ever-evolving tapestry of Washington's labor market, Chelan County emerges as a beacon of economic resilience, demonstrating its mettle amidst statewide trends. The latest data from the Washington State Employment Security Department, released on Sept. 19, sheds light on Chelan County's labor force and employment figures, positioning it as a noteworthy player in the state's economic landscape.

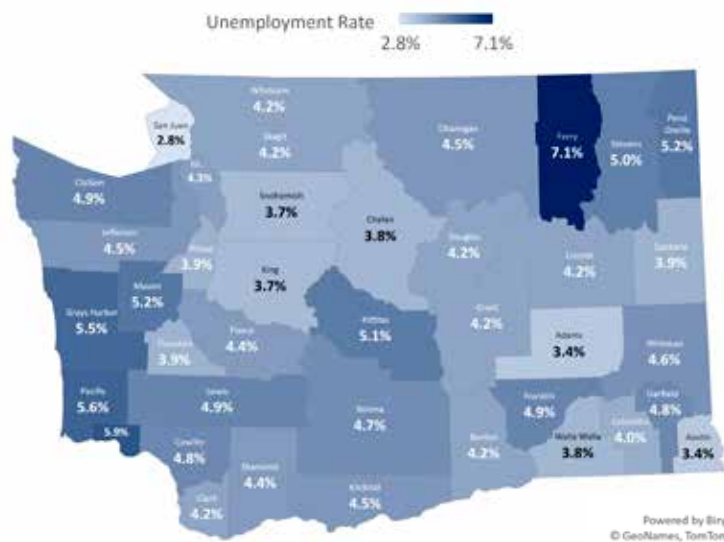
By **Terry Ward** | CEO & Publisher

Chelan County, a hub for tourism and agriculture, boasts a civilian labor force of 46,227 individuals. Of these, 44,469 are gainfully employed, while 1,758 individuals actively seek employment, resulting in an unemployment rate of 3.8 percent. This rate places Chelan County in the enviable position of only having a slightly higher unemployment rate than the state's average of 3.7 percent. It reflects the county's commitment to maintaining a robust labor

market despite challenges that may have impacted other regions. The figures demonstrate that Chelan County remains an attractive destination for job seekers and employers. However, it's worth noting that several other counties in the state also contribute to Washington's economic vitality. For instance, Adams and Asotin Counties, with unemployment rates of 3.4 percent, and San Juan County, with an impres-

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August 2023 Unemployment Rates by County



Lake Chelan welcomes inspired pasta



KATIE LINDERT/WARD MEDIA

Sherri Morrison at work preparing pasta for another busy week at Lago Pasta / Casetta Rossa. **SEE STORY PAGE 18**

Community support nets \$10,000 donation for Women's Service League

EAST WENATCHEE - North Central Washington businesswoman Erica Mendoza leveraged community support to award \$10,000 to the Women's Service League of North Central Washington, a service organization that works to empower women in the region.

By **Quinn Propst** | Staff Reporter

As an individual, it can be hard to feel like you are making a difference, but the Women's Service League is a way for women to give back to their community in ways that make an impact, Mendoza said. Mendoza, owner of East Wenatchee's Mendoza Insur-

ance Services, initially received a \$5,000 donation for the Women's Service League, thanks to a submission process with Liberty Mutual® and Safeco Insurance® through their 2023 Make More Happen™ Awards. A story of

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CIRCULATION

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**NEWSSTAND
LOCATIONS****Wenatchee**

Plaza Super Jet
106 Okanogan Ave.
Safeway, 501 N. Miller St.

East Wenatchee

Safeway, 510 Grant Road

Cashmere

Martin's IGA
Market Place
130 Titchenal Way

Leavenworth

Dan's Food Market
1329 U.S. Highway 2

Chelan

Safeway,
106 W. Manson Rd.

Lake Chelan Mirror

131 S. Apple Blossom Dr.,
#109

Brewster

Quik E Mart #2 (Exxon)
26048 U.S. Highway 97

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Local Resilience: The power of shopping locally

By **Terry Ward** | CEO and Publisher

In an era where convenience often trumps community, it's important that we take a moment to reflect on the significance of shopping locally.

As the CEO and Publisher of Ward Media, I have witnessed firsthand the vital role local businesses play in our North Central Washington communities. In this edition of "From the Publisher," we explore the importance of supporting our neighbors and fostering economic growth right here at home.

Our region is more than just a collection of towns; it's a diverse tapestry of people, cultures, and traditions. The heart of any community lies in its local businesses, which infuse character and identity into our towns. When you shop locally, you're not just making a transaction; you're investing in the vibrancy and uniqueness of our area.

Local businesses often source their products and services within the community, creating a web of interconnectedness. This not only strengthens our local economy but also promotes sustainability and resilience. When you support a local business, you're supporting your friends and neighbors,

and that creates a sense of belonging that transcends mere commerce.

Beyond the warm familiarity of local businesses lies a cold, hard fact: they are the backbone of our regional economy. They provide jobs to our community members, contribute to tax revenues, and bolster economic growth. Every dollar spent at a local business has a multiplier effect, circulating through our community and creating a domino effect of economic well-being.

By choosing to shop locally, you're actively participating in the growth of our communities. Your support allows these businesses to thrive and expand, which, in turn, leads to more job opportunities and a brighter economic future for North Central Washington.

Local businesses offer something that online giants can never replicate - a personal touch. When you walk into a local store, you're often greeted by familiar faces who know you by name. They can provide tailored recommendations, share stories

about the community, and make your shopping experience truly unique.

Local businesses often stock items that reflect the local culture and heritage. From handmade crafts to specialty foods, these businesses showcase the essence of our region. When you shop locally, you're not just buying a product; you're taking home a piece of our community's identity.

As the seasons change and the holidays approach, I encourage each and every one of us to make a conscious effort to support our local businesses. Let's remember that when

Donation

Continued from page 1

their local partnership was featured on the official Make More Happen microsite where Mendoza Insurance had the opportunity to raise an additional \$5,000 by conducting a local awareness campaign for the nonprofit. Together with the community, the goal was met, increasing the total donation to \$10,000 for WSL.

"Women's Service League is super unique in that when you are trying to help in the community, you want to make sure that the impact is visible because we're just one person in what we can do," Mendoza said in the local awareness campaign video. "And it allows me to create positive connections and returns, I guess like an ROI, that you can truly see how it helps others. The places that we support and the women that are impacted by what we do are very visible, and that helps you continue to do the work."

"I have been a part of Women's Service League for many years, and this will give the ability for me to contribute as an upcoming community member and be a part of something that has been very precious to me and helped me develop myself and get myself more confidence and be a part business-wise in the

From the Publisher



we choose to shop locally, we're investing in the well-being of our friends, families, and neighbors. We're fostering economic growth, preserving the character of our towns, and keeping our communities strong.

At Ward Media, we take pride in serving our local communities through our publications. We under-

stand that a thriving community depends on the support of its residents. So, let's come together and embrace the power we have as consumers to make a positive impact. Shop locally, and you'll not only find exceptional products and services but also a stronger, more vibrant community right outside your doorstep.

community," Mendoza said in the video.

The Women's Service League is dedicated to building a community through the empowerment of women and deliberate volunteer action. They host many events throughout the year to raise money to help women and children. Their biggest fundraiser is My Girlfriend's Closet, a three-day shopping event that sells new and gently used women's clothing, shoes, jewelry, and purses at low prices. The majority of the proceeds are distributed back into the community in many ways, including scholarship funds for women returning to college and grants to local nonprofits that primarily help women and children.

Last year, the Women's Service League gave \$10,000 in scholarships to women returning to college and \$60,000 in grants to North Central Washington nonprofits for women and children.

The award will help the league run its fundraising events, and the remainder will help the Women's Service League to help others in the region, league president Sue Epoch said.

"It takes a little pressure off some of the upfront expenses," Epoch said. "Last year we had to rent a space, in the past, that was donated. Putting the money

upfront to rent a space is more stressful. The money will help so that we can put on our events and then at the end of the year turn around and award grants and scholarships."

Other events include a prom dress giveaway, Touch-A-Truck, and diaper drives. The group also collects small toiletries throughout the year and distributes them to school districts for students who need them, as well as members volunteering to help other nonprofits, Epoch said.

The league is always looking for new members, Epoch said.

The Women's Service League is a great way to meet people and be involved in your community, Mendoza said.

Throughout 2023, Liberty Mutual and Safeco Insurance will select up to 37 independent agents nationwide for a Make More Happen Award, donating up to \$370,000 to the nonprofits they support. Agencies became eligible for the award by submitting an application and photos demonstrating their commitment to a specific nonprofit.

"When a company or corporation helps support a community like this, it feels like a validation of the work and impact you are making," Mendoza said.

Ward Media unveils cutting-edge website for Northwest Swag Works

WENATCHEE – Ward Media, a prominent publishing and digital marketing entity, announces the launch of a state-of-the-art website for Northwest Swag Works (NSW), its promotional products distributor.

This development underscores Ward Media's steadfast commitment to delivering innovative solutions to businesses in North Central Washington.

The freshly unveiled website introduces an elevated user experience that seamlessly aligns with the contemporary digital landscape. Boasting a user-friendly interface, streamlined navigation, and a modern design, the site signifies Northwest Swag Works' dedication to staying at the forefront of promotional product distribution.

Here are the features of the new website:

Product Showcase: The website offers an extensive array of promotional products, ranging from

branded apparel to custom merchandise, elegantly presented for easy perusal.

Easy Ordering: Clients can now navigate a simplified ordering process, enabling them to effortlessly browse, customize, and purchase promotional items with just a few clicks.

Customization Tools: Intuitive design tools are at your disposal, allowing you to personalize products according to your precise specifications, ensuring your brand's distinctive

identity shines through.

Information Hub: Stay abreast of the latest industry trends, product updates, and promotional ideas through the website's informative blog and resources section.

Northwest Swag Works also offers a shopping concierge service at no additional cost to the client. Designed to alleviate the stress of the busy professional, a dedicated NSW expert will work closely with the client to under-

stand preferences, needs, and budget constraints.

The NSW experts conduct in-depth market research to identify products that match the client's specific requirements. They consider client preferences, lifestyles, and budgets to ensure that every product suggested is tailored for the client. Based on the research, the client receives a complete shopping proposal, which includes a curated list of products, along with detailed descriptions and pricing information. The goal is to present the best options available, making the decision-making process easy.

Terry Ward, CEO of Ward Media, expressed his excitement about this significant development, saying, "Northwest Swag Works has been an integral part of our business, delivering top-tier promotional products to businesses across North Central Washington. With the launch of this website, we are delighted to provide

an even more seamless and efficient experience to our clients."

This website launch is part of Ward Media's ongoing mission to empower businesses in the region with cutting-edge marketing solutions. The addition of Northwest Swag Works' new website complements Ward Media's array of services, which encompasses digital marketing expertise through Apple Capital Marketing and comprehensive community news coverage via The Leavenworth Echo, Lake Chelan Mirror, Cashmere Valley Record, and Quad City Herald. Additionally, the monthly insights provided by the Wenatchee Business Journal continue to be a valuable resource for the local business community.

For more information about Northwest Swag Works and to explore the new website, please visit www.northwestswag.com.

About Ward Media: Ward Media is a multifaceted media company

in North Central Washington. As the publisher of community newspapers and a monthly business journal, coupled with ownership of Apple Capital Marketing and Northwest Swag Works, Ward Media is dedicated to meeting the diverse needs of businesses in the region.

Quick Read

In a move signaling unwavering dedication to innovation and client satisfaction, Ward Media has unveiled a cutting-edge website for Northwest Swag Works, a prominent player in the promotional products distribution sector. The website's launch introduces a host of user-centric features, emphasizing Northwest Swag Works' commitment to delivering top-quality promotional merchandise to businesses in North Central Washington.



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Education

NCW Community Foundation awards \$1.3M in scholarships to 214 students

Ward Media | Wenatchee Business Journal

WENATCHEE - In a significant development for North Central Washington's education landscape, the Community Foundation of North Central Washington (NCW) has announced a record-breaking scholarship disbursement of \$1,309,700.

This substantial sum has been distributed among 214 students, marking the largest scholarship award in the foundation's history. The Community Foun-

dation of NCW administers an extensive array of scholarships, generously funded by local individuals, families, and businesses who share a commitment to advancing

local students' educational aspirations. These scholarships encompass a diverse range of criteria, spanning academic achievements, community involvement, and the ability to over-

come personal challenges. They serve as a lifeline for students pursuing higher education at community colleges, universities, or trade schools, with a spe-

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WVC Electronics Program earns coveted Career Launch Endorsement

Ward Media | Wenatchee Business Journal

WENATCHEE - Wenatchee Valley College's Industrial Technology - Electronics program has secured a significant milestone with its receipt of the Career Launch endorsement.

This recognition underscores the program's dedication to equipping students with robust academic knowledge and essential workplace-ready skills.

Endorsed by the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, the Career Launch endorsement signifies that a career-oriented program has met stringent criteria. These criteria ensure that students graduate not only with a strong academic foundation but also with skills that are

immediately applicable in the workforce.

