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Pangborn's Festival of Flight is July 7-8

Submitted by Trina Elmes, PIO

The City of East Wenatchee and the Chelan-Douglas Regional Port Authority invite you to a free, family friendly, community event, Pangborn's Festival of Flight on Saturday, July 8. Learn about East Wenatchee's aviation history, check out some amazing airplanes, grab some lunch from our delicious food vendors, have your face painted, visit our exhibitors and have fun learning with their exciting aviation and Japanese activities.



Submitted photo

July 7: Big Band Dinner & Dance

We are kicking off the event with the first-ever, 1940's Big Band Dinner & Dance on July 7. Tickets are selling fast, and proceeds support the Spirit of Wenatchee's Aviation Scholarship. There will be a silent auction, the Wenatchee Big Band is playing, delicious food will be served and have your photo taken next to the airplanes from the Devotion Movie. Thank you to our sponsors, Ridgeline Aviation, RH2, C&O Nursery, ALSC Architects, Davis Arneil Law Firm and Ardurra. For more information, visit EastWenatcheeWA.gov or cdrpa.org.

On October 3, 1931, Clyde Pangborn and Hugh Herndon left Sabishiro Beach in Misawa, Japan, to fly Miss Veedol across the ocean in the first non-stop, transpacific flight. After 41 hours in the air, Miss Veedol crash landed on the bluffs above East Wenatchee.

The Wenatchee Valley has been connected to Misawa and the aviation world ever since and Pangborn's Festival of Flight was created to celebrate this historic event.



Submitted photo

Link Transit begins testing small electric vehicle

Bus to be used in Paratransit Service

Submitted by Eric West

A small, blue, electric bus will soon be seen on the streets of Wenatchee and East Wenatchee, as Link Transit looks at how a European-manufactured vehicle can work in the area.

Link will operate a Karsan "eJEST" in LinkPlus paratransit service over the next couple of weeks to get operator feedback on its performance, see how the vehicle works in this environment and hear from riders how they like the vehicle. LinkPlus is Link's door-to-door ADA service.

Karsan, with manufacturing facilities in Germany and Turkey, is one of the largest bus manufacturers for the European market. The eJEST is their smallest vehicle, a 19' foot, 11,500 pound battery electric bus. With a top speed of 43 mph and a range of 130 miles, the vehicle is designed for in-town use, and for use in paratransit service and on routes with lower ridership. The bus Link is testing is configured to carry 10 seated passengers plus one wheelchair.

The eJEST uses a BMW Li-ion 360V - 88 kWh battery system that can be fully charged in four hours using Level 2 charging, and in just over one hour with a DC Level 3 charger.

"These are simple, low-cost charging systems," said Ed Archer, Link's



Vehicle Maintenance Director. "They require less infrastructure, so they are quicker and less expensive to install and maintain."

The eJEST is a 12-year vehicle, with a total operating cost much less than gasoline-powered cutaway buses Link currently operates for some service. Cutaways typically are a five to seven-year vehicle, with high maintenance costs.

Since 2010, Link has been a transit industry leader in transitioning to electric vehicles, and currently has 23 full-size BYD buses in its fleet. "We

are looking at smaller electric vehicles for different parts of our service," said Archer. "There are number of new products on the market which may work for us here. This eJEST one option we are currently looking at." Link recently took delivery of three Ford e-Transit's to add to their fleet of paratransit vehicles.

Karsan and Damera, a Canadian bus sales company, formed a partnership in 2021 to bring electric buses to North America. Damera was founded in 2002, and currently services over 70 transit systems and 3,000 buses per year. For more information on either company, visit <https://www.karsan.com/en> or <https://dameracorp.com/>

Historic Downtown Chelan Association recognized during Main Street Week

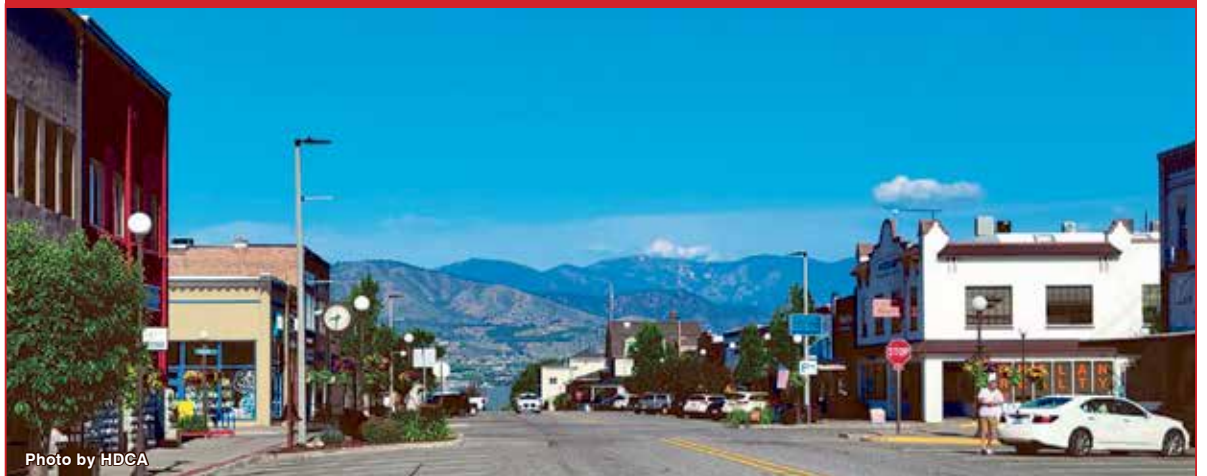


Photo by HDCA

Submitted by Historic Downtown Chelan Association

CHELAN – The Historic Downtown Chelan Association was pleased to be recognized by the City of Chelan during Washington Main Street Week June 11-17. The pro-

clamation recognizing Main Street Week was issued by Mayor Goedde at the May 23 city council meeting and was a special acknowledgment of the importance of Chelan's downtown commercial district, and the community's commitment to its

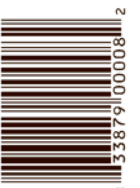
preservation and revitalization.

Historic Downtown Chelan was excited that Main Street Week coincided with the kickoff the 2023 Third Thursdays in Historic Downtown Chelan, presented by VIP Insurance

SEE DOWNTOWN CHELAN, PAGE 5

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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 Drive, #109

Brewster

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

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Goehner leads delegation to South Korea to discuss economic development, further international relations

Submitted by Kurt Hammond, Senior PIO

12th District Representative Keith Goehner recently led a delegation of legislators to South Korea to strengthen international relations and get a first-hand look at economic development occurring in the country.

As part of his legislative duties, Goehner sits on the Legislative Committee on Economic Development and International Relations (LCEDIR).

“With the global pandemic limiting international travel the last few years, we have not had an opportunity to visit other countries and get a close look at some of the successful economic development other countries are experiencing and how we could possibly work together,” said Goehner, R-Dryden.

“The South Korea trip was truly unique. We toured a carbon fiber facility that ties to their aerospace industry. Obviously, that is a focus for us here in Washington state. We also learned more about their bio pharmaceuticals, medical grade supplements, and we were able to check out Saemangeum, the largest seawall in the world. It was very impressive.”