Yuritz Lozano, the WVC dean of allied health and professional technical programs, expressed the college's elation at achieving this prestigious endorsement. "We are happy to have our program recognized by Career Launch," said Lozano. "This endorsement identifies our program as one that is focused on preparing students for a competitive workforce."

The Industrial Technology - Electronics pro-

gram at WVC is one of six programs at the college to earn this esteemed endorsement. Others recognized include environmental systems and refrigeration technology (ESRT), automotive technology, drafting, engineering technology, and machining.

WVC's Industrial Technology - Electronics program offers two valuable pathways for students. It provides a year-long Electronics Technician Certificate of Completion and a two-year Associate of

Technical Science Degree. These programs equip individuals with the skills needed for maintenance electrician and electronics technician roles within industrial facilities. Furthermore, they offer advanced-level training and skill enhancement opportunities for plant electricians and employees seeking career advancement.

To learn more about the WVC Industrial Technology - Electronics program, visit www.wvc.edu/Electronics.

WVC Foundation secures \$17,000 scholarship boost from NAPMW

Ward Media | Wenatchee Business Journal

WENATCHEE - In a significant stride towards bolstering educational opportunities, the Wenatchee Valley College Foundation (WVCF) has received a generous contribution of \$17,000 from the Wenatchee Valley chapter of the National Association of Professional Mortgage Women (NAPMW).

The funds have been earmarked exclusively for scholarships and will have a direct and profound impact on students facing financial hurdles at Wenatchee Valley College (WVC).

Lorena Urrutia, a dedicated member of NAPMW's board, expressed pride in the organization's commitment to giving back to the community. "We are extremely proud to give back to the community. Our members support the needs of WVC students and strive to make their educational journey a success," Urrutia stated. She emphasized that the scholarship funding isn't restricted solely to tuition fees, stating, "WVC students that receive scholarship funding can use it for their cost of attendance, not just tuition."

During the academic year 2022-23, the Wenatchee Valley College Foundation made a substantial investment in the futures of its students by providing over \$645,000 in scholarships. These scholarships are versatile, addressing a range of expenses such as living costs, childcare, textbooks, fees,

and, of course, tuition. This comprehensive support network is integral to empowering students to excel in their studies without the financial burden often accompanying higher education.

Rachel Evey, the Executive Director of the WVC Foundation, hailed NAPMW as an invaluable partner in realizing the foundation's mission to ensure equitable access to education. Evey emphasized the profound impact of scholarship funding on a student's academic journey, noting, "Scholarship funding can make a significant impact on a student's completion of their degree or program."

For those interested in learning more about the Wenatchee Valley College Foundation and its commitment to advancing education, additional information can be found at www.wvc.edu/Foundation.

This significant financial infusion from NAPMW underscores the collective dedication to educational accessibility and attainment, paving the way for a brighter future for WVC students facing financial challenges.

Quick Read

The Wenatchee Valley College Foundation (WVCF) has received a \$17,000 scholarship boost from the National Association of Professional Mortgage Women. These funds, not limited to tuition, will provide crucial support to students at Wenatchee Valley College who are facing financial barriers. In the 2022-23 academic year, WVCF awarded over \$645,000 in scholarships, emphasizing their commitment to educational accessibility.

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Q & A



Meet Rosa Pulido, Executive Director of the Wenatchee Downtown Association

By **Quinn Propst** | Staff Reporter

Earlier this year, Rosa Pulido took on the role of Executive Director for the Wenatchee Downtown Association. Pulido's passion lies in building community and strengthening downtown Wenatchee for generations to come. We caught up with Pulido recently to learn more about her work with downtown businesses, her passion for helping people, and her vision for the future of downtown.

Tell our readers a little bit about yourself.

I'm a proud Wenatchee native, and my journey started with simple, humble beginnings. I had the pleasure of attending schools in both districts before finding my way to Wenatchee Valley College. Later, I continued my studies at Southern New Hampshire University, where I focused on Communications with an emphasis in Public Relations.

You know, giving back has always held a special place in my heart. I've been fortunate enough to either volunteer or work with various nonprofit organizations. For me, community and collaboration are the keys to tackling the big challenges.

I'm also a proud parent to a wonderful 4th grader this year. She often joins me in volunteering at events and reaching out to the community. It's my hope that she'll grow to love this community just as much as I do.

What led you to this position?

My time at the Chamber was a real eye-opener for me. It showed me just how much potential there is in economic development

and the incredible impact it can have on our community.

I have to tell you, working with local businesses, especially the smaller ones, was an absolute joy. There's something special about it, isn't there? And you know what really struck me? It was seeing the fire and dedication in our previous director. People naturally rallied around her for support, and that moment made it crystal clear - that's exactly what I wanted to be a part of.

So, I decided to take the plunge and dive even deeper into supporting small businesses. I'm on a mission to shape the future of downtown, not just for my daughter, but for the generations that follow. It's a journey I'm really excited to be on!

What are you most looking forward to in your role as executive director of the Wenatchee Downtown Association?

I'm genuinely excited about becoming a part of downtown Wenatchee's growth! You know, sometimes it feels like big decisions get made without really considering us, and things happen to us instead of with us. So, having a voice at the table where those important decisions are made is a true privilege. I'm looking forward to using that opportunity to be a strong advocate for all our cherished small downtown businesses!

What does a normal day look like as executive director of the Wenatchee Downtown Association?

You know, at the WDA, a 'normal' day seems to mean

something new every time! We're all about embracing the different adventures each day brings. We're out and about, teaming up with various organizations for all sorts of exciting projects. Whether it's joining the downtown cleanup crew, gathering in meetings, or paying visits to our wonderful small businesses - there's never a dull moment. And let's not forget about our memberships and the fun events we get to coordinate, like Trick-or-Treat and wine walks. The WDA is always buzzing with activity.

What is your favorite part about your job and why?

The best part of this job has to be the people. There's something truly special about being in a community where everyone knows one another and can rely on each other. Our downtown is a vibrant mix of diverse businesses and people, and learning about their unique stories and journeys here is always a delight. It's these connections that make every day so enjoyable!

What are some of your goals for downtown Wenatchee?

Looking ahead to next year, our organization is gearing up for some exciting goal-setting sessions that will chart our course for the next 3-5 years. Personally, there are a few areas close to my heart when it comes to downtown. Ensuring safety and cleanliness is a priority, especially with our city's incredible growth. We'll be focusing on implementing strategies to address chal-

lenges related to theft, vandalism, as well as concerns about houselessness and mental health.

I'm also really excited about creating more opportunities for businesses to connect with each other. Strengthening that sense of camaraderie among our local businesses can only lead to greater things. And let's not forget the charm of our historical properties and downtown's unique landscape. It would be fantastic to see more investments in preserving these treasures.

Who or what inspires you?

The Wenatchee Valley community inspires me. It's where I grew up, where this incredible community raised me. As a child, I had my share of challenges, and this community rallied around me when I needed it most. It's truly heartwarming to witness how, even in times when we might have our differences, we always come together to support those in need. We saw it during the challenging times of COVID, the turmoil in Ukraine, and most recently, with the devastating fires in Maui.

Our businesses and community members have a remarkable way of looking out for one another, and it's such a beautiful thing to witness. This community's spirit of care and unity is truly something special.

What do you like to do with your free time?

In those precious moments of free time, you'll find me soaking up every second with my daughter, making cherished memories. We're big fans of heading to local shows, joining art classes, and immersing ourselves in the great outdoors during camping trips. My daughter has a real passion for art, so anytime there's a chance to let our creativity flow and get a little messy, you can bet we're all in!

Is there anything else you want our readers to know?

I'm always an open book and absolutely love connecting with new people. If you want to get involved with the WDA or just want to connect with me, feel free to reach us in-person at 103 Palouse St. Ste. 35 in downtown or call me (509) 662-0059.

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Grant Funds available to restore historic barns, cemeteries, and theaters

Ward Media | Wenatchee Business Journal

SEATTLE - Historic preservation enthusiasts and caretakers of Washington's cultural heritage have reason to celebrate as grant funds become available to support the rehabilitation and restoration of historic barns, cemeteries, and theaters across the state.

The grants are made possible through funding approved by the Washington State Legislature earlier this year.

The legislature's endorsement of the 2023-2025 state budget included the reauthorization of four state capital grant programs overseen by the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP). These vital programs include the Heritage Barn Grant Program, Historic County Courthouse Grant Program, Historic Cemetery Grant Program, and Historic Theater Grant Program. Their primary objective is to safeguard and restore the state's most historically and culturally significant resources.

Administered by the nonprofit Washington Trust for Historic Preservation, under contract to DAHP, these grant programs play a pivotal role in preserving Washington's rich heritage. While the grant recipients for the Historic County Courthouse Grant Program are predetermined as part of the legislative request, the remaining three programs are accepting grant applications until October 31.

Heritage Barn Grant Program

Launched in 2007 and now in its ninth round, the Heritage Barn Grant Pro-

gram is tailor-made to assist in preserving Washington's iconic historic barns, symbolizing the state's agricultural heritage. To be eligible for funding through this program, barns must be listed on the Heritage Barn Register, a statewide catalog maintained by DAHP. Nearly \$1,000,000 in grant funds will be allocated among successful applicants to facilitate the rehabilitation and preservation of these unique structures, ensuring their continued cultural significance for future generations.

Historic Cemetery Grant Program

Established in 2016 and currently in its fourth round of funding, the Historic Cemetery Grant Program offers financial assistance to preserve and restore significant burial grounds throughout Washington. These cemeteries often contain valuable historical information and serve as the final resting places of pioneers, veterans, and community leaders, making their conservation crucial to the state's historical narrative. An official historical designation is not required to apply. Any cemetery in Washington with five or more burials, including at least one burial over

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Washington Retail Report



US supply chain woes shift and persist in 2023

The U.S. supply chain is still recovering from the initial shocks of the pandemic, which caused shipping costs to surge and led to shortages in various goods, ranging from toilet paper to pasta. However, more than three years later, challenges like material shortages and difficulties in hiring persist.

Americans have redirected their purchases away from big-ticket items – like furniture, BBQ grills, and large-screen TVs, to travel and entertainment. This change in demand has brought some relief to struggling shippers as transportation costs, including trucking and ocean shipping, have declined.

The labor market remains tight, contributing to rising costs throughout the supply chain. Material shortages persist, es-

pecially for machine parts and, increasingly cement. This is largely due to automakers and manufacturers striving to meet increasing demand, along with the ramp-up of infrastructure projects across the United States.

Dean Croke, a principal analyst at DAT Freight and Analytics, characterizes the situation as a lingering challenge for U.S. supply chains, akin to a “long-term hangover.”

Different industries are experiencing varying degrees of impact. The retail sector, which relies heavily on trucking and rail, has softened, while industries like automotive, coal, and non-residential construction materials continue to thrive.

Supply chain executives, previously invested heavily to maintain store shelves

during the pandemic, are now focusing on cost-saving measures to protect their profits amid shifting consumer demand. Strategies like establishing local consolidation centers and optimizing delivery routes are becoming commonplace, exemplified by companies like Target.

There is a growing investment in technology solutions to enhance supply chain efficiency. These include tracking systems for real-time visibility into movement of goods, the integration of robotics, and the application of artificial intelligence to streamline operations. According to Alan Amling of the University of Tennessee's Global Supply Chain Institute, the industry is transitioning from a survival mindset to one that prioritizes efficiency.

Economic update

The National Retail Federation (NRF) released its latest update on the state of the U.S. economy and how it is currently affecting retail sales.

According to NRF Chief Economist, Jack Kleinhenz, the U.S. economy is still growing, but not as fast as it was earlier this year:

- The GDP growth rate was revised down from 2.4% to 2.1% for the second quarter of 2021.
- The unemployment rate increased to 3.8%

in August as more people entered the labor market looking for jobs.

- Personal spending increased by 0.8% in July, but consumers are digging into their savings to support their spending.
- Consumer confidence declined in August as high prices and interest rates weighed on shoppers' decisions.
- Retail sales rose by 3.8% year over year in July, boosted by Amazon's Prime Day and

other special events.

- Spending on services, which has been growing since the pandemic restrictions ended, slowed down from 3% to 1.6% in the second quarter of 2021.

NRF forecasted that 2023 retail sales would increase 4% – 6% over 2022, but there is a good chance that sales will end up in the lower range of the forecast (if not lower) due to the Fed's interest rate increases.

The top 10 most costly employee injuries

Tracking the top 10 causes of the most serious workplace injuries is worth the attention of employers. According to Liberty Mutual Insurance's 2023 Workplace Safety Index (WSI), these injuries cost U.S. businesses more than \$1 billion per week or over \$58 billion annually.

- The costliest injury is overexertion, costing \$12.8 billion annually. The other top 10 costliest injury causes include:
- Falls on the same level – \$9 billion
- Falls to a lower level – \$6 billion

- Struck by objects or equipment – \$5.1 billion
- Other exertions or bodily reactions, such as awkward postures – \$3.7 billion
- Exposure to harmful substances – \$3.4 billion
- Vehicle crashes – \$2.6 billion
- Caught in or compressed by machinery – \$2 billion
- Slips, trips, or falls – \$1.9 billion
- Vehicle crashes involving pedestrians – \$1.6 billion
- Exposure to other harm-

ful substances and vehicle crashes involving pedestrians are on the WSI for the first time. These incidents were most often job-related, including:

- Sales and truck drivers
- Material movers
- Foodservice
- Distribution managers
- Retail salespersons
- Building cleaning and maintenance
- Protective services

The report suggests that these increased job hazards were likely due to various innovative operations introduced due to the COVID pandemic and supply chain challenges.