The LCEDIR studies and reviews economic development issues with an emphasis on international trade, tourism, investment and industrial development. It also assists the Legislature in developing comprehensive economic development policy.

“The carbon fiber facility supplies Boeing with wing parts and they would like to expand the use of carbon products produced by the facility in our region. There was also a facility producing

hydrogen tanks, which fits with what we are working on here,” added Goehner. “We also learned South Korea is very interested in Washington state growing crops for them, which would be a big boost for our agri-

cultural industry.”

There are approximately 60,000 Koreans living in Washington. Goehner is the only one of the LCEDIR members who made the trip to South Korea.

However, he was accom-

panied by 25th Legislative District Sen. Chris Gildon and 28th Legislative District Rep. Mari Leavitt, who have many Koreans residing in their districts.

“Korea showed a lot of interest in working with us on economic-related issues. Anything we can do to promote our state and work with other countries can only benefit us. This committee gives us an opportunity to promote our competitive advantages and industries,” said Goehner.

By law, Lieutenant Gov. Denny Heck chairs the LCEDIR. The 13-member panel is comprised of an evenly split membership of House and the Senate members, appointed by the chair.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Rep. Mari Leavitt, Gov. of North Jeolla Province Kim Kwan-young, Rep. Keith Goehner, Sen. Chris Gildon

Local nonprofits awarded \$65,000 in consulting grants



Submitted by Jennifer Dodge

The Community Foundation of NCW in partnership with Icicle Fund, Thriving Together NCW, and Methow Valley Fund, has awarded \$65,000 in Strategic Consulting Grants to 13 nonprofits across the NCW region. The grants provide nonprofits with a consultant to help guide them through their organizational strategies and planning goals for long-term growth and sustainability.

“We know how challenging it can be as nonprofits to find the time, money, and human resources to work with a consultant on strategy and planning work” said Claire Oatey, director of community grants for the Community Foundation. “Organizations are working hard to keep up with the needs of our communities. This funder collaborative gives local nonprofits an opportunity to invest in themselves, including their resiliency and effectiveness, which we know will ultimately benefit

all of us and make our region stronger.”

Since 2008, the Community Foundation of NCW has been partnering with the Icicle Fund through the Nonprofit Practices Institute (NPI) - a collaborative effort to offer affordable and accessible capacity-building and training opportunities. Last year, NPI piloted the Strategic Consulting Grant, which was a success for those organizations who received direct consulting.

“We have seen the prior recipients of this grant take great leaps in growth and sustainability as a result of this program” said Christine Morgan, executive director of the Icicle Fund. “The Icicle Fund is pleased to partner with the Community Foundation of NCW and Thriving Together NCW to help strengthen another 13 organizations in our community.”

Recently, the Foundation began partnering with Thriving Together NCW, another organization that offers funding and opportunities to build communities.

“We recognize that having access to fulfilling jobs with meaningful work is crucial for the development of thriving communities which is

why we are grateful for the opportunity to collaborate on this initiative” said Thriving Together NCW. “We know these grants will help our nonprofit partners to be better equipped to achieve their goals and we look forward to celebrating their successes.”

There will be one more opportunity for Strategic Consulting Grants in February 2024. For more information, visit <https://cfncw.org/strategicconsultinggrant>.

Strategic Consulting Grant Recipients

- C6 to Farm
- CAFE: The Community for the Advancement of Family Education
- Chelan Valley Housing Trust
- Chelan Douglas CASA
- Common Ground Community Housing Trust
- Friends of the Pool (Twisp)
- Leavenworth Community Farmers Market
- Methow Conservancy
- Our Valley Our Future
- Room One
- TREAD (Trails, Recreation, Education, Advocacy, and Development)

- Wenatchee Pride
- Wenatchee Valley Humane Society

The Community Foundation of North Central Washington’s mission is to grow, protect, and connect charitable gifts in support of strong communities throughout

Chelan, Douglas, and Okanogan counties.

Established in 1986, the Community Foundation manages \$130 million in assets through 600+ individual funds and has awarded over \$55 million in grants and scholarships.

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Washington State's new drug possession law is a positive step forward

By Sen. Brad Hawkins

The Washington State Legislature concluded its 105-day session in Olympia on April 23. Lawmakers successfully developed and approved operating, transportation, and capital budgets for the 2023-2025 biennium. In addition to the budgets, other laws were updated, including a much-needed improvement to the state's police pursuits statute.

One disappointment during the regular session was the state's inability to enact a new law to replace its expiring one on drug possession. With that major item not yet completed, Governor Inslee called legislators together for a special session on May 16. A bipartisan compromise was ultimately developed and approved to clarify our state's drug possession law and provide treatment options. This is a very positive step for our state.

The new law was necessary because in 2021, the State Supreme Court struck down Washington's felony drug possession statute as unconstitutional. In its ruling, the court determined that individuals could be incarcerated without knowingly possessing drugs. Legislators approved a temporary measure later that year to classify drug possession as a simple misdemeanor while working toward a more comprehensive solution. The temporary measure expires on July 1, so passing a new law soon became one of the highest policy priorities of the year.

During the regular session, I voted for Senate Bill 5536, which achieved bipartisan support in the Senate. Unfortunately, that bill failed to pass the House of Representatives, largely because a key number of progressive Democrats believed it was too strict on drug possession. Ultimately, the drug possession replacement bill approved during the May 16 special session was similar to the prior Senate bill. The final compromise was approved in the Senate by a vote of 43-6 and in the House by a vote of 83-13.

I voted for the compromise measure. An updated law was absolutely necessary because the temporary law was a failure as it sent the completely wrong message about drug possession. This new law establishes drug possession as a gross misdemeanor while also granting people two opportunities for limited jail times and fines. The third penalty could result in nearly a year in jail, which – at that point – seems very reasonable to me as a directive to get healthy.

Key elements of the new law include the opportunities for pre-trial "diversions" for treatment. Drug convictions can be vacated if people successfully complete their programs. The new law and budget also invest millions of dollars in treatment programs and facilities so that people can get the help they need. The law applies uniformly throughout the state as well, avoiding differing local regulations but providing cities and counties some flexibility.

I am very proud of lawmakers for coming together to achieve a bipartisan solution on such an important and complicated issue, one where interesting combinations of Republicans and Democrats found themselves joining forces either voting for or against the various proposals. Some Republicans believed ideas did not punish drug possession enough while some Democrats believed they went too far. In the end, we found a solid compromise.

What is most important is to recognize that people around us are struggling with drugs. They are not only endangering themselves but also destroying their families and creating huge burdens on government. The rise of drug use is correlated to increased homelessness, crime, and other issues, which impact every community. This new law strikes the right balance between extending a helping hand of compassion and a heavier hand of accountability. For the sake of everyone, let's hope it works.



Stock photo



2023 Session Recap: Legislature approves budgets and makes adjustments to police pursuit and drug possession laws

By Sen. Brad Hawkins

The Legislature adjourned its session in Olympia on April 23 on schedule. The 105-day session was a busy time for me as I continued as the Senate Early Learning and K-12 Education Committee's ranking member. This session was particularly busy for education committee leaders due to continued school issues involving learning loss, special education investments and transportation funding. The Legislature approved all three budgets for the 2023-25 biennium, which begins on July 1, 2023. The operating budget (\$69.8 billion), transportation budget (\$13.5 billion), and capital budget (\$9 billion) were finalized on the final days of the session after much negotiation. I voted against the operating budget but for the transportation and capital budgets.

Operating budget (\$69.8 billion)

The operating budget funds the day-to-day operations of the state, including education, higher education, health and human services, criminal justice, natural resources, courts, and other areas. As with any budget or other large-scale legislation, there are always things to like and things not to like. Despite the COVID pandemic, state revenues have still been positive, although less growth is anticipated in the coming years. Estimated revenues are expected to significantly slow over the next four years. The final

approved operating budget is projected to spend \$69.8 billion total during the 2023-25 biennium. I have concerns about the sustainability of the overall state budget as future revenues slow. The 2023-25 operating budget was approved on the final day of the session.

Transportation budget (\$13.5 billion)

The transportation budget funds the construction and maintenance of the state transportation system, including the maintenance and preservation of roads, bridges, and ferries. Most of the budget funds previously approved road projects based on construction schedules. It also funds the state transportation agencies and commissions. Last session, the state approved the 16-year, \$16.9 billion "Move Ahead Washington" package, primarily for preservation and maintenance of the existing system and for large-scale transportation projects.

The package included \$85 million for Wenatchee's Confluence Parkway but the funding schedule as undetermined. This session, we successfully scheduled the project's funding based on our preferred timeline. This was one of my top priorities in order to maximize the federal grant dollars the project was awarded. The approved 2023-25 budget schedules the \$85 million for Confluence Parkway over the next three transportation budget cycles: \$28 million (2023-25), \$47 million (2025-27), and \$10 million (2027-29).

Capital budget (\$9.0 billion)

The state capital budget funds the construction and maintenance of state buildings, public school matching grants, higher education facilities, public lands, state parks, and other assets. In recent years, the 12th District team has been able to generate big wins for our region through this budget, including the replacement of key infrastructure following tragic wildfires, the expansion of outdoor recreation opportunities that improve our economy and quality of life, and enhancements to key community response systems. Our legislative team has been able to successfully secure many facility and infrastructure investments. The 2023-25 capital budget included many projects beneficial to our region, including funding for the future Wenatchee Valley YMCA, Wenatchee Valley Museum & Cultural Center improvements, Paul Thomas Field at Wenatchee Valley College, and new Alcohol and Drug Treatment Facility in Wenatchee, Army National Guard facility, Chelan Community Center, Chelan Food Bank, among other important projects.

Major legislation approved

In addition to the passage of all three budgets this session, other significant bills were approved. These include adjustments to education, energy, agriculture, law and justice, environment, firearms, childcare, human services, healthcare,

and higher education laws. Two of the most notable bills approved were related to police pursuits and drug possession:

- **Police Pursuits:** Senate Bill 5352 As a matter of long-standing authority, law enforcement officers were allowed to engage in vehicular pursuits under a "reasonable suspicion" standard. During the 2019 legislative session, one involving multiple changes to police practices, the threshold for vehicular pursuits was raised to a "probable cause" standard, which I did not support. This change created many challenges for communities throughout the state. The law was changed back this session to "reasonable suspicion" for pursuits involving a violent offense, sex offense, vehicular assault or driving under the influence.

- **Drug Possession:** Senate Bill 5536 The State Supreme Court struck down Washington's felony drug possession law in its 2021 Blake Decision. To temporarily clarify matters related to drug possession, the Legislature enacted a short-term fix, making drug possession a misdemeanor, which expires in July. After much debate this year, including a one-day Special Session on May 16, the Legislature approved a new law to replace the short-term bill, including accountability measures and treatment options. This new law is designed to assist people struggling with personal drug use while also providing penalties for people who refuse treatment.

Looking ahead to next session

The state Legislature meets annually every January. With the three budgets approved for the 2023-2025 biennium and the drug possession law updated, lawmakers will not likely meet again in session until January 2024.

The makeup of the legislature will be the same as all 98 House members and all 49 senators will be returning for the second year of the state biennium. If you have any questions about this session, please contact me at senatorbradhawkins.org.





Congresswoman Schrier introducing bipartisan bill to improve access to diabetes care

Submitted by
Hana Tadesse

WASHINGTON – U.S. Representative Kim Schrier, M.D. (D-WA) introduced HR 3842 – Expanding Access to Diabetes Self-Management Training Act with Representatives Gus Bilirakis (R-FL), Diana DeGette (D-CO), Larry Bucshon, M.D. (R-IN), Suzan DelBene (D-WA), Mike Kelly (R-PA), Raul Ruiz, M.D. (D-CA), and David Schweikert (R-AZ).

The Expanding Access to Diabetes Self-Management Training Act will:

- Allow the initial 10 hours of diabetes self-management training (DSMT) to remain available until fully used.

- Permit DSMT and Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) services to be provided on the same day.

- Exclude DSMT services from Part B cost-sharing and deductible requirements.

- Permit physicians and qualified nonphysician practitioners (e.g., podiatrists, emergency department providers, physician assistants, nurse practitioners,

or clinical nurse specialists) working in coordination with a treating physician or qualified nonphysician to refer for DSMT services.

- Establish a Center for Medicare Innovation demonstration program to test the impact of covering virtual DSMT under the Medicare program.

“As someone who has managed my own Type-1 Diabetes for almost 40 years, I understand the importance of education in managing this disease. Without proper understanding of the roles

of insulin, food, exercise, and illness on blood sugar, people with diabetes can quickly end up in the hospital,” said Rep. Schrier.

“We know that self-management training helps people with diabetes live healthy lives and stay out of the hospital, and I am proud to work with my Democratic and Republican colleagues to introduce this important bill and remove barriers to self-management training.”

“The Association of Diabetes Care & Education Specialists (ADCES) applauds

the sponsors of the Expanding Access to DSMT Act for introducing legislation that would improve access to diabetes care and education for Medicare beneficiaries,” said ADCES President Lucille Hughes, DNP, CDCES, BC-ADM.

“DSMT services help individuals with diabetes improve their health and reduce complications which in turn can decrease health care costs. Improving access to and utilization of this evidence-based benefit is critical for addressing health equity.”

“The American Diabetes Association (ADA) appreciates the introduction of the ‘Expanding Access to Diabetes Self-Management Training Act of 2023.’ The ADA’s Standards of Care includes information on how positive health behaviors and the maintenance of psychological well-being are foundational for achieving diabetes treatment goals and maximizing quality of life,” said Dr.

Robert Gabbay, ADA’s Chief Scientific and Medical Officer.

“Essential to achieving these goals is facilitating behavior change to improve health outcomes through diabetes self-management education and support. It is critical for Medicare beneficiaries to have access to high quality DSMES through the DSMT benefit, in order to achieve better patient self-management, satisfaction, and glucose results.”