Washington state gas prices fall, but remain above \$5 a gallon

Fuel prices in Washington state have finally seen a drop after months of soaring, but they still hover above the \$5 per gallon mark. Despite this decrease, Washington remains the second-highest state in the nation for gas prices, trailing only behind California.

At the beginning of the year, Washingtonians were paying an average of \$3.84 per gallon at the pump. However, according to the latest data from AAA on Monday, the average price for a gallon of regular unleaded gas in the state now stands at \$5.06, down slightly from the previous week's average of \$5.09.

By comparison, California is grappling with even higher prices, with the average cost of gas sitting at \$5.43 per gallon this week, up from \$5.32 the week before.

Washington's modest 3-cent decrease per gallon marks the first relief drivers have seen in months. Nationally the average has headed in the opposite direction, ticking up by 2 cents per gallon from \$3.81 to \$3.83.

AAA spokesperson Andrew Gross noted, “Pump prices appear to be defying the odds at the moment, despite the surge in the cost of oil. This uneasy balancing act may last until we get beyond hurricane season and its threats to Gulf Coast oil and gas production and refining.”

Washington's current \$5.06 per gallon is significantly higher than the national average of \$3.83, surpassing it by \$1.23 per gallon. Mississippi residents are paying the lowest gas prices at an average of \$3.26 per gallon.

Within the state, there

remains a substantial price disparity of \$1.12 per gallon, although this has decreased by 9 cents from the previous week. In this context, San Juan and Asotin counties stand out as having the highest and lowest gas prices statewide, at \$5.59 and \$4.47 per gallon, respectively.

This variance in prices still largely follows the Cascade Range, with residents to the west paying a premium at the pump compared to those in the eastern part of the state.

The Washington State Department of Ecology has conducted three quarterly carbon auctions and one Allowance Price Containment Reserve auction this year, amassing over \$1.4 billion. The third quarterly auction produced prices high enough to trigger a

See GAS Page 16

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Keeping Up with people

New District Ranger appointed for Entiat and Chelan Ranger Districts

WENATCHEE — Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Supervisor Kristin Bail announced the appointment of Paul Willard as the new District Ranger for the Chelan and Entiat Ranger Districts.

By **Deborah Kelly** | Press Release
Okanogan-Wenatchee Forest Service



COURTESY OF USDA FOREST SERVICE

Paul Willard has been selected to serve as the new District Ranger for the Entiat and Chelan Ranger Districts.

Willard will oversee the management of over 100 personnel on the two units and the work they do to maintain, restore, and protect nearly 700,000 acres of federal land that also encompasses portions of the Lake Chelan-Sawtooth and Glacier Peak Wildernesses, including Lake Chelan recreation areas.

“Paul Willard is highly respected for his leadership and skill working with volunteer groups and agency partners on trail and recreation improvement projects,” Bail said. “He recently coordinated the replacement of several aging boat docks along Lake Chelan that provide critical infrastructure to commercial and recreation transportation services to up-lake destinations of Holden and Stehekin. Paul also has experience as an agency administrator, representing the forest on numerous small and large wildfires over the past decade.”

Willard grew up in East Tennessee, camping and hiking in the nearby

Smokey Mountains. He noted that his interest in outdoor recreation and likely time spent as a river guide in college were pivotal in leading to his career in outdoor recreation management.

In 1991, Willard began his Forest Service career in the Eldorado National Forest as an archaeologist after graduating from the University of Tennessee with a BA degree in Anthropology. He’s worked on seven National Forests in five Regions in recreation-focused positions, including River Ranger, Lead Wilderness Ranger, Trail Crew Leader, and Assistant District Recreation Staff. He has been the Recreation Staff Officer for the Chelan Ranger District since 2010. In August 2022, he served as the acting District Ranger for the two units and recently transitioned into the permanent district ranger position this past May.

“I’m really looking forward to putting the new tools and authorities provided by the Central Washington Initiative to work

as we focus on improving wildfire resiliency within the wildland-urban interface areas of our districts and increasing the restoration footprint with the help of our state and local partners,” said Willard.

Willard and his family spend much of their downtime exploring backcountry areas, skiing, mountain biking, fishing, and hunting. “And now that my boys are teenagers, we’ve also explored the Mad River and Sawtooth trail systems on motorbikes. My wife also has one, so we’re all looking forward to exploring more trails together on these districts,” Willard said.

For more information, contact Deborah Kelly at 509-670-0354 or deborah.kelly@usda.gov

Catholic Charities appoints Kim Ferguson Hatfield as North Central Director

WENATCHEE – Catholic Charities has concluded an extensive search to fill a crucial leadership position, announcing Kim Ferguson Hatfield as the newly appointed North Central Director for the organization.

Hatfield brings a wealth of experience and a deep commitment to Catholic Charities’ mission, having served as the interim Early Learning Director for the past year.

Prior to her interim role, Hatfield worked closely with Catholic Charities on community outreach efforts. Notably,

she held the position of Director of External Relations/Child Care Aware Regional from 2007 to 2013, demonstrating her long-standing dedication to the organization.

In her capacity as North Central Director, Hatfield will play a pivotal role in providing onsite leadership and support to es-

sential programs, including Crisis and Behavioral Health, Early Learning, Senior Services, and Youth and Young Adult Services.

She assumed her role as North Central Director on Oct. 1, marking a significant milestone in Catholic Charities’ ongoing commitment to serving the community.

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Keeping Up with people

NCW Tech Alliance announces leadership transition

Ward Media | Wenatchee Business Journal

WENATCHEE — The NCW Tech Alliance Board of Directors has unveiled a planned leadership transition, marking a significant milestone in the organization's history.

For the past eight years, Jenny Rojanasthien has been at the helm as the inaugural Executive Director of the NCW Tech Alliance. Her leadership has transformed the organization from a grassroots, volunteer-driven initiative into the thriving regional powerhouse it is today. When Rojanasthien took the reins in 2015, the alliance hosted only seven events annually. Now, it proudly offers over 45 events each year.

Reflecting on her journey, Rojanasthien shared, "It has been a profound honor to collaborate with our members, sponsors, and community partners to create impactful events, meaningful programs, and year-round resources. Serving as the Executive

Director has been the highlight of my professional career to date. I want to thank the Board of Directors for empowering me to build, grow, and transform the organization these past eight years."

Walter Thorn, President of the NCW Tech Alliance Board, expressed heartfelt gratitude for Rojanasthien's contributions, stating, "We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Jenny for her contributions as Executive Director of the NCW Tech Alliance over the past eight years. Her entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to our community have resulted in significant growth of the organization and its impact under her leadership. She has left an indelible mark on our community,



Jenny Rojanasthien

enriching the lives of students, entrepreneurs, and countless others throughout North Central Washington. As Jenny embarks on a new chapter in her career, she leaves behind a legacy that will continue to be a source of inspiration for us all."

Assuming the role of Chief Executive Officer officially on Oct. 16, Dr. Sue Kane joins the NCW Tech Alliance team. Dr. Kane, based in Wenatchee since 2011, has served as the Director of STEM Initiatives for the North Central Educational Services District and Co-Director of the Apple STEM Network and Career Connect

Washington North Central Networks. Her extensive cross-sector collaborations have facilitated public-private partnerships and policy changes that enhance educational and training opportunities for thousands of young people across the region.

Board President Walter Thorn emphasized, "Dr. Kane has been a key partner in expanding NCW Tech Alliance's impact in STEM Education for the past seven years. Her leadership ability, strategic insight, and steadfast dedication make her the ideal candidate to lead the organization into its next chapter," Rojanasthien



Sue Kane

added, "I can step down from this leadership position with optimism and confidence for the organization under Dr. Kane's leadership,"

While Rojanasthien's formal title may change, her commitment to the NCW Tech Alliance remains unwavering. In a part-time capacity, she will continue to collaborate with Dr. Kane, focusing on spearheading essential entrepreneurial programs, including the annual Flywheel Investment Conference.

To commemorate this leadership transition and celebrate the innovative spirit of the community,

the NCW Tech Alliance invites everyone to attend the 22nd Innovator Awards Luncheon on Wednesday, Nov. 8. Since its inception in 2001, this luncheon has served as a platform for recognizing the relentless drive, passion, and creativity of innovators in North Central Washington. This year's event will be a celebration of the leadership transition while paying tribute to regional innovators in entrepreneurship, technology, and STEM Education. Early bird tickets are available with a 20% discount through the end of September using the code EARLYBIRD.

Financing

Proposed Credit Card Competition Act aims to tackle rising swipe fees

Ward Media | Wenatchee Business Journal

OLYMPIA - Big banks on Wall Street are currently in the spotlight as they advocate for an increase in credit card swipe fees, a move that has the potential to impact businesses and consumers.

These financial institutions have been able to reap significant profits from credit card transactions due to the dominant position of two major companies, which control 80% of the market. The influence of these companies allows them to set fees and terms without much room for negotiation, leading many businesses to either absorb the non-negotiable fees or pass them on to consumers.

In response to this situation, a bipartisan proposal known as the Credit Card Competition Act has emerged. This proposed legislation seeks to introduce competition into the credit card processing sector by mandating the inclusion of two processing networks on each card. Advocates argue that such a move could result in substantial annual savings, estimated at up to \$15 billion for businesses.

A recent survey conducted by the Merchants Payments Coalition indicates that over 65% of those surveyed support the Credit Card Competition Act. This level of support underscores the growing concern among businesses and consumers about rising swipe fees.

Visa and Mastercard, two major players in the credit card industry, have announced plans to increase swipe fees. Over

the past decade, these fees have more than doubled, significantly impacting merchants and potentially influencing consumer prices.

As discussions around the proposed Credit Card Competition Act gain momentum, there is increasing pressure on Congress to address the issue of rising swipe fees. The economic implications of this matter remain a focal point of the ongoing dialogue.

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OCTOBER 2023 ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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2023 Building NCW Annual Home Tour and Remodeling Expo

By Morgan Dobbins

The 29th annual Building NCW Home Tour and Remodeling Expo Presented by Banner Bank was held Friday, Sept. 22 – Sunday, Sept. 24. This event, supported by Marson and Marson and Complete Design, is an annual event that promotes the builders of the Wenatchee Valley and showcases unique innovation and superior craftsmanship. The Home Tour captures creative design and trends set by the top craftsmen in the area and their teams. Associate sponsors include Artisan Flooring, Sangster Motors, Kenady Group Real Estate, and Wenatchee Valley Glass.

The Home Tour is self-guided, meaning attendees could start anywhere they want at any of the eight homes. There was one home in Cashmere, three in Wenatchee, and four in East Wenatchee. Pinnacle Custom Builders Inc. has a picturesque home in the new Freedom Hills development in Cashmere. This home is a two level 3-bedroom 2.5 bath home with 2,838 square feet. The home featured an open floor plan living area with stunning exposed timber beams. This home’s interior appeal and kitchen won full marks from the judges. This modern farmhouse’s

quality craftsmanship and covered exterior front and back patio is perfectly nestled in the hills of Cashmere, WA.

Village Life opened two homes which are for sale in their Burch Hollow development in Wenatchee. Their first home is at the very top of the hill with a breathtaking view of the Wenatchee Valley. This home has an open concept kitchen that won five stars from the judges. Features include a five-star master suite, basement with a daylight design, and bright open spaces with large windows. This first home won three of the four awards handed out by the judges. Village Life’s second home is tucked in the middle of the development. This home features a welcoming foyer, large kitchen with an island, a dining and living room that opened to a covered exterior deck as well as an upstairs living space with an artistic layout.

One-Way Construction’s vast 6,376 square foot, 4 bedroom, 4 bath home has stunning three separate deck spaces. The view from this home is unhindered and looks out over the valley. This home has a wine room, media den with wet bar, and spacious kitchen for hosting. This kitchen won the 5-star award from the judges. This home has two laundry rooms on different levels of the home than each other. One that is next to the master suite completing the luxuriousness of the master. This three-level home build had an impressive attention to detail.

Gann Construction’s new build has an enchanting five star rated courtyard exterior front entry complete with a fountain that opens to a tiled entry and hardwood floors. This custom two level 3,421 square foot home nods to the special family history of the owner. It has an expansive kitchen with a farm kitchen sink, built in hutch, and exquisite exposed beams throughout the living area. Gann’s craftsmanship earned him five-star awards in all four categories.

KTS Development’s elite home is the first in a 50+ lot development heading up Badger

Mountain Road in East Wenatchee. This remarkable home has an incredible outdoor living space that maximizes the panoramic view with a pool that has a tanning ledge, pool house with a kitchen and bathroom, as well as an outdoor kitchen. The master bath has a heated floor to top off the voted 5-star master suite. KTS Development’s home build won five-stars in all the categories. Unique landscaping that has pockets of seating areas throughout the back lot capitalizes on the large plot of land. KTS Development built

SEE **HOMETOUR 2023**, PAGE 10



MD PHOTOGRAPHY, OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE 2023 HOME TOUR

This remarkable home built by KTS Development has an incredible outdoor living space that maximizes the panoramic view over the Wenatchee Valley.