The Expanding Access to Diabetes Self-Management Training Act was also introduced by U.S. Senators Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) and Susan Collins (R-ME). This legislation is a priority of the Diabetes Advocacy Alliance, including the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, American Diabetes Association, Black Women’s Health Imperative, Diabetes Leadership Council, Diabetes Patient Advocacy Coalition, Endocrine Society, National Kidney Foundation, Omada Health, Inc., and more.

New Data Center Technician Career Launch Program Endorsed, Opening Doors to In-Demand IT Careers for Local Youth

Submitted by
Becca Freimuth, NCESD

QUINCY – A groundbreaking partnership has achieved a significant milestone in the development of a new workforce development path for the Data Centers in Grant County.

Computing for All, the North Central Career Connect Washington Regional Network, Quincy School District, Big Bend Community College, and esteemed employer partners Microsoft, Sabey Data Centers, and Quincy School District IT have joined forces to introduce the Data Center Technician Career Launch program.

Career Launch programs are the most intensive programs in the Career Connect Washington Framework, as they prepare young adults to start their careers with a combination of meaningful, paid, high-quality on-the-job experience with aligned classroom learning and a post-high school credential.

The Quincy Data Center Prep program will equip students with the necessary skills, credentials, and work experience to secure highly sought-after Data Center Technician roles, providing them with excellent wages and benefits just one year after high school graduation.

“Career Launch programs take considerable partnership and planning to develop, but they are intentionally developed to align to the skills and experiences young people need to be competitive candidates for great local jobs,” explained Dr. Sue Kane, Director of STEM Initiatives and Strategic Partnerships for the North Central Educational Services District.

The Data Center Techni-

cian Career Launch program commences with a sequence of courses that are offered as part of the Career and Technical Education (CTE) program.

The courses enable Quincy High School students to complete their first year of a two-year certificate program while still attending high school. Upon completion, students will transition to courses offered at Big Bend Community College, where they will have the opportunity to participate in a paid internship program with one of the Grant County-based data centers. This comprehensive program ensures that local youth can earn a valuable credential and become competitive candidates for lucrative Data Center Technician positions.

“At Sabey Data Centers, we’re really proud to be involved with the Data Center Technician Launch program,” said Shawn Devine with Sabey Data Center.

“From my experience, I’ve found it’s been mutually beneficial for the community, the students, and us as a company. As Sabey grows, we’re going to need additional talent. This program offers local students an opportunity to work in an industry where they have a bright future.”

For years, Quincy, Washington has been fortunate to boast a thriving information technology (IT) presence.

The Grant County Industrial Alliance (GCIA) also supported the program development. GCIA represents various local data center employers including Intuit, Microsoft, Oath, NTT DATA, Sabey, Vantage, Verizon Media, and H5 Data Centers, and was established to champion the common interests of these

industry leaders. Over the past decade, the demand for IT professionals in the region has steadily increased, leading to a collaborative effort between GCIA and Big Bend Community College to develop an accredited credential pathway that equips the workforce with the precise skills needed to support data center operations.

This program has already yielded promising entry-level candidates for data centers and possesses the potential to scale further with additional recruitment efforts.

Parallel to these developments, Quincy High School has diligently expanded its capacity to support students in their exploration of local IT career opportunities that offer family-sustaining wages. Since 2017, in collaboration with Microsoft TEALS, the Quincy School District has been offering introductory computing and programming coursework to provide students with a solid foundation and awareness of the vast prospects in the IT field.

Seattle-based nonprofit Computing for All was recruited by the group in 2021 to support the regional partnership in the creation of the Career Launch program. This program offers young adults an aligned path to develop their skills, attain relevant credentials, gain paid work experience, and successfully embark on entry-level IT and data center careers. Furthermore, it serves as a gateway to the Big Bend Data Center AA Degree, ensuring a comprehensive educational journey for participants.

This career pathway paves the way for aspiring individuals to pursue roles such as Data Center

Technician or general IT Administrator, wherein they will utilize their expertise in areas such as network and security, hardware and software support, system troubleshooting, and operating systems. The career launch model may be leveraged for the development of other workforce shortages in the region.

The program encompasses 360 hours of classroom instruction across a sequence of 4 courses for high school juniors and seniors, followed by one year at Big Bend Community College in the IT Systems Administration Associates/Certificate/Cisco Networking certificate degrees. Participants will earn 15 dual college credits towards the IT Systems Administration Associates/Certificate/Cisco Networking certificate offered by Big Bend Community College, along with CompTIA A+ and ITF+ industry certifications. In addition, students will have the opportunity to engage in up to 400 hours of work-based learning during the summer after high school graduation or following the first year of college.

Dr. Nik Bergman, Quincy School District Superintendent, is looking forward to continuing the regional partnership to support students.

“The Data Center Technician Career Launch Program perfectly aligns with our QSD Strategic Plan Goal Five - Pathways to Graduation and Beyond,” he said. “Upon graduating from Quincy High School, seniors will not only receive their diploma but also earn a technician certificate, enabling them to make immediate contributions to the thriving data center industry in our community. We are incredibly excited to

partner with local data centers, as this collaboration provides our students with an innovative and promising career pathway. We are grateful for the support of our community’s data centers, who have recognized and actively sought out talented students from Quincy High School.”

The program successfully enrolled its first cohort of 13 students in the fall of 2022 and recently received the final endorsement from the State Board of Community and Technical Colleges in April, further cementing its credibility and commitment to providing students with a gateway to prosperous IT careers.



About Career Connect Washington:

Career Connect Washington was created by Governor Jay Inslee, with support and funding provided by the Washington State Legislature, to provide our state’s young people with expanded opportunities to gain real-world experience through a fully integrated career-connected learning system. Businesses, labor, educators, government agencies, non-profit organizations, and many others have come together to create a strategy for making these opportunities available in every part of our state to every student as part of their academic journey. Locally, the Career Connect Washington North Central Network is co-led by the Apple STEM Network (North Central Educational Services District) and SkillsSource (North Central Workforce Development Council). For additional information visit: <http://www.ncesd.org/service/career-connected-learning/>.



Newhouse introduces legislation to support Central Washington winegrape growers

Submitted by
Mike Marinella

Wednesday, June 22, Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WA) introduced the bicameral, bipartisan Farm Crop Insurance Act alongside Rep. Mike Thompson (D-CA) and Sens. Patty Murray (D-WA) and Alex Padilla (D-CA) to insure winegrape crops from smoke exposure.

The bill requires the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) to carry out research and implement a crop insurance product that covers losses due to smoke exposure.

“Washington state’s wine industry produces some of the best wine in the nation and we need to keep it that way. Right now, the industry faces billions of dollars in losses from wildfires and smoke exposure,” said Rep. Newhouse.

“I am proud to co-sponsor this critical legislation that will ensure our winegrape growers and producers get the necessary funding to be resilient and continue to produce high-quality wine.