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ALL PHOTOS BY MD PHOTOGRAPHY, OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE 2023 HOME TOUR



PHOTO FROM CLEARWATER CATERING SOCIAL MEDIA

Annual Building NCW Chef's on Tour, a HUGE success!

The 9th Annual Building NCW Chefs on Tour presented by E.D.Y. Construction was a huge success. Four homes open the night before the event and host a local chef, each paired strategically with a local beverage maker. This year our featured chefs were Clearwater Catering, Mission Burger, Café Jazmin, and Sugar Momma's Sweets. Each local faire was paired with a drink to compliment the menu prepared. In attendance was No-Li Brewery's Beer, Union Hill Cider Co.'s cider, RM Winery's wine options, and Aloha Espresso's lattes and Italian sodas. This record-breaking evening had more tickets sold than ever before. Attendees of this 21 and over event were arriving in style, some with limousines and wine tour buses.



PHOTO FROM MISSION BURGER SOCIAL MEDIA PAGE

Lexar Homes' beautiful black and white prairie style rambler was the host home for Café Jazmin and Union Hill Cider Co. Café Jazmin served their delicious comfort food. KTS Development's luxurious outdoor living space was perfect for Clearwater Catering and No-Li Brewery to set their menu up in. Gann Construction's stunning courtyard entry opened to a spacious home with a farmhouse kitchen that Mission Burger served their unique creations from, and the porch provided a perfect spot for RM Winery to serve their refreshing wine from. Village Life's hilltop view was the ideal set up for Sugar Momma's delicious desserts in the kitchen and Aloha Coffee to pour their drinks

from the front patio with the picturesque Wenatchee Valley as the backdrop.

A huge congratulations to our **People's Choice winners Clearwater Catering AND Mission Burger!** That's correct we had a TIE for the first time in the history of our Chefs on Tour. **Congratulations as well to Union Hill Cider Co. for winning People's Choice for beverages.** Coming in November's Member Messenger will be an interview with our People's Choice winners for the 2023 Home Tour. Building NCW would like to thank all the Sponsors, Builders, Chefs, Local drink makers, volunteers, and attendees for helping us with another incredible BNCW Home Tour and Chefs on Tour.



Lexar Homes' new build in East Wenatchee is a 5-star black and white rambler.



Home Tour 2023's only remodel was E.D.Y. Construction's home in East Wenatchee.



Pinnacle Custom Homes' modern farmhouse is perfectly nestled in the hills of Cashmere. The Kitchen won full marks from the judges.



Village Life's second home in the tour.

HOMETOUR 2023, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

the landscaping with the future buyer in mind. Turf grass with a putting green and a drip system for the foliage eliminates the need for watering grass.

E.D.Y. Construction is the only Remodel on the Home Tour. The kitchen, surrounding area, and the master bath were remodeled and opened the upstairs space in this home to maximize the magnificent view of the cascade mountains. Ed Gardner's remodel won all five stars in the master suite and kitchen categories. E.D.Y. Construction's remodel showcased before photographs for a reference of the before and after of the remodel.

Lexar Homes' new build in East Wenatchee is a 5-star black and white rambler that has a stunning formal dining

room, spacious kitchen with butler's pantry, and 5-star master suite. The living area has a beautiful fireplace with floating shelves on both sides. This home's light cabinets are beautiful contrasted by the accent dark of the fireplace and other accent walls in the home.

Building NCW prides itself on our long-standing tradition of an innovative and unique Home Tour that captures the imagination of the tradesmen. "We are impressed with our builders and are proud of the buildings they created in the valley" said CEO Danielle Martin, "The homes are beautiful and unique. Going from home to home you could see the different styles of the craftsmen played out on the walls of these homes. They did a great job; this was a successful Home Tour. We are excited to see who wins the People's Choice and we look forward to announcing it soon."

MEMBER MESSENGER

“Driven to Promote and Protect Small Business”

OCTOBER 2023 ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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Building NCW Out and About



PHOTO BY MORGAN DOBBINS

Wenatchee Mayoral Candidates debate at Pybus Public Market in September.

September in the Wenatchee Valley held public community meetings. The Wenatchee Mayoral Candidates met at Pybus Market on Sept. 13. Topics debated were affordable housing, homelessness in local communities, Expanding City Limits in Wenatchee, regional partnerships, noise pollution, and more.

The attendees were able to ask questions of the candidates. Some of the questions included the candidates' stance on the potential mobile SSP/needle exchange program and harm

reduction program that may come to town as well as the candidates' plans for mitigation with small businesses amid city development.

This same night there was a Community Development meeting at Wenatchee High School hosted by Deanna Walters, Director of Chelan County Community Development and those from her office.

Walters' main topic was for the staff of the department to update residents of Chelan County on the updates of the department and the new procedures that are being put in place.

“We are rebuilding to make this

SEE **OUT AND ABOUT**, PAGE 12

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

SAFETY TIPS FOR A FUN FILLED NIGHT!



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PHOTO BY DANIELLE MARTIN
Martin Kids Halloween.



MEMBER MESSENGER

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OCTOBER 2023 ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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It's that time of year again: flu season

With the kids starting school, the holidays a couple of months away there is more and more opportunity for you to fall victim of this all too often disease.

The weather is getting cooler, then cold, and wet, leaving those exposed to the elements much more susceptible to the flu.

Stress is literally weakening your immune system. You are going to make trips to busy malls with hordes of people infested who may have the flu. You need a quick bite to eat for dinner, McDonald's is convenient so you can keep going, and all this treacherous weather with crowded streets will make for a long and very late trip home.

So far, the flu is dominating the odds.

As professionals, our employers, clients, and families count on us to be healthy and at work. How do we prepare ourselves for this flu season? Here are several suggestions:

- 1. Flu Vaccination** - the CDC states that the flu vaccine is the single best way to prevent the flu. It is always best to educate yourself on whether the flu vaccination is right for you or not.
- 2. Remedies** - Things like Emergen-C, Airborne, and other supplemental items are good for preparing your immune

system. A daily dose of vitamin C is always a good idea. There are also other alternative remedies that have proven to be effective, but always check



STOCK PHOTO

with your healthcare professional before taking any medications, supplements or alternative remedies. Keep your self-hydrated, drink a lot of water, some say half your weight in ounces.

- 1. Healthy Lifestyle** - additionally one of the best ways to prevent an illness and maintain a healthy immune system is through a healthy lifestyle. There are more than a few things you can implement to live healthier:
 - a. Get enough sleep**

- Studies show that 7-9 hours of sleep is what the average adult needs. This may seem impossible to accomplish, but the beginning to living

healthy is to get enough sleep. Avoid watching television right before going to bed, and it isn't a bad idea to turn off all mobile devices at least an hour before going to bed so your mind isn't racing while sleeping and you will be rested in the morning.

- b. Exercise** - Staying in good physical shape will help you stay in good mental shape as well as strengthen your immune system. Walking, running,

jogging, aerobics, and other physical activities will keep your blood flowing and your body going.

- c. Healthy eating** - Staying away or limiting food that will "weigh" you down will help keep you from feeling lethargic and keep all body systems functioning.

- d. Good hygiene** - With many people touching the same door handle, the same items on the shelf and shaking each other's hand, keeping your hands clean will be a necessary precaution to keeping you healthy. Thoroughly washing your hands after using the bathroom, handling money and having contact with other dirty surfaces will help with germs not spreading. If washing your hands isn't possible, hand sanitizer to kill those germs is another safeguard to use.

Staying healthy can never be overemphasized. With proper sleep, exercise, healthy eating and good hygiene, you will be well on your way to avoiding and staying away from the flu.

Be aware, take care. Let's be safe

BNCW EVENTS

BNCW's October Board of Directors Meeting

■ **Wednesday, October 18th, 2023**
7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
at Building North Central Washington
2201 N. Wenatchee Ave, Wenatchee
Chairman: Ed Gardner

The Board of Directors is the policy-making body of the Association and is responsible for the business affairs of the Corporation according to BNCW's bylaws.

Our Directors meet the third Wednesday of each Month in the boardroom of the BNCW offices.

These meetings begin at 7:00 a.m. and are open to any BNCW member to attend. If you wish to contact any of the officers or directors, please visit the BNCW website for their contact information.

Fall Golf Tournament

■ **October 6th 2023**
At 3 Lakes Golf Course
presented by Draggoo Financial -

Fall Protection Class

■ **October 20th 2023**
At 8 a.m. to Noon at 2200 N Baker Ave, East Wenatchee, WA 98802

Call BNCW Offices for more details on the class.

Networking Night - Yellowgate Designs

■ **October 26th from 5 pm - 7 pm**
303 S. Mission St. Wenatchee WA 98801



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OUT AND ABOUT, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

better..." said Walters regarding the planning department and community development, "We are taking the politics out of planning... same rules apply to everyone." Walters' focus is the Customer Service. The

goal of the planning department is to be as helpful as possible and have great customer service to everyone. "We want to be proactive, not reactive..." said the Department.

The plan for the community development meetings is to have monthly updates at

different locations around Chelan County and pick a couple of topics that are of interest to residents.

This first meeting was an introduction as well as talking about rock walls and ADU's.

The meeting was a success and Building NCW will continue to

attend for our members and community.

Building NCW also attended the Chelan Douglas Port Authority luncheon and listened to their update on the region and spoke at the Riverview Kiwanis of Wenatchee club to share our message and listen in on their meeting.



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Real Estate Top Properties Douglas County August 2023

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Sale Price	Address	Total Acres	Year Built	Residential Area	Basement Area	Bedr.	Bathr.	Garage Area
\$3,700,000	455 9TH ST NE	8.15		0				
\$849,000	2315 1ST ST NE	2	1969	1508	1118	3	2	1224
\$830,000	482 LOWER DANIELS DR	0.26	2007	1898	1898	4	3	660
\$810,000	3344 NW FIR AVE	0.43	2005	3539		2	2	858
\$759,000	N NEWPORT LOOP	0.25	2021	2012		3	2	1156
\$751,535	4886 HURST LANDING RD	0.46	2019	3838	306	4	4	1121
\$712,040	639 S KENT AVE	0.22	2021	2384		3	3	484
\$670,000	197 2ND ST SE	0.27	1969	1716	1716	6	4	552
\$669,000	504 RIVER VIEW DR	0.17	2015	1294		3	2	600
\$644,500	1754 MANHATTAN DR	0.28	1993	1948		3	2	624
\$635,000	1999 LEGACY PL SE	0.15	2016	2359		3	3	484
\$625,000	201 ENTIAT PL	0.21	1995	1624		2	2	420
\$605,000	335 11TH ST NE	0.3	1968	4204		4	4	600
\$605,000	2283 3RD ST SE	0.14	2019	2294		4	3	489
\$590,000	612 E BIRCH ST	0.5	1916	3422	1706	4	3.5	
\$575,000	701 14TH ST NE	0.21	1976	1536	1456	3	3	588
\$569,000	225 NW CHINOOK WAY	0.2	2021	1121	1121	5	2.5	576
\$562,000	1181 JUPITER ST SE	0.18	2009	2184		4	2.5	528
\$559,000	714 12TH ST NE	0.24	1987	2014		3	2.5	936
\$555,000	337 14TH ST NE	0.39	1969	872	800	3	2	528
\$550,000	1507 EASTMONT AVE	0.34	1977	1396	1352	4	3	572
\$550,000	140 W EMERSON DR	0.14	2005	1753		3	2	351
\$525,000	1132 JEAN ST SE	0.3	2001	1404		3	2	624
\$520,000	718 GORMLEY ST NE	0.2	1974	1348	624	3	1.75	468
\$515,000	2707 ANGEL LN	0.33	1998	1278	1278	3	3	400
\$505,000	13 FREDRICK CT	1.23		0				
\$500,000	1380 EASTMONT AVE #202	0	1995	2174		2	2	676
\$490,000	120 E ENTIAT DR	0.14	1993	1222		2	1.5	
\$488,000	1380 EASTMONT AVE #1408	0	2006	1796		3	2	448
\$455,000	340 MANOWAR LN	0.18	2007	1432		3	2	680
\$450,000	5650 RIVERSIDE DR	0.61	1920	1172	717	2	1	
\$439,000	447 N IOWA AVE	0.48	1957	1248		3	1.5	416
\$429,900	428 NEPTUNE PL	0.34	1996	1512		3	2	936

Sale Price	Address	Total Acres	Year Built	Residential Area	Basement Area	Bedr.	Bathr.	Garage Area
\$425,000	1267 THEO WAY	0.14	2021	1480		3	2.5	440
\$417,000	405 E ASH ST	0.27	1920	1797		3	1	864
\$413,100	30 MOUNTMORVIC RANCH RD	20.8	2019	726		1	1	
\$409,000	1802 5TH ST NE	0.22	1957	1025		3	1	
\$405,000	300 E BIRCH ST	0.13	1950	1208	1208	2	2	299
\$400,000	477 N KELLER AVE	0.15	1958	1528		3	1.5	
\$395,000	1104 CAROLYN ST SE	0.18	1974	1194		3	1.5	
\$384,000	2990 ROCK ISLAND RD	0.54	1947	1020		2	1	864
\$376,000	5695 PENN AVE	0.19	2016	1150		3	2	400
\$355,000	351 15TH ST NE	0	1984	1484		2	2	576
\$355,000	1051 N BAKER AVE	0	2009	1442		2	2.5	228
\$350,000	124 N KELLER AVE	0.47	1948	892	748	2	1	288

Farm

Seller	Buyer	Sale Price	Street	Total Acres
BANDIT LANE LLC	THOMSEN, BROOKE A	\$675,000	45 Stillwater Ln	5.1
BANDIT LANE LLC	VEIGA, ANTHONY J & VENESSA A	\$675,000	51 Stillwater Ln	5.2
ZWICKER, JASON	APC CONSTRUCTION LLC	\$625,000	69 Stillwater Ln	5.9
FIELD, CAMERON & LAURA	GARCIA KILGOUR &, JOSE L	\$535,000	714 SR 173	6.65
HANDLEY, KATIE	SHANDY HILL LLC	\$465,000	3100 Ridgeway Rd	4.17
OLIN ETAL, ROBERT W	AMERICAN DREAM LANDS LLC & RML WASHINGTON LLC	\$200,000		443.19
CLARK, LORAN A & MARILYN J, LIVING TRUST	AMERICAN DREAM LAND LLC	\$25,000		38
NEBERGALL & ET AL, ROBERT P	GLESSNER, KERRY C & RESA L	\$20,000		40

Commercial

Seller	Buyer	Sale Price	Street	Acres
K & R REAL ESTATE LLC	AMBAUM BLVD LLC	\$1,562,500	3759 AIRPORT WAY	3.11
KING JR &, LARRY E	EAST WENATCHEE WATER DISTRICT	\$1,200,000	455 6TH ST NE	0.79

Marketing 101

Jennifer Bushong

Owner of JBe Marketing Group, LLC.,



When to outsource?