“Winegrapes are essential to economies across our country, and states like California, Oregon, and Washington have been dis-

proportionately exposed to wildfires leading to smoke exposure impacting our winegrapes. Researching the impact that smoke has on our winegrapes and other crops is essential in advancing solutions that will protect these key economic drivers from future natural disasters. Proud to work with Rep. Newhouse and Sen. Padilla to introduce legislation that strengthens crop insurance for winegrowers and helps fully capture the risks associated with growing in these smoke - and wildfire-prone states,” said Rep. Thompson.

“Washington state is the second-largest wine producing state in the country, creating thousands of jobs and fueling tourism across the state. Washington is also seeing an alarming increase in wildfires year after year, which creates a serious smoke exposure problem for winegrape growers across the West Coast. Vineyards in Washington state and all the way down to California need a crop insurance policy for smoke-exposed winegrapes, rather than being forced to rely on ad-hoc disaster assistance from year

to year, and that’s what this legislation will provide. I’m proud that research at Washington State University has played a leading role in studying the impacts of smoke exposure, and this bill takes a critical and needed step to protect our state’s vital wine industry,” said Senator Murray.

“As climate change intensifies and wildfires become more frequent and extreme, we need to protect winegrape growers and consumers against the damage caused by prolonged smoke exposure. Winegrape growing regions are critical to our economy, especially in California. Growers, vintners, and consumers alike have a stake in the sustainability of winegrowing communities – these bills will help growers make informed decisions about harvesting and selling their crops,” said Senator Padilla.

Background:

Winegrapes exposed to smoke from wildfires can introduce compounds into the winemaking process that cause smoky, ash-like flavors and result in wines unfit for commercial sale.

These off-aromas and

flavors become more pronounced over time as wine ages.

The legislation requires research and development of a crop insurance product that provides comprehensive coverage for smoke-impacted winegrape growers. The bill also helps to mitigate future financial losses in these key regions of production.

Rep. Newhouse serves as Co-Chair of the Congressional Wine Caucus (CWC), which protects the interests of our vibrant wine community from grape to glass. Members of the CWC are joined not only by their deep appreciation of wine, but also their understanding of the wine community’s significant economic impact.

Wine is produced in all 50 states and generates jobs and revenue in both rural and urban areas.

The wine community contributes an estimated \$220 billion to the U.S. economy annually and creates the equivalent of more than one million full-time jobs.

In Washington State, there are more than 800 wineries and over 250 wine and grape growers.

The wine industry gener-

Newhouse defends American farmland from foreign adversaries

WASHINGTON. – The week of June 12, Rep. Newhouse (R-WA) introduced an amendment to the Agriculture and Rural Development Appropriations bill that will require the Secretary of Agriculture to take necessary actions to prohibit the purchase of U.S. agricultural land by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), Russia, North Korea, or Iran. His amendment was adopted by a vote of 34 to 26.

“Increased ownership of U.S. farmland by countries who are not our allies is an alarmingly growing trend that poses a risk to our national and economic security.

“For example, according to the USDA, the Chinese Communist Party currently owns over 380,000 acres of farmland in the United States, which is worth about \$2 billion. But even more shocking than that is the trend: the CCP has increased their purchases by a factor of 10 over the last decade. This poses an immediate threat to U.S. national security and food security.

“When I talk to the many farmers and landowners in my district, they express deep concern about this encroachment of our land from foreign adversaries. They agree; we can no longer ignore the writing on the wall, and we must act to stop this threat now before it becomes too late.

“My amendment would bolster Section 765 by directing the Secretary of Agriculture to take any actions necessary to prohibit the purchase of U.S. agricultural land by nonresident aliens, foreign businesses, or any agent, trustee, or fiduciary associated with Russia, North Korea, Iran, or the Community Party of China.

“This clarity is necessary because adversaries like the CCP will take every opportunity they can to threaten democracy, our republic, and our way of life, including our agricultural supply chains.”

ates over \$9.5 billion in total economic activity with over 14,000 acres of vineyards and 60,000 jobs created and supported by the wine industry. With 14 unique AVAs across the state, Washington’s wine industry continues to grow and produce high-quality varieties that

are enjoyed all over the world.

In addition, Washington State University is one of the country’s leading viticulture research institutions and one of only 14 universities in the United States to offer a Viticulture & Enology degree.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Historic Downtown Chelan Association recognized during Main Street Week

and Cashmere Valley Bank. Each Third Thursday promises to be an extraordinary experience for all attendees.

Visitors can expect to find an array of activities and attractions that cater to different interests and age groups. From good food at downtown restaurants, live music in Riverwalk Park, shopping at the Farmer’s Market and downtown shops, to a kids’ scavenger hunt and more, Third Thursdays offers something for everyone. Don’t miss the newest addition to Third Thursdays, a fun and interactive Signature Activity.

“We are thrilled to bring back Third Thursdays in

Downtown Chelan,” said Aimee Sheridan, Executive Director of the Historic Downtown Chelan Association. “Our goal is to create a vibrant and engaging atmosphere that not only supports our local businesses but also provides an enjoyable experience for residents and visitors. We believe these monthly celebrations will strengthen the sense of community and showcase the unique character of our downtown.”

The next Third Thursday event is on July 20, starting at 3 p.m. with activities until 5 p.m., and finishes with Music in the Park, a free community concert in Riverwalk Park from 5-7 p.m. Visi-

tors are encouraged to come down to Historic Downtown Chelan to be a part of this captivating experience. For a detailed schedule, please go to the website at www.historicchelan.org.

Historic Downtown Chelan Association (HDCA) believes that the heart of a small town is a vibrant downtown. HDCA is committed to supporting local small businesses in the downtown commercial district and preserving the legacy and tradition in the historic core.

HDCA honors Chelan’s rich history and enhances downtown places and experiences through promotion, design, economic development, and outreach.



Rule adopted requiring insurers to tell you why your premium is going up

Submitted by Insurance Commissioner
Mike Kreidler

OLYMPIA – Washington state Insurance Commissioner Mike Kreidler has adopted a rule that requires insurance companies to explain premium increases to their policyholders in language they can understand.

“If your insurance company is going to increase your premium, you have a right to know why,” Kreidler said. “This is pretty basic information you should expect from your insurance company, but we hear from hundreds of consumers every year who cannot get a clear, understandable answer on why they’re being charged more.”

When consumers’ auto or homeowners insurance premium goes up, and the insurance company hasn’t explained why, consumers contact the Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). When the OIC asks on their behalf, it gets a more detailed response – and Kreidler believes

consumers deserve the same information.

The OIC held five meetings with interested parties over the last year to understand why providing better transparency on premium changes was needed and to hear from the insurers directly.

It learned that some insurers’ rating formulas have become so complex, they can’t readily specify the reasons behind someone’s premium change. Some insurers’ computer systems are unable to generate a clear answer.

The new rule creates more transparency for consumers and gives the insurers sufficient time to implement the new consumer protections in two phases.

The rule applies to all property and casualty insurers in Washington state that sell private passenger auto and homeowners coverage, including coverage for manufactured homes, condominiums and renters.



REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE

Call for students and educators to present at The NCW Tech and STEM Showcase Aug 24-27 in Waterville

Submitted by
NCW Tech Alliance

NCW Tech Alliance is thrilled to announce that registration is open for the highly anticipated NCW Tech & STEM Showcase.

Students and educators are invited to showcase their innovative projects in technology and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) during the NCW Fair, from August 24 to 27 in Waterville.

After three successful years of virtual events, the NCW Tech & STEM Showcase returns in person, offering a unique opportunity for participants to exhibit their exciting work in areas such as robotics, virtual reality, computer science, and more.

This year, the showcase will feature a dedicated section at the fair, allowing students and educators to present their projects in two-hour time slots, eliminating the need to present for all four days.

In partnership with Apple STEM Network and NCESD, the Tech & STEM Showcase



Submitted photo

will also include two other interactive offerings.

The STEM MAKE Station will provide an engaging space for youth attending the fair to participate in hands-on projects with the assistance of volunteers.

Participants can either complete the project at the fair or take it home to continue their STEM exploration.

Furthermore, the Tech Help Booth will offer digital navigators who can assist

individuals with basic technology and digital skilling needs, ranging from email account setup to guidance on using professional networking platforms like LinkedIn.

The NCW Tech & STEM Showcase presents a free and exciting opportunity for students and educators to exhibit their creativity and inspire the community to embrace and support STEM initiatives. There is no cost to participate, and entrance

to the fair is included for all registered participants. Each presenter is required to dedicate only two hours to their showcase, ensuring flexibility and accommodating busy schedules. However, those interested can sign up for additional time slots to further showcase their projects.

Register now for the NCW Tech & STEM Showcase at ncwtech.org and seize this chance to display your technological prowess,

About NCESD



The North Central Educational Service District provides a wide array of programs, services and support to the public school districts in the North Central Washington region of Chelan, Douglas, Grant and Okanogan counties. The service district provides professional and timely service to meet the needs of individual schools and districts, and a reliable point of education-related information for the communities served. The NCESD is one of nine respected educational service districts in Washington state.

connect with like-minded individuals, and contribute to the growth of the STEM community.

Thank you Yahoo! and Microsoft for their generous support of this event.

For more information, registration details, or to sponsor, please visit NCWTech.org or contact info@ncwtech.org or 509-661-9000.

About the Apple STEM Network



The Apple STEM Network is a regional alliance of K-12, Higher Ed, and community partners in North Central Washington. We represent a diverse region with tremendous potential for STEM industry in agriculture, energy, and innovation. With our collective effort, we intend to: provide a constructive support system for educators who aim to meet the rising challenge for all students to develop 21st-century skills and STEM literacy, integrate community mentorship, and promote authentic project-based learning and field experiences for all levels of education, and engage students in exploring the world of opportunities on the horizon through STEM. For more information visit www.applestemnetwork.org

About NCW Tech Alliance



Since 1999, NCW Tech Alliance has served as the region's tech alliance, championing growth and development in North Central Washington. As a 501(c)3, NCW Tech Alliance's mission is to bring together people and resources in technology, entrepreneurship, and STEM education. For more information visit www.ncwtech.org

exhibit your creativity while inspiring the community to embrace and support STEM. No cost to participate and entrance to the fair is included. Only two hours are required per participant, but you can sign up for more.

Transforming lives through technology

Submitted by
NCW Tech Alliance

Computer Refurbishment Training

At NCW Tech Alliance we run a Computers for Community program, where we donate refurbished devices for community members in need. We are seeking additional volunteers to support the growth of this program. Join us for a 2-hour training to gain new skills and learn how to refurbish MacBooks and Chromebooks. No tech experience to participate. Saturday, July 8 from 10 a.m. -12 p.m. at Pybus Public

Market, in Wenatchee. Training age requirements: 13+ (youth must be accompanied by a guardian).

Sponsor Our Golf Tournament On August 3

We invite you to the social event of the summer, where you can make a lasting impact on local scholars. Sign up today to sponsor a golf hole for only \$1,000 at our annual Summer Scholarship Fundraiser on August 3. As a sponsor, you'll not only gain visibility and recognition, but your sponsorship will direct-

ly benefit our STEM scholarship fund. Take advantage of this opportunity to be part of something meaningful and support the future of STEM education.

Contact us now to become a \$1,000 hole sponsor and pave the way for a brighter future. All STEM Scholarships will be awarded at the Annual Innovator Awards Luncheon in the Fall of 2023.

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rapid virtual training with a career track focus on being an Administrative Assistant. Build confidence, gain LinkedIn Learning certificates, and access reduced fee exams for industry-recognized certifications.

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Application Deadline is Sunday, July 16, Program Kickoff Monday, July 24, Program ends Friday, September 1. Apply online now at ncwtechalliance.com.

Calling all Youth and Educators

After three years of virtual Tech & STEM Showcase events, we're excited to bring this program back in person at the annual NCW Fair from August 24-27 in Waterville.

Students and teachers are invited to showcase their projects in technology and STEM. Share your exciting work in areas like robotics, virtual reality, computer science, and more. Sign up online to present during a two-hour window on either Thursday, Friday, Saturday, or Sunday.

This is a free, fun, and unique opportunity to

Informational videos increase awareness of financial aid and education options

Submitted by Washington Student Achievement Council

OLYMPIA – Simple, accurate information provided in an engaging way in an educational environment can help improve student understanding and awareness of financial aid and college or training options, according to a new case study from the Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC).

WSAC partnered with the North Central Educational Service District (NCESD) to design and develop animated videos about financial aid and postsecondary education opportunities available in Washington State.

The videos were shared with

students during the regular school day, and students completed surveys to share their feedback.

The surveys indicated positive results:

Prior to watching the videos, many students could not correctly answer questions about the state's financial aid programs and postsecondary opportunities; however, there was substantial growth in their knowledge after watching the videos. 87 percent of students surveyed indicated that they learned something relevant for their futures from the videos. 88 percent of students indicated that they learned something new about the Washington College Grant



(WA Grant) program.

WA Grant is a flexible option that can be used for many educational pathways beyond high school, including approved apprenticeships, certificate programs, job training or college.

The state of Washington has some of the strongest financial aid programs in the country. And yet, despite the generous funding available, Washington historically ranks near the bottom in rates of financial aid application completion nationally. WSAC believes that people will be more

likely to apply for financial aid if they know how generous and flexible the state's programs are.

"Every year, we see families leaving thousands of dollars on the table because they don't know how to apply, or don't believe they might be eligible for funding, and we wanted to do something to change that outcome" said Dr. Sue Kane, NCESD's director of STEM initiatives and strategic partnerships.

Kane added, "These videos make it so easy to be a part of the collective effort. Check out the

videos and share them through social media. Helping someone pursue their dreams could be just that simple."

The case study report shows that adopting an evidence-based approach like informational videos to engage students can increase awareness of financial aid and education options, and potentially influence decision-making about college or career training after high school.

View the full report on the WSAC website wsac.wa.gov under A New Approach to Increasing Awareness of Postsecondary Opportunities and Financial Aid in Washington: Embedding a Learning Agenda into Outreach Efforts.