Welcome to the 4th Quarter! The holidays are rapidly approaching, and the online marketing presence is growing, but often, this is when employees want to take vacation. As a business manager or owner, you might soon feel the strain of it all! Managing marketing strategies should be a priority, yet it can often be overshadowed by operational duties. Small businesses and many entrepreneurs have resource constraints and often lack the budget to

hire permanent employees. Here are a few steps to consider when seeking to outsource marketing professionals. First, carefully review the company's vision, mission, values, and goals within the marketing plan. Determine tasks that might be better suited for professionals, which can often be done quicker. A few strategies that could be outsourced might be developing a new marketing or brand campaign, designing a website, planning media buys, manag-

ing social media platforms, or even managing a special holiday event. The hours spent planning, creating, and organizing these tasks by a professional can pay dividends long-term. Second, while the internet has a plethora of resources from templates, applications, and outsourcing individuals, please be cautious. The self-proclaimed "marketer" or "graphic designer" without substance might cause more harm than good. Just because someone knows how to do an

Instagram REEL or create a flyer, it does not qualify them to be a marketing expert that can handle your business assets. Here are a few tips to consider: Check the firm or individuals' background-Hold an online video or in-person meeting or multiple phone conversations to clearly understand their business philosophy, strategies and background(s), vast education, and work examples. Review their online presence-Research their website, and their social media platforms. Read their content and gain insight on how they communicate, their strategies, and if the professional(s) would be a good fit for your business. It must be a partnership. Ask for follow-up-Look for reviews on social media

or testimonials from trusted client resources. Ask for a follow-up or further information, so the individual or firm can showcase their best work. Make sure the testimonials are valid and from real companies or organizations. Understand asset delivery -Ask how you or your leadership team will receive the final documents or copies of the materials created. Understand how they will communicate with your vendors, media, or team members. Ask about reporting methods-How are metrics tracked? Is it every campaign or every month? What are the benchmarks from starting point to completion? Share your goals and ensure they can produce outcomes. Researching a skilled marketing practitioner or

firm takes time but should help ease the talent constraints. When you can make more money and gain a few minutes of sanity to yourself before the holiday bustle, outsourcing might be your best option. *Jennifer Bushong, MA is the owner of JBe Marketing Group, LLC., a full-service marketing and communications firm in Washington State. Bushong earned a Master of Arts in Journalism with a concentration in public relations from Kent State University and graduated cum laude with a communication degree from the University of Washington. To connect, email jennifer@jbemarketinggroup.com or visit www.jbemarketing.com*

More information
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Real Estate

Top Properties Chelan County August 2023

Buyer	Seller	Sale Price	Street	City	Legal acreage	Year Built	Living Area	Bed-rooms	Bath-rooms	Pool	Fire-place
SULLIVAN A&L IRREVOCABLE TRUST I ETAL	INGALLS DUSTIN M	\$4,250,014	48 HARDING LN	MANSON	1.29	2003	4246	7	5.5	Y	Y
VACURA TODD M & ANN	BLANKENSHIP BARBARA & HARVEY ETAL	\$2,990,000	50 MINNEAPOLIS BEACH RD	CHELAN	0.45	1972	1362	4	3	N	Y
CURRY HARRY A & LAURALEE B	JORGENSEN FRANK & URSULA	\$1,600,000	4225 APRIL DR	WENATCHEE	2	2016	3131	4	3.5	N	Y
ROBERTS JENNIFER L & JAY M	PINORINI JEFF & DENNISE K	\$1,530,000	2031 MANSON BLVD	MANSON	0.91	2019	3875	5	5.5	Y	N
LA FRAMBOISE KRIS M & ADAM E	COUCHEE KIT P & MARY S CO-TRUSTEE	\$1,387,500	320 HIGHPOINT PL	CHELAN	2.5	2005	2815	3	5.5	N	Y
TITOV VSEVOLOD & TATIANA	BUTLER EDWIN R	\$1,280,000	31 FOXY LN	LEAVENWORTH	1	2003	1570	4	2.5	N	N
MC MAHON PATRICK & JENNIFER	LAKE JASON M & REBECCA L	\$1,200,000	136 STAYMAN FLATS RD	CHELAN	0.78	2013	1550	2	2	N	N
PALADINO THOMAS	WALLIS WALTER & JENNIE	\$1,173,250	12001 BRETZ DR	PLAIN	0.43	2002	2110	2	2	N	Y
MUNIZ ARROYO PROPERTIES LLC	LINDELL THOMAS R	\$1,150,000	801 BENTON WAY	WENATCHEE	0.83	1924	19508			N	N
STEPANOV ANDREY SPECIAL NEEDS TRUST	COHN JAMES G	\$1,100,000	459 LOOP AVE	MANSON	1.85	2005	2111	3	3	N	Y
BURGETT DENNIS L & LISA M	PARMENTER TODD M & KERRI V	\$1,030,000	128 E MOUNTAIN BROOK LN	WENATCHEE	0.53	2015	1940	4	3.5	N	Y
SYMONDS NICHOLAS & TIANA	KOHNHORST KENNETH	\$1,000,000	12817 SHORE ST	LEAVENWORTH	1.16	1996	2377	3	3.5	N	Y
WALTER JULIE L & MICHAEL W	SILVERS HEATHER M	\$987,500	217 BURCH HOLLOW LN	WENATCHEE	0.48	2018	2200	4	3.5	N	Y
GUERTIN IZAIHAH & BRITTANY	GREGORY THOMAS D	\$975,000	6295 CRUM CANYON RD	ENTIAT	26	2006	2188	3	4.25	N	Y
WATTS JARED N & LAURA	BOEHL STEPHANIE J	\$955,000	3815 LOVELL RD	WENATCHEE	1	2008	2292	4	3.5	N	Y
THOMPSON REIDAR & NELLIE	POOLE DIXON	\$950,000	320 KUTIL PL	MANSON	0.27	1978	1168	2	1	N	Y
RIMMER & ROETER CONSTRUCTION INC	L E WILSON INC	\$925,000	404 PIONEER AVE	CASHMERE	0.34	2015	5600			N	N
SALVADALENA KATHIE & BAIRD BRIAN	WOLFE FAMILY CHELAN LLC	\$910,000	104 SPADER BAY RD	CHELAN	0.21	0	1052			N	N
HELENE TARA ETAL	MOORE KENNETH M	\$899,999	129 LOOP AVE	MANSON	1.12	1978	2133	3	2	N	Y
GORDON STEPHEN R & NICOLE M	WHITE COLIN & JENNIFER	\$899,000	2452 SALAL DR	LAKE WENATCHEE	0.74	2000	2025	4	3.5	N	Y
RAMSEY KACI & LANGE ALEXANDER	HAGER RICHARD L TRUST ETAL	\$875,000	443 HIDDEN LN	CHELAN	0.85	2020	800	1	1	N	Y
ROOKARD DANIEL & ASHLEE N	LORETH RAY TRUSTE	\$850,000	1491 LOVE LN	WENATCHEE	0.95	1991	2464	4	3	N	Y
MC MAKIN ANDROMEDA	FICHTNER JUDITH C	\$838,000	12683 WILSON ST	LEAVENWORTH	1.37	1970	1586	3	2	N	Y
BIRRELL DOUGLAS G & LORI C	ROBERTS JENNIFER L & JAY M	\$825,000	48 MERAKI LN	MANSON	5	0	0			N	N
DUMONT TAYLOR D & JESSICA R	LANGE CONSTRUCTION LLC	\$797,500	15002 ALLISON PL	ENTIAT	0.28	2022	2245		2.5	N	Y
PALMER JODI & COLLEEN F	ECKEL IRMGARD	\$790,000	252 SCHOLZE ST	LEAVENWORTH	0.278	1958	1488	3	1.75	N	Y
DYLINA CHRISTIAN J	LORENZ MARK A & CONSTANCE E	\$787,000	220 SUMMERSET BLVD	MANSON	0.24	2018	1889	3	2	N	Y
LEONARD DAVID A & SHANNON C	MAYO STEPHEN & MAYO NORIKO	\$785,000	1421 APPLERIDGE ST	WENATCHEE	0.28	2005	2231	4	2.5	N	Y
MULLER DOUGLAS ETAL	SWARDSTROM MARK W & MEGHAN C	\$750,000	6285 FOREST RIDGE DR	WENATCHEE	1.34	2008	1122	3	2.25	N	N
TITAN CROW PROPERTIES LLC	GA ONE PROPERTIES LLC ETAL	\$744,500	516 1ST ST	WENATCHEE	0.16	1910	2785	9	4	N	N
HUTSINPILLER JUDITH L	ANDRE TY & CARYL	\$730,000	994 SPRING MOUNTAIN DR	WENATCHEE	0.18	2020	1756			N	N
BROWN CRAIG A & HALL ZOE R	WALKER TRAVIS & REBECCA	\$725,500	544 OLD MILL LN	LAKE WENATCHEE	3.69	1982	1664	3	2.5	N	Y
LAFFERTY LEANNE M & KELLY HEATHER L	ROUNDS MARILI	\$720,000	1201 WESTVIEW DR	WENATCHEE	0.61	1991	2293	3	2.75	N	N
CORNWELL DOUGLAS R & LEAH	MUELLER MICHAEL & ANNETTE	\$715,000	1911 LEAVENWORTH PL	WENATCHEE	0.29	1997	2526	6	3.5	N	Y
SMITH GREGG D & JENNY R	STIMAC VINCENT G & LORRE A	\$699,900	11415 S LAKESHORE RD	CHELAN	0	0	1300			N	N
TREES KRISTOFER	WIELAND BRENDA S	\$699,000	545 JUNCTION LN	LEAVENWORTH	0	0	837			N	N
GRIFFITH SCOTT W & CARLY A	SCB REVOCABLE TRUST	\$690,000	106 HEATHER LN	WENATCHEE	0.39	1987	2190	3	2.25	N	Y
COLE LISA A & DAVID	PETERSON DENNIS L	\$690,000	119 HEATHER LN	WENATCHEE	0.37	1987	1478	4	2.5	N	Y
MAYO TRINIDAD C	SIENNA 41 LLC	\$679,990	147 SIENNA RD	WENATCHEE	0.14	2022	2244	3	2.5	N	Y
LOW STEVEN & MARY	LA FORCE CARL L & KATHLEEN M	\$675,000	95 STEINBACH RD	WENATCHEE	4.47	2004	1680			N	N
CLARK DOUGLAS B & ASHLEY E	BEARDALL BRENT J & JENNIFER C	\$650,000	413 HILLTOP PL	CHELAN	0.21	2014	1858	3	2.5	N	N
ORLANDO GARY & CATHLEEN	REPPAS CHARLES B & LYNN R	\$648,500	6038 HAZEL PL	CASHMERE	0.24	1967	1196	3	2	N	Y
MONEN TRAVIS J & JILL M	BRYANT DORIS L	\$645,000	315 S 2ND ST	CHELAN	0.2	1902	3403	4	2.5	N	Y
CORNEHL HOLLY	DIEDE HERBERT D & CAROL L	\$640,000	1805 EASY ST	WENATCHEE	0.95	1908	1416	5	1.75	N	N
GROTH MARY C	BIGGS DENNIS	\$629,000	2347 W PROSPECT ST	CHELAN	0.83	1972	1615	3	1	N	Y
BERGSTROM JAMES A & GHVETTE R	HUTCHINSON JASMINE R ETAL JTROS	\$625,000	4011 CAMAS CREEK RD	PESHASTIN	5.4	2018	1724	3	2.5	N	N
BEHLING DAVID R TRUST	DION JEFFERY P & PATRYCJA	\$625,000	525 ALPINE PL	LEAVENWORTH	0	0	958			N	N
MC KINLEY BRETT C & ANGELICA M	GOODWILL JAQUELINE E	\$620,000	475 ALPINE PL	LEAVENWORTH	0	0	1024			N	N
AUGUSTINE KRISTIN L & JOEL R	CONNER KRISTOPHER I & NICOLE A	\$617,000	1720 WINDSOR CT	WENATCHEE	0.36	1994	1906	4	2.25	N	N
CURTIN FRANK & ASHLEY	COLE RUSSELL M JR & ANGELA	\$610,000	6011 SUNSET HWY	CASHMERE	0.98	1947	1132	3	1.75	N	N
TOWNSEND RICHARD M & JULIE ETAL	KAUZLARICH SARAH & SAMUEL J	\$602,500	808 W MANSON RD	CHELAN	0	0	1030			N	N
COLLAMORE STEVE & CYNTHIA	OCKEY DAVID C & LORIE M	\$600,000	3183 ALLEN LN	PESHASTIN	0.46	1980	2524	3	1.5	N	Y
SCROGGS ROBERT J III & TAMMY J	EICHHORN DAVID A	\$600,000	104 LOOKOUT WAY	CHELAN	0.22	1979	1574	3	2	N	Y
KAUZLARICH SAMUEL J & SARAH	WOOD DANNY E & KAREN S	\$599,950	207 BUTTE RD	CHELAN	0.15	1994	1435		2	N	Y
GARCIA RAMIREZ JOSE L & GARCIA CLARA	LONG JOHN F	\$580,000	58169 SQUILCHUCK RD	WENATCHEE	1.87	2007	2056	3	2	N	N
THORNTON DIANNE B	PERALA MICHAEL	\$580,000	393 RIDGEWOOD DR	MANSON	0.11	2014	1568	3	2.5	N	Y
SIMPSON TRACY ETAL	WENATCHEE RIVERFRONT LLC	\$550,000	149 SHALES LN	LAKE WENATCHEE	2.6	0	0			N	N
ROE KEVIN ETAL	COOPER JEFF & RENEE	\$550,000	611 E OKANOGAN	CHELAN	0.09	2019	1676	3	2.5	N	N