Danica Ready joins Board of Directors for North Cascades Bank

Submitted by North Cascade Banks

CHELAN – Danica Ready has recently joined the Board of Directors at North Cascades Bank. Ready lives in the Methow Valley and currently serves as the Executive Director of Methow Housing Trust (MHT). Her background is in non-profit development and administration, conservation biology, environmental education and community development.



Danica Ready

Prior to joining MHT, she worked for Methow Trails, Methow Conservancy, Brainerd Foundation, Teton Science School and National Audubon Society. Danica earned a BA in Geology at Whitman College and an MS in Biology at the University of Washington.

“We are thrilled to welcome Danica to our board. Her experience living and working in the Methow Valley will provide valuable insight to us as we continue to expand our presence in the valley,” said Charlie Guildner, president and CEO of North Cascades Bank.

“Through my work in developing affordable housing with and for my community, I’ve come to better understand the central role that community banks play in understanding and creatively investing in community values,” said Ready.

“I’m honored to be asked to serve as a NCB board member to help connect people, good ideas and the resources needed to make our communities better.” Ready is a mom of two teenage kids and enjoys spending her free time hiking, running, biking and skiing on the local trails.

Mat Engstrom named Branch Manager for North Cascades Bank in Chelan

Submitted by North Cascade Banks

CHELAN – Mat Engstrom has accepted the position of Branch Manager at the Chelan branch of North Cascades Bank. Engstrom has been with the bank for three years and previously served as an Accounting Specialist. Prior to that he was General Manager at Gold’s Gym in Issaquah, and he has experience in operations and management at several other fitness gyms in the Seattle area. He is a graduate of Central Washington University and earned a BA in Business Administration.



Mat Engstrom

Engstrom was born and raised in Chelan. He and his wife Cara live in Chelan and look forward to raising their family here.

North Cascades Bank is a division of Glacier Bank of Kalispell, Montana. Glacier Bank is a subsidiary of Glacier Bancorp, Inc. (GBCI), a publicly traded regional bank holding company headquartered in Kalispell, Montana, operating individual bank divisions including North Cascades Bank. These bank divisions provide financial services to individuals and community-based businesses throughout the western United States. Additional information about the bank can be found at www.northcascadesbank.com

Submitted photos



JC Baldwin will begin her term on the seven-member board on July 1

Governor appoints longtime Wenatchee port commissioner to state Transportation Commission

Submitted by WSDOT

OYMPIA – Gov. Jay Inslee has appointed Janet “JC” Baldwin of Wenatchee to fill an open seat on the Washington State Transportation Commission.

Baldwin is a small business owner and longtime elected port commissioner, serving on the Chelan Douglas Regional Port Authority since 2005.

Baldwin, whose six-year term starts on July 1, brings to the commission the expertise of working in the tech sector as chief executive officer and co-founder of GTC Technical Support in Wenatchee.

In addition to her experience as a business owner and elected official, Baldwin brings to the commission extensive experience in the areas of public infrastructure and economic development, amassed from service on a range of boards including the state Community Aviation Revitalization Board, the state Public Works Board and the Washington Public Ports Association Executive Committee.

Baldwin said her service with the Chelan Douglas Regional Port Authority, combined with the other roles she has served in, gives her a unique per-



Janet “JC” Baldwin

spective and valuable insights that will support the development of statewide transportation policy.

Among its responsibilities, the commission advises the state Legislature and the governor on transportation policy matters. This summer, it will begin the work of updating the Washington State Transportation Plan, an endeavor taken on every four years.

“Ports serve a critical role in our state’s economy, and the linkage

between transportation and ports is undeniable,” Baldwin said. “An efficient and accessible transportation system is vital to enabling the movement of freight and goods in and out of ports and will be a priority of mine as I work with my fellow commissioners in authoring the update of our state’s 20-year transportation plan.”

The commission also serves as the state tolling authority, setting toll rates and ferry fares, and provides annual guidance to lawmakers on statewide funding and fiscal matters.

“I look forward to supporting the advancement of viable approaches to creating long-term, sustainable funding for transportation so that our entire statewide system is able to carry our state into the future and meet the diversified needs of our citizens,” Baldwin said.

Baldwin replaces Commissioner Jerry Litt of Grant County, who served two terms on the commission for a total of 12 years. She will be one of three commissioners appointed from east of the Cascade Mountains. The other four are from the west of the mountains, per requirements in state law.

Link Transit board selects new CEO

Submitted by Eric West, Link Transit

The Link Transit Board of Directors has selected Nick Covey to fill the position of Chief Executive Officer for the agency.

Mr. Covey was one of three finalists for this position. He will be the fourth CEO for Link Transit in its 31-year history.

Nick will step into his new role starting July 1. He will work with current CEO Richard DeRock and the Board to ensure a seamless transition in leadership.



Nick Covey

Covey has worked for Link Transit for 29 years, first as Finance Manager

and in his current role as Chief of Staff.

“The Board of Directors has confidence in Nick’s ability to work with the Board to lead the agency in its mission to provide safe, reliable, and efficient public transportation services that promote access to destinations and quality of life,” said Marc Straub, Douglas County Commissioner and Link Transit Board Chair.

Nick has established himself as a leader in the public transportation industry, having served on the

board for the Washington State Transit Insurance Pool (WSTIP) for 19 years and as WSTIP president from 2015-2017. His community leadership experience includes serving on the Columbia Valley Community Health (CVCH) Board of Directors for 10 years. He was president of the CVCH board from 2007-2010.

Nick is a graduate of Wenatchee High School and Central Washington University. He currently lives in Wenatchee and has two children and two grandchildren.

Lake Chelan HomeWatch earns Accredited Member status for 11th year

Submitted by Faith Luber, National Home Watch Association

CHELAN – Lake Chelan HomeWatch has earned Accredited Member status from the National Home Watch Association for the 11th year. The NHWA was formed in 2009 in order to establish and maintain the highest industry standards for Home Watch and absentee homeowner services throughout the United States and Canada (www.nationalhomewatchassociation.org). Home Watch is a visual in-

spection of a home or property, looking for obvious issues, which means that it is a service that “keeps an eye on things” at your vacation or primary home while you are not in residence. All principals of NHWA Accredited Member companies are background-checked, insured, and bonded.

Ron Trickett, owner of Lake Chelan HomeWatch, holds the honor of traveling the farthest distance to attend the NHWA’s first two North American Conferenc-

es held in 2013 and 2014 in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Ron has been a valuable and contributing member of our group since 2013 and is credited with creating the phrase “neighbors doing favors.” We first heard those words during Ron’s conference presentation recapping the devastating fires in Washington State in the summer of 2014. We learned a lot from Ron that weekend, with his stories about what he had to do to protect his Home Watch clients’ homes with fires closing in. The lesson he taught us is that



Ron Trickett

safety always comes first, and while we do our best to protect our clients, a home can be replaced...your life can’t be. And even though it seems like common sense, things can happen during

SEE HOMEWATCH, PAGE 8

Alchemy Yoga & Massage

By Norm Manly

MANSON – The Manson Chamber of Commerce is delighted to showcase Chamber member, Alchemy Yoga & Massage, the first business at “The Point” Mall located at 94 Wapato Point Parkway in Manson. They opened their doors at Alchemy Yoga & Massage in July 2022, the Manson Chamber of Commerce took part in their grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony Saturday, July 1. Also very excited is Alchemy Yoga & Massage owner, Amber Moore.