Real Estate

Top Properties Chelan County August 2023

Buyer	Seller	Sale Price	Street	City	Legal acreage	Year Built	Living Area	Bed-rooms	Bath-rooms	Pool	Fire-place
CLARK RICHARD & KAREN	TUTTLE JEFFREY J	\$549,000	4550 NAVARRE COULEE RD	CHELAN	1.92	1990	1890			N	N
GOTTLIEB SHEVIN JORDAN & SANSOM GOTTLIEB KATE	LIPPERT LEE M ETAL	\$540,000	104 SPADER BAY RD	CHELAN	0.09	0	435			N	N
RYBAK JUDY A A	RANEY BARBARA ETAL	\$539,000	118 BIRCH ST	LEAVENWORTH	0.2	1967	1144	3	1.5	N	N
MC LAUGHLIN JACINDA & TIMOTHY	BEST HARRY A SR & TERRI L	\$535,000	808 W MANSON RD	CHELAN	0	0	1080			N	N
DOUGLAS FAMILY TRUST	DOUGLAS ERIN M & STEPHEN J	\$529,419	89 EMMA DR	WENATCHEE	0.14	2022	1762	3	2	N	N
VELAZQUEZ ROMAN D & DANICA J	HARRINGTON ROBERT W & BETHALYNE E	\$509,000	14500 OLIN ST	ENTIAT	2.34	1924	1637	3	1.75	Y	N
SIMPSON TIANNA & KEITH	COOPER LEWIS J	\$504,000	1418 MILLERDALE AVE	WENATCHEE	0.19	1986	1446	5	2.5	N	N
LITTLE WILLIAM & SARAH M	BROOKS TYLER E & BRIANNA A	\$503,720	500 MARILYN AVE	WENATCHEE	0.21	1967	1198	4	1.75	N	Y
MARION JIM J & SARAH K	MUGG TYLER J & KRISTINA N	\$500,000	4681 WHISPERING RIDGE DR	WENATCHEE	1	2015	1444	3	2	N	N
BRYANT DORIS	LANGTON BERNADINE I	\$495,000	911 SUNRISE DR	MANSON	0.17	1993	1440			N	N
ROSKELLEY RYAN & NICOLE	EKLUND PAUL G & OLIVERA GRISELA REVOCABLE TRT	\$494,500	113 N EAST CENTER ST	CHELAN	0.05	0	1356			N	N
DAMIANDIS TERRY	GOTTE BRAD L	\$489,000	515 S LAKE ST	CHELAN	0.21	1900	652	1	1	N	N
BURKE DON & KIRSTEN	CARMAN KENNETH C & SHERRY L	\$485,000	2573 AUVIL AVE	ENTIAT	2.47	1995	1188			N	N
MALMBERG GREGORY B & SHEILA G	BERGERUD PROPERTY LLC	\$480,000	1467 MELISSA WAY	WENATCHEE	0.17	2017	1446	3	1.75	N	N
CORTEZ SOLORIO EDUARDO	DAILING MARTHA E	\$475,000	1607 JEFFERSON ST	WENATCHEE	0.18	1969	1545	4	2.25	N	Y
DYNAMIC PROPERTY OF WASHINGTON LLC	BOREALIS LLC	\$475,000	5816 EVERGREEN DR	CASHMERE	0.99	1940	912	2	1	N	Y
HARRISON PHILLIP E & DEBBIE G	E R V ORCHARDS LLC	\$465,000	5107 ENTIAT RIVER RD	ENTIAT	19.88	1915	1120	3	1	N	N
NIKOLETICH PATRICK & MARIA	OHLFS FAMILY REVOCBLE LIVING TRUST	\$465,000	21211 STETSON RD	PLAIN	0.29	1976	912	2	1	N	N
FULMORE TROY D & JILL A	CHELAN VIEW ORCHARD LLC	\$465,000	UNASSIGNED	MANSON	6.2	0	0			N	N
NESS REVOCABLE FAMILY TRUST	WRIGHT RONALD W	\$465,000	1617 PACIFIC LN	WENATCHEE	0.2	1961	1148	3	1.75	N	Y
WAGGONER REBECCA & ORTIZ GUY	KIRK DONALD L	\$462,500	500 GREENWALT PL	WENATCHEE	0.15	1956	2402	4	1.75	Y	N
GRANGER CARMEN R & BENJAMIN R	SKELTON ROY SHANE & RANDAL JACK	\$461,000	5855 CAMPBELL RD	PESHASTIN	5.4	1923	1303	2	1	N	Y
NORTH 40 RANCH LLC	HENDERSON HIGHLANDS INC	\$458,000	UNASSIGNED	CHELAN	20	0	0			N	N
BIRRUETA MADRIGAL HERIBERTO ETAL	WALTON LESA A	\$455,000	534 HIGHLAND DR	WENATCHEE	0.15	2008	1664	3	2.5	N	N
SCHILLING JASON W	KIRBY KAITLIN T & SCHILLING JASON	\$453,992	1453 PITCHER CANYON RD	WENATCHEE	9.76	2022	2927	3	4	N	N
ZACHER WILLIAM A & EASLEY ZACHER GINGER L	GEGLIA VINCENT J & JOLYNN	\$452,000	915 SUNRISE DR	MANSON	0.22	1994	1782			N	N
TIMPE TERRI L	FLINT RICHARD & JANICE M	\$435,000	1209 HILL ST	WENATCHEE	0.15	2004	1706			N	N
CLOSE FAMILY TRUST	THE KIMBALL FAMILY TRT	\$430,000	325 DIVISION ST	LEAVENWORTH	0	0	1260			N	N
KILLIAN CINDY J	HAGER SCOTT W	\$429,000	1261 MONTANA ST	WENATCHEE	0.19	1952	1590	2	1	N	N
LOFTUS WILLIAM H & KATHLEEN	DICKINSON JOSHUA L ETAL	\$428,500	404 MISSION CREEK RD	CASHMERE	0.32	1918	1666	3	1	N	Y
CALLAHAN RODNEY B & STACY HP	LAKE JASON M & REBECCA L	\$425,000	63 SOLSTICE LN	WENATCHEE	3.38	0	0			N	N
PETERSON WILLIAM & LORRIE	LARSON FAMILY LIVING TRUST	\$425,000	20888 KAHLER DR	LAKE WENATCHEE	0	0	1531			N	N
TRUDELL COBY	GAYLE EARL M & PHYLLIS L	\$420,000	1222 UTAH ST	WENATCHEE	0.28	1952	1646		1	N	N
DOYLE KEVIN	PRIVATE CLIENT REPRESENTATIVES	\$420,000	6850 OLALLA CANYON RD	CASHMERE	0.89	1989	2139			N	N
BARBOZA ANA R ETAL	ROMIG EARL & HEATH ANITA	\$415,000	4520 EELS RD	CASHMERE	0.5	1951	1460	3	1.75	N	Y
MOORE NATHANIEL T	REINFELD EDGAR A & PAMELA	\$410,000	12 FURNEY ST	WENATCHEE	0.14	1940	965	3	0.75	N	Y
BETANCOURT WILLIAM ETAL	AKERS IONE	\$400,000	268 EASY ST	WENATCHEE	0.51	1914	1754	4	2	N	Y
DESKIN PATRICK & JUAN S ETAL	DESKIN FREDERICK W	\$400,000	12860 ENTIAT RIVER RD	ENTIAT	5.11	2011	2196		2	N	Y
HEINBACH DAVE & MILLER SYDNEY	ESPE MARY	\$395,000	19393 BEAVER VALLEY RD	PLAIN	2.72	0	0			N	N
DORTON ALEXANDER D ETAL	EATON EDWIN D & MELISSA	\$393,000	1312 POE ST	WENATCHEE	0.19	1955	1288	3	1.75	N	Y
BAIRD RICHARD	ASHER DYLAN	\$392,500	2517 CORDELL ST	WENATCHEE	0.35	1991	1300			N	N
GALLANT LYNN M	MARTIN KEITH & SERENA ELDREDGE	\$389,000	1220 POPLAR AVE	WENATCHEE	0.16	1988	1547	3	2.5	N	Y
CASTRO MARIA	WARD III CLEVELAND	\$385,000	1107 METHOW ST	WENATCHEE	0.16	1978	1760	2	1	N	N
ECHOLS REBECCA A	ANDERSON KATHERINE E	\$369,000	102 QUAIL RUN	WENATCHEE	0	0	1134			N	N
WALKER JENNIFER L ETAL	PERKINS ANNA J REVOCABLE TRUST	\$365,000	1709 N WESTERN AVE	WENATCHEE	0.27	1951	888	2	1	N	N
REINFELD EDGAR A & PAMELA	TIGNER MAXINE E	\$358,500	1310 CASTLEROCK AVE	WENATCHEE	0	0	1350			N	N
STIRLING JOEL A	TAYLOR RICHARD & TAMRA	\$355,000	18106 ENTIAT RIVER RD	ENTIAT	0.6	1984	672	1	0.75	N	N
HARRIS ROBERT N & LESAH P	SAGE HOMES LLC	\$354,900	35 STELLAR LN	WENATCHEE	0.16	2022	1657	3	2	N	Y
JANISCH TODD	ALEXION KARRI & TIERNAN CHRISTOPHER J	\$350,000	24 CHEYAVA LN	MANSON	4.06	0	0			N	N

Employment

Continued from page 1

sively low 2.8 percent, underscore the state's overall economic strength.

In comparison, Chelan County's unemployment rate of 3.8 percent is a testament to its ability to navigate economic fluctuations effectively. This places the county in a favorable posi-

tion for continued growth and prosperity.

While Chelan County's performance is commendable, it's essential to recognize the state's collective efforts in driving economic progress. Counties such as King, Pierce, and Snohomish continue to be major contributors to Washington's economic vitality, with significant

labor forces and employment figures.

This report highlights Chelan County's economic prowess and underscores the importance of local economic development efforts in shaping Washington's future.

Terry Ward: 509-731-3284 or terry@ward.media

In August 2023, the economic landscape in North Central Washington is showing signs of resilience as we take a closer look at the ten counties boasting the lowest unemployment rates in the state. Among these, Chelan County secures the impressive 6th position, while Douglas County follows closely at number 14, and Okanogan County holds a commendable 24th place. These statistics, reflecting the current state of employment, offer a glimpse into the dynamic and evolving job market that continues to shape the communities of North Central Washington.

Rank	County	Unemployment rate
1.	SAN JUAN	2.8%
2.	ADAMS	3.4%
3.	ASOTIN	3.4%
4.	KING	3.7%
5.	SNOHOMISH	3.7%
6.	CHELAN	3.8%
7.	WALLA WALLA	3.8%
8.	KITSAP	3.9%
9.	SPOKANE	3.9%
10.	THURSTON	3.9%
14.	DOUGLAS	4.2%
24.	OKANOGAN	4.5%

Real Estate

U.S. existing-home sales slip 0.7% in August

a closer look at real estate trends

Ward Media | Wenatchee Business Journal

WASHINGTON - The U.S. real estate landscape experienced a subtle shift in the month of August as existing home sales registered a 0.7% decline, marking a notable moment in the ongoing housing market narrative. This data, compiled and analyzed by the National Association of Realtors® (NAR), reveals a nuanced story of regional variations and market dynamics.

One standout aspect of this report is the continued ascent of the median existing home sales price, which reached \$407,100. This marks the third consecutive month where the median sales price has vaulted above the \$400,000 threshold, registering a 3.9% increase compared to the previous year. This trajectory underscores the enduring demand for housing even in the face of shifting sales volumes.

The inventory of unsold existing homes, another critical metric, witnessed a minor decrease of 0.9% from the prior month. By

the close of August, the total inventory stood at 1.1 million units, resulting in a 3.3-month supply at the prevailing sales pace. While this figure remains relatively stable compared

to July, it shows a slight uptick from the same period in 2022, highlighting the ongoing challenge of tight housing supply.

The report also offers insights from NAR's Chief

Economist, Lawrence Yun, who emphasized the stability of home sales in recent months, noting that they have neither surged nor plummeted. Yun further highlighted the pivotal role

of mortgage rate fluctuations in the short term and the steady positive impact of job gains in the long run. The Southern region's relatively lighter decline in sales, attributed to greater regional job growth post-pandemic, showcases the intricate interplay of these economic factors.

Additional insights from the REALTORS® Confidence Index indicated that properties typically remained on the market for 20 days in August, a figure unchanged from July but up from 16 days in August 2022. First-time buyers accounted for 29% of sales in August, while

all-cash transactions increased slightly to 27% of the total.

Distressed sales, including foreclosures and short sales, maintained stability at 1% of total sales in August, mirroring the previous month's and previous year's figures.

Mortgage rates, an influential factor in the real estate market, experienced a subtle shift. According to Freddie Mac, the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 7.18% as of September 14, slightly higher than the prior week and significantly above the 6.02% rate observed one year ago.



STOCK PHOTO

Regional variations shape the landscape

The U.S. housing market is a tapestry woven from the diverse threads of regional trends. In August, these trends showed distinct patterns:

Northeast

Existing home sales in the Northeast remained static compared to July, but the region witnessed a significant year-over-year decline of 22.6%. The median price in the Northeast reached \$465,700, marking a robust 5.8% increase year-over-year.

Midwest

The Midwest region bucked the national trend, reporting a 1.0% increase in existing home sales compared to the previous month. However, year-over-year sales in the Midwest declined by 16.4%. The median price in

this region reached \$305,300, reflecting a 6.8% increase compared to August 2022.

South

Existing home sales in the Southern region took a dip, declining by 1.1% from July, leading to a 12.4% decrease compared to the same period last year. The median price in the South reached \$366,100, showing a 3.2% year-over-year increase.

West

The Western region faced a 2.6% slump in existing home sales from the previous month, resulting in a 15.7% decline compared to the prior year. Nevertheless, the median price in the West stood at \$609,300, reflecting a 1.0% increase from August 2022.

Washington Retail Report



Adjustable worktable or mechanical aids are great ergo tools

Heavy lifting, lower awkward positions and static postures are all risk factors for workplace injuries. Over exertion injuries due to repetitive motion are the most frequent and costly injuries, and there are low-cost mechanical aids to prevent them!

Bringing the work to the 'power zone', between your knees and shoulders, is always best. For older workers that zone is a bit tighter, more at waist height because of losing

muscle mass and strength. Working higher and closer to waist level can improve productivity and reduce fatigue. Consider these helpful tools:

- Pallet jacks that have the ability to lift.
- Adjustable work benches to fit employee's natural working level.
- Table with Lazy Susan allows workers to rotate with less potential for overreaching.
- Any other mechanical assists to help with lifting, pulling, gripping

and opening, will be a great benefit to worker productivity.

These mechanical aids are helpful to workers of all ages. They reduce time spent on material handling and the potential for over-exertion injuries.

For deskwork employees, the solution is an adjustable workstation as well as adjusting their work posture throughout the day. Every change is an opportunity to get out of that 'static posture' and give your body a break.

Gas

Continued from page 6

second Allowance Price Containment Reserve auction, scheduled for November 8.

Critics argue that the carbon tax is a major driver of Washington's high gas prices, while Governor Jay Inslee's administration and the state Department of Ecology

maintain that the state's cap-and-trade program, a component of the 2021 Climate Commitment Act, has had a minimal impact on gas prices within the state.

Retailers choose regional hubs to speed up deliveries

A recent WSJ article discusses how Target, one of the largest retailers in the US, has been using smaller warehouses (or "regional hubs") to improve its online order fulfillment and delivery speed. The regional hubs include flow centers, which replenish stores with in-demand items more frequently and in smaller quantities, and sortation centers, which batch online orders by neighborhood for final delivery to customers.

Target indicates this strategy has helped it reduce its inventory levels, cut shipping costs, and

deliver packages more quickly. According to John Mulligan, Target's chief operating officer, customers who are close to sortation centers receive packages on average a day and a half faster than other customers. About one in three orders arrive in one day. The Minneapolis-based retailer plans to open at least six additional sortation centers by the end of 2026 as part of a \$100 million investment to expand next-day delivery.

Other retailers, such as Amazon and Walmart, have been making similar changes to their distri-

bution networks. Amazon recently created eight self-sufficient distribution regions and opened more same-day centers to prepare packages for immediate delivery. Walmart has been using its stores as fulfillment centers and partnering with local delivery services to offer same-day delivery for online orders.

Consumers are driving these changes with growing demand for online shopping and rising expectations for increased delivery speed and convenience. By using smaller

Financing

Beau Ruff

Contributor for Ward Media



Finance your business with a loan instead of an equity investor

Securing a source of capital for a new or existing business can be a challenge. Consider a common scenario: Diana has a promising idea for a new business and possesses the necessary experience and expertise to make it successful. She starts a business and recognizes some success. However, she requires funding to take her business to the next level. Diana discusses her business idea with her friend Ben, who believes in its potential. They decide to form a partnership, with Diana managing the business operations and Ben providing the necessary funding to fuel growth. The question then arises: How should Ben provide the funding? Should Diana seek funding from Ben as an investor, where Ben exchanges his money for an equity (stock) interest in the venture, or should Diana seek funding from Ben in the form of a loan?

Funding the business with a loan instead of an investment in exchange for stock is simpler both in terms of the initial deal structure and the ongoing rights and obligations of the parties. Let's consider each in turn.

First, the simple way. Assume that Diana and Ben agree that Ben will lend Diana \$100,000 to allow the business to grow. Ben will likely have Diana sign



STOCK PHOTO

a loan agreement and a promissory note and maybe even take some form of collateral (e.g., a second mortgage on Diana's house). The downside is that Diana is burdened with debt. However, presumably, the terms are well thought out and allow Diana the likelihood of paying both principal and interest payments as required by the terms of the loan and based on Diana's smart business plan. Importantly, Diana has not sacrificed her role as the sole owner of the business. She needn't worry about adding additional shareholders or decision-makers to her business. The transaction is simple. The ongoing business structure and

management is likewise simple.

Alternatively, assume a different set of facts. Diana and Ben agree that Diana will be the brains of the business, retaining 50% ownership of the joint venture and provide management for the business. Ben will be the financial backer for the affair in exchange for the remaining 50% of the joint venture. Ben is an investor providing money to the entity in exchange for an equity interest (stock). Are there any legal challenges inherent in this transaction? There are many, and those trying to raise capital in this manner should tread carefully. The sale of stock is subject to strict state and

federal securities regulations, even for the average small business.

Ever since the stock market crash of 1929 and the resulting securities laws in 1933 and 1934, the exchange in this second situation implicates securities laws. The federal statutory scheme provides a methodology for lawfully obtaining financing for these enterprises. And, all states have followed the federal lead and have implemented state securities laws as well. The common misconception is that the securities laws only apply to the big, publicly traded companies, but the truth is that the laws apply regardless of the size of the business.

Any security (which is broadly defined) that is being offered for sale must typically be registered with the SEC, unless it qualifies for an enumerated exception. However, for closely held businesses, the cost of registering with the SEC is just too high. Therefore, the crucial factor to ensure compliance is to utilize an exception and avoid the need for costly registration.

There are two big exemptions to the registration requirements of the Securities and Exchange Act. The first is the private offering (detailed in Rules 504 and 506 of Regulation D of the 1933 Act). The second deals with intrastate offerings under Rule 147 and 147A. Either requires the use of an attorney skilled in securities laws. Further, failure to comply with these rules subjects the issuer (Diana) to potential liability, usually in the form of a plaintiff's attorney citing failure to comply with disclosure and antifraud provisions of the Act and demanding compensation for the lost value of the investment (effectively making Diana guarantee the return on the investment).

The second transaction is much more complex, but it does carry substantial upside. That is, if the stock is issued to Ben correctly, Diana has no debt to repay. Instead, Ben is an

owner of the entity subject to the same opportunity for profit or loss as Diana. This makes early cash flow especially easy for Diana.

Though the cash flow is better for Diana, not only is the initial deal more difficult to structure than a loan, but the organizational structure and management becomes much more complex as well. Ben has rights as a shareholder and might have rights to govern the business management as well. It would be prudent then for the two owners to come to an agreement on a vast array of planning challenges for an entity...from tax considerations, to the distribution of profits, to business plan changes, to work requirements, to non-competition agreements, and much more.

The bottom line is that if you are seeking financing for your venture, the traditional loan (financed through a bank or from individuals) is the simpler route. Anyone contemplating trading equity in the business for money should consult a lawyer knowledgeable in securities laws.

Beau Ruff, a licensed attorney and certified financial planner, is the director of planning at Cornerstone Wealth Strategies in Kennewick, WA

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Awards

Continued from page 4

cific focus on those facing financial constraints.

Students seeking these scholarships navigate an online application process that matches them with relevant opportunities. What sets this program

apart is the active involvement of the community. Over 300 volunteers participate in scholarship committees, rigorously evaluating applications and selecting the most deserving recipients.

Julie Mott, scholarship specialist at the Community Foundation of NCW,

emphasized the personal and community-driven nature of these scholarships, stating, "Scholarships are such a personal way to give back to the community. Each one is unique and established for various reasons - some are created to remember loved ones, some to sup-

port their alma mater or field of study, and some are simply compelled to help deserving students who need financial support. We are honored and humbled to carry out these dreams and wishes of those who generously established them, and we also thank the hundreds of volunteers

who help to make it all happen."

Looking ahead, the next scholarship application cycle is slated to open on Jan. 1, with submission deadlines on Mar. 1 and June 1. Aspiring scholarship recipients are encouraged to initiate the application process early,

including completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) when it becomes available on Dec. 1, and gathering letters of recommendation. These proactive steps can significantly enhance their chances of securing vital financial support for their educational pursuits.

Labor Area Reports

WA Labor & Industries proposes 4.9% workers' comp rate hike

Ward Media | Wenatchee Business Journal

TUMWATER – The Washington State Department of Labor & Industries (L&I) has put forth a proposal to raise the average hourly rate for workers' compensation insurance by 4.9 percent in the upcoming year. If approved, this increase would require employers and workers to collectively contribute an additional \$65 per full-time employee annually within a business.

Joel Sacks, the Director of L&I, emphasized the delicate balance they are striving to achieve. "With help from our reserves, we're finding a balance between charging enough to cover costs and keeping rates steady and predictable as Washington employers deal with economic uncertainty and lingering impacts of the

pandemic," Sacks stated.

While the proposed increase is slightly below L&I's anticipated 2024 claims costs, the agency intends to supplement the premiums using funds from the workers' compensation contingency reserve.

The burden on individual workers is expected to remain relatively stable, with employees still cover-

ing about a quarter of the premium, similar to the current year. However, the proposed increase would translate to an average of approximately \$11 more per employee in 2024.

One contributing factor to this rate adjustment is the recent trend of higher-than-normal increases in the state's average wage. "It's good for workers that

wages are rising, but that means the cost of replacing wages when a worker gets hurt goes up too," Director Sacks explained. He also highlighted the strong performance of the workers' compensation State Fund investments, which allows them to allocate returns to cover costs instead of passing the burden onto employers.

This marks the fourth consecutive year that L&I has turned to the contingency reserve to alleviate the strain on employers and workers impacted by the pandemic, preventing more substantial increases in premiums. Without utilizing the reserve, L&I would need to raise average rates by nearly 10 percent to meet the demands of new claims in 2024.

In Washington, employers and workers contribute to the workers' compensation system, funding wage and disability benefits and medical coverage for work-related injuries and illnesses. Unlike most states that charge rates as a percentage of payroll, Washington calculates rates based on the number of hours worked. Consequently, when wages increase, the rate remains constant, leading to increased costs in the system. The proposed rate increase aims to offset these rising expenses.

Public hearings are scheduled for Oct. 26, 27, and 31 to gather input on the rate proposal before a final decision is reached. The Oct. 26 hearing will be held virtually and in

person at L&I headquarters in Tumwater at 10 a.m. The Oct. 27 hearing is scheduled for 9 a.m. and will be held in person only in Spokane. Finally, the Oct. 31 hearing will occur at 10 a.m. in person only in Yakima. The final rates will be adopted on Nov. 30, with the changes going into effect on Jan. 1, 2024.

Interested parties can also submit written comments to Jo Anne Attwood, administrative regulations analyst, at P.O. Box 41448, Olympia, WA 98504-4148, or via email at JoAnne.Attwood@lni.wa.gov. All comments must be received by 5 p.m. on Oct. 31.

For more information about the proposal, visit www.lni.wa.gov/2024Rates.



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Lake Chelan welcomes inspired pasta

CHELAN – An exciting addition to the valley's culinary scene, Lago Pasta and Casetta Rossa have taken the hearts of Chelan residents with their hip approach to both food and restaurant culture. Lago Pasta, a small European market, and Casetta Rossa, an Italian trattoria pasta bar, opened less than four months ago, though have quickly become beloved.

By **Katie Lindert** | Staff Reporter



KATIE LINDERT/WARD MEDIA

Fresh rotini production underway.

This market and pasta bar are the creations of partners and longtime friends, Teague Block and Nathan Gottlieb. Block, former owner of Lake Rider Sports in Chelan, and Gottlieb, long-time Italian chef and former part-owner of Pasta Casalinga of Pike Place Market, teamed up this past winter to bring the valley something new, and their quick acceptance has been noteworthy. Block had been working two years to prepare their current location at 510 E. Woodin Avenue with intention to

open a market, but it was when chef Gottlieb made the decision to relocate to Chelan in December that their collaboration really began to take shape.

Block describes their bond and vision, "We became two separate entities, but at the same time, we're one entity. He's [Gottlieb] Casetta Rossa, he's the chef, and I'm in charge of the market, I'm Lago [Pasta], but we are the same. We're looking to venture with other people too and bring in other ideas, things that are part of something comfortable, something fun, European, with reasonable prices... we want you to walk in and feel like you're out of Chelan, like you just walked into little Europe. Every day we strive to provide that because that's what we want. We just want a place where we can hang out and feel cozy."

Pasta Lago boasts a myriad of delicacies, wines and various European treats for sale along-

side a deli stocked with their fresh pasta, sauces, seasonal vegetables, and specialty syrups. Outside, Casetta Rossa's menu features ever-changing pasta dishes and salads, the trattoria honoring a small sampling of dishes rich with seasonal and local inspiration and ingredients. This coming winter they plan to stay open, and have intention to even begin offering take-and-bake options to the community.

Food is not, however, the only aspect of this venture that Block and Gottlieb are impassioned about. Their commitment to and care for their employees shows in their dedication to creating a supportive and balanced work environment for all. Block articulates, "They [market and restaurant staff] are treated like family here, and everybody has the same position. We all wash the dishes. We all serve food. We all get behind the cook station

if we need to cook. We're chopping onions together. It's a bit different in that way for a business like this—everybody's equal."

Katie Lindert:
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katie@ward.media

Quick Read

Lago Pasta and Casetta Rossa, the brainchild of partners Teague Block and Nathan Gottlieb, represent a fusion of European flavors and flair. Block, the former proprietor of Lake Rider Sports, and Gottlieb, an accomplished Italian chef and former co-owner of Pasta Casalinga at Pike Place Market, joined forces this winter to bring a touch of the extraordinary to Chelan.

Washington Retail Report



Hubs
Continued from page 6
warehouses that are closer to customers, retailers are

shortening the distance and time that goods have to travel, while also saving on transportation and storage costs. While the consumer

benefits, these changes make the network for retailers more complex and require more coordination and flexibility.

Unemployment insurance trust fund recovering from pandemic era lows

During COVID pandemic curtailments, the balance in the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund (UITF), which pays unemployment insurance benefits to unemployed workers, declined to less than \$2 billion (less than 8 months of benefits). The UITF is funded entirely from unemployment insurance taxes paid by employers. Because of the low balance in the UITF and the extraordinary demands on the fund due to high rates of unemployment, employers were facing increases of 200% or more in their unemployment insurance taxes – as well

as possible surcharges – to maintain UITF solvency. Fortunately, the Legislature responded to this crisis by appropriating over the \$500 million of federal relief funds to backfill the fund, eliminating the risk of a solvency surcharge. Recognizing that employers were not responsible for pandemic-related layoffs, the Legislature temporarily adjusted UI experience rates to provide relief from unemployment insurance charges due to pandemic layoffs. In addition, the Legislature provided targeted relief for those employers that were most impacted by pandemic closures.

Recent data shows the Legislature's actions worked. As the economy has recovered, so has the balance in the UITF. By the end of the 2023 fiscal year (June 30, 2023), the UITF balance had grown to \$3.8 billion. Recent economic and revenue forecasts now project the fund continuing to increase to \$4.4 billion in 2024 and \$4.8 billion in 2025. Under these forecasts, employer unemployment insurance tax rates should remain stable. Individual rates may fluctuate, however, depending on an individual employer's layoff experience.

Leisure

ENTERTAINMENT | SOCIALIZING | FREE TIME

New Wildlife, Natural History Museum & Art Gallery readies world-class exhibit for october opening

"Nature's Window" is Portal for Learning About Conservation and the Diverse Wildlife of the World

By **TERRY LABRUE, APR** | Press Release
Nature's Window, Museum of Wildlife, Natural History & Art

CHELAN - When local businessman Shannon Kollmeyer began planning to donate his extensive taxidermy collection, he and his wife Cris considered several alternatives. They evaluated numerous museums, colleges, and universities as potential recipients

The Kollmeyers soon discovered these options were unavailable because regional museums and academia are out of space and are, therefore, not accepting further donations of wildlife specimens. The solution for the Chelan-based retirees was to establish Nature's Window, Museum of Wildlife, Natural History & Art in their local community. "The mission of Nature's Window is to serve as an education center for wildlife conservation and to increase knowledge and appreciation for the diverse wildlife of the world," Kollmeyer remarked. "We want to inform the public about the role art and wildlife management play in conserving these valuable resources."

"All of us at the museum strive to teach our guests about the wonder of wildlife and their environment with the merger of science, technology, and art," Kollmeyer remarked. "What's more, our artistic dioramas are accurate reflections of actual animal habitats that are also teaching tools of conservation, science, and art. Viewers can learn about wildlife management and the role artists and hunters play in preserving wild places and animals for future generations."

Humans have been hunters from the begin-

ning of time. Many pictographs, petroglyphs, and other artifacts document the use of animals for their survival. A wide range of pictographs in Central Washington, including Lake Chelan and the Columbia River Regions, captured visual examples of the relationship between early hunters in the area and native wildlife. "Preserving our wilderness and natural world is more critical than ever and is a responsibility of all citizens," Kollmeyer said. President Theodore Roosevelt, along with other sportsmen, was in-

strumental in crafting the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation in the early 1900's. The policies of this model created the world's most successful wildlife and habitat conservation program that has rescued hundreds of wildlife species from extinction. The new museum brings nature indoors, providing a sensory journey with unique sounds and sights stimulating visceral responses. Whether it is the howl of an Arctic wolf, the bitter cold wind of

See **MUSEUM** Page 20



COURTESY OF TERRY LABRUE

The vibrant Nature's Window will increase knowledge and appreciation of wildlife from around the world in a unique museum setting. It is slated to open in mid-October near Knapp's Hill Tunnel.



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Grant
Continued from page 5
50 years old, is eligible for this grant program. Nearly \$500,000 in funding is available for distribution as grants.

Historic Theater Grant Program
The Historic Theater Grant Program, established in 2021, seeks to support the conserva-

tion of historic theaters that have played a pivotal role in shaping the arts and cultural landscape of Washington. This initiative is particularly significant given the financial challenges and deferred maintenance faced by theaters during the pandemic. Grants will be awarded to successful applicants to aid in the maintenance, repair, and revitalization of these cherished commu-

nity gathering spaces, with a substantial \$500,000 allocation. Applicants are encouraged to review the eligibility criteria, program guidelines, and application workshop recordings available on the Washington Trust's website at www.preservewa.org/grants. All applications must be submitted through the online portal before the deadline of October 31, 2023.

Quick Read

In preparation for its grand October opening, the Nature's Window Museum of Wildlife, Natural History & Art in Chelan is set to unveil a world-class exhibit, "Nature's Window," aiming to become a portal for educating the public about conservation and the rich diversity of global wildlife. This initiative took flight when local entrepreneur Shannon Kollmeyer and his wife Cris, confronted with the challenge of finding a suitable home for their extensive taxidermy collection, decided to establish this educational center in their community.

Leisure

ENTERTAINMENT

SOCIALIZING

FREE TIME

Stemilt's Annual golf tournament raises \$155,000 for WAEF Scholarships

Ward Media | Wenatchee Business Journal

WENATCHEE — Stemilt Growers recently presented the Washington Apple Education Foundation (WAEF) with a check for \$155,000, marking the culmination of their annual Thomas K. Mathison Memorial Golf Tournament held on May 18.

WAEF, a charitable organization dedicated to supporting the Washington tree fruit

industry, oversees the distribution of more than 150 scholarships each year, including the prestigious Thomas

K. Mathison Memorial scholarship. This year's tournament saw the participation of 36 teams, all contributing to the cause.



COURTESY OF STEMILT GROWERS LLC

Pictured left to right: Vice President of Sales and Marketing, Tate Mathison, President, West Mathison, WAEF Executive Director, Dr. Faviola Barbosa, Stemilt's Jay Fulbright, and Chief Financial Officer Mark Blakney.

Tsillan Cellars dominates North Central Washington Wine Awards

Ward Media | Wenatchee Business Journal

WENATCHEE — In a display of viticultural prowess, Tsillan Cellars has emerged as the undisputed champion at the 2023 North Central Washington Wine Awards.

This highly anticipated event, held at the Wenatchee Wine & Food Festival in the Town Toyota Center on Aug. 26, featured stiff competition with 30 prominent wineries from North Central Washington presenting over 300 wines for scrutiny.

Tsillan Cellars' exceptional performance at the awards reaffirms its position as a leading winery in Washington State. The winery not only secured the titles of "BEST RED WINE" and "BEST WHITE WINE" but also clinched the prestigious "BEST OF SHOW" award, the highest accolade of the evening. In addition, Tsillan Cellars claimed an impressive four "BEST OF CLASS" awards, making it a standout in various categories.

Taking center stage was

Tsillan Cellars' 2020 Estate Barbera, which not only won the "BEST RED WINE" category but also earned the coveted "BEST OF SHOW" honor. It achieved an exceptional score of 96 points, the highest in this year's competition. Notably, Barbera grapes are notoriously challenging to cultivate, requiring ample sunlight and extended ripening periods to reach their full potential. Tsillan Cellars' estate vineyards on the South Shore of Lake Chelan provided the ideal conditions for this exceptional wine, which had previously claimed top honors at the 2023 Seattle Wine Awards. Dr. Bob Jankelson, owner of Tsillan Cellars, commended Head Winemaker Garrett Grubbs and Vineyard Manager Nic Stevens for their role in crafting this

world-class Barbera.

In the realm of white wines, *Tsillan Cellars' 2022 Sempre Amore*, a blend of 75% Pinot Grigio and 25% Riesling, was awarded the title of "BEST WHITE WINE" with an outstanding score of 95 points. This achievement was complemented by Tsillan Cellars' exceptional performance across various categories, including their 2022 Sauvignon Blanc, 2020 Estate Merlot, 2020 Estate Dolcetto, and 2022 Estate Pinot Grigio, all of which received "BEST OF CLASS" awards.

Notably, the 2020 Estate Dolcetto from Tsillan Cellars also secured the title of the best Dolcetto in the prestigious 2023 San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition, further solidifying the winery's reputation for excellence.

Museum

Continued from page 19

central Alaska, or the honk of a Canada goose, nature is recreated using the latest museum technology. Observers are immediately immersed in nature, perhaps rekindling memories of their own adventures in the natural world.

Kollmeyer brought together an exceptional group of specialists to help fulfill his mission to offer an exceptional, world-class museum facility for the Chelan community and the wider region to enjoy. The Kollmeyers and other donors from Washington and Arizona provided the initial collection of taxidermy specimens in Nature's Window.

The museum also features an extensive Fire Ecology exhibit with numerous professional photos and explanations docu-

menting the historical fire disturbances common in the Pacific Northwest. This exhibit was designed and installed by John Marshall from Wenatchee, WA. As the collection matures, more examples of species will be added.

Nature's Window will be open to the public during the tourist season from April through October, as well as for private functions and special events for community organizations as a meeting place, reception site, and venue for fundraising events. As an education center, projections indicate that Nature's Window shall be used for hunter safety lessons, scout meetings, sportsmen's clubs, school field trips, art classes, and archery at the facility's range.

For more information, contact Nature's Window Museum at 509-670-8081 or email info@natureswindowmuseum.com.

For more information about Stemilt and their dedication to excellence in tree fruit, please visit www.stemilt.com.



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