Amber is a local girl, third generation in the Chelan valley, and graduated from Manson High School. Growing up, Amber was very active in local 4-H and FFA chapters. She continues to show horses throughout the West Coast, as an adult.

When not working, Amber enjoys hiking, camping and time with her family. Amber and husband, Jeremy, were blessed with their first baby

on November 11, 2022.

Amber has a long list of accomplishments since high school. She graduated from the Academy of Hair Design obtaining her professional licensing in Cosmetology.

In 2013 Amber studied with John Paul Mitchell Systems to become one of their national/international educators, ultimately having the opportunity to travel extensively, educating other professionals in the industry in small salon settings to the big stage, with thousands in attendance.

Amber has completed 750 plus hours of yoga teacher training in Costa Rica, Peru and locally. In 2020, after completion of training and testing, Amber became a Licensed Massage Therapist.

I asked Amber what her favorite thing about living in the Lake Chelan valley. “It’s home. I have traveled the world teaching, learning and enjoying my adventures, but there’s nothing quite

like returning to our valley and having that deep seeded feeling of home.”

When asked why Amber chose the name Alchemy Yoga & Massage: “Alchemy is the process of taking something ordinary and turning it into something extraordinary, sometimes by means that cannot be explained. This translation speaks to me in a multitude of ways, professionally and my personal life. My businesses have evolved over the last 13 years from Deep Water Salon & Spa, Yoga Pravaha, and now Alchemy Yoga & Massage. This beautiful, diverse community that has blossomed out of this 13-year transition. Secondly, within Alchemy Yoga & Massage there are many individuals coming together, where alone we each have our strengths, as we knit together, within

this space, we are witnessing little glimpses of how extraordinary this opportunity will be for each of us.”

Alchemy Yoga & Massage is different than most businesses. It’s best described as a Co-op, as each person is an independent business with their own set of skills to bring to the space. Each massage therapist is bookable online or by phone, at their own websites with links on Alchemy Yoga & Massage website.

Yoga classes are easy for sign up via their website and the MindBody app available at the Apple Store on your iPhone. There is something for everyone at Alchemy Yoga & Massage with a variety of massage treatments, Yoga and meditation classes and a variety of wellness events.

Here’s a current list of people using the Alchemy



PHOTO BY NORM MANLY
Amber Moore, owner of Alchemy Yoga & Massage and her new baby, Adeline.

Yoga & Massage space.

Licensed Massage Therapists: Amber, Bree, Bethany and Arturo.

Registered Yoga and Breathwork Teachers: Amber, Kourtney, Kelsey, Angela, Dedee and Alexa.

Stylists: Amber and Heidi.
For appointment in-

quiries and booking, visit their website www.AlchemyLakeChelan.com. At the website you can book with each therapist individually or find their yoga classes and events. For general business inquiries, you can text or call Amber at 509-670-7546 or email flow@yogapravaha.com.

CDRPA launches website to seek public input on a Regional Sports Complex

Submitted by CDRPA

Chelan Douglas Regional Port Authority (CDRPA) is conducting a feasibility study to determine the potential interest of building a regional sports complex in the area.

In June, consulting firm BerryDunn held several stakeholder interviews, focus groups, and two community open houses to gather input on community needs and ideas for a future facility.

“Around 200 people attended one of these opportunities to provide feedback on a regional sportsplex. It was great to see so many diverse interests from court sports like tennis to basketball, field sports such as soccer and futsal, and water sports and activities like competitive swimming and therapy aquatics. Our communities are passionate about sports,” said East Wenatchee Mayor and Regional Sportsplex Committee chair, Jerrilea Crawford.

While BerryDunn explores the region’s current facilities, they continue to request feedback and ideas from the community and invite residents to participate in an online “social pinpoint” forum. The online information gathering allows participants to comment on current facilities and to post suggestions on an “idea wall”. The online public interest survey is part of phase 1 and



will continue through September.

The online survey can be found on the Regional Port Authority’s website: www.cdrpa.org/regional-sports-complex or at <https://berrydunn.mysocialpinpoint.com/chelan-douglas-regional-sports-complex>.

After completing all phases of their analysis to include existing facility conditions, market analysis, economic impact, and facility options, programs, and capital costs, BerryDunn will present their findings to the Wenatchee Valley in early February, 2024.

Any questions or inquiries on the Regional Sports Complex Feasibility Study can be directed to Stacie de Mestre, Director of Economic

Development & Capital Projects at 509.884.4700 or stacie@cdrpa.org.



About the CDRPA:

The Chelan Douglas Regional Port Authority is the first of its kind in Washington by functionally consolidating two county-wide port districts into one operating entity. With the mission to “Work Together to Enhance the Economic Vitality of North Central Washington”, the CDRPA acts as the principal economic development agency for Chelan & Douglas Counties. For more information, please visit www.cdrpa.org or follow us on Facebook.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Lake Chelan HomeWatch earns Accredited Member status for 11th year

real situations.

Trickett left a successful building career near Seattle and moved into the second home he owned in Lake Chelan, in 2013. With his own experience as a second homeowner and the number of other unoccupied residences on the lake and in the sur-

rounding area, Ron realized that his skill set was much needed there. This was reinforced by his friends and neighbors asking him to stop by and check on their places. He decided that to do the job right, he needed to leave the “neighbors doing favors” set and start a professional

Home Watch business. Encouraged by family, friends, and neighbors, Lake Chelan HomeWatch was born.

Ron is very community oriented. He supports the Manson Chamber of Commerce, having served on its Board of Directors. He is involved with Habitat for Humanity, and during our last conversation he told me that he was working with ex-convicts to assimilate them back into society. He

is passionate about boating on the lake and enjoys some of the wonderful local wines produced in his region. Lake Chelan HomeWatch serves the Lake Chelan area, as well as the Chelan, Manson, Entiat, Orondo, and Chelan Falls communities. Ron can be reached at 509-393-3652 or by email at: ron@LakeChelanHomeWatch.com.

Learn more at www.LakeChelanHomeWatch.com or follow him on Facebook.



MEMBER MESSENGER

“Driven to Promote and Protect Small Business”

JULY 2023 ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

PAGE 1



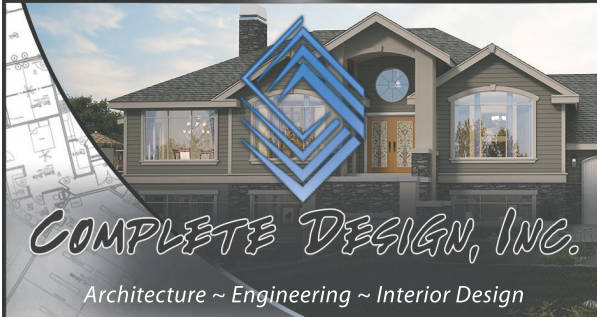
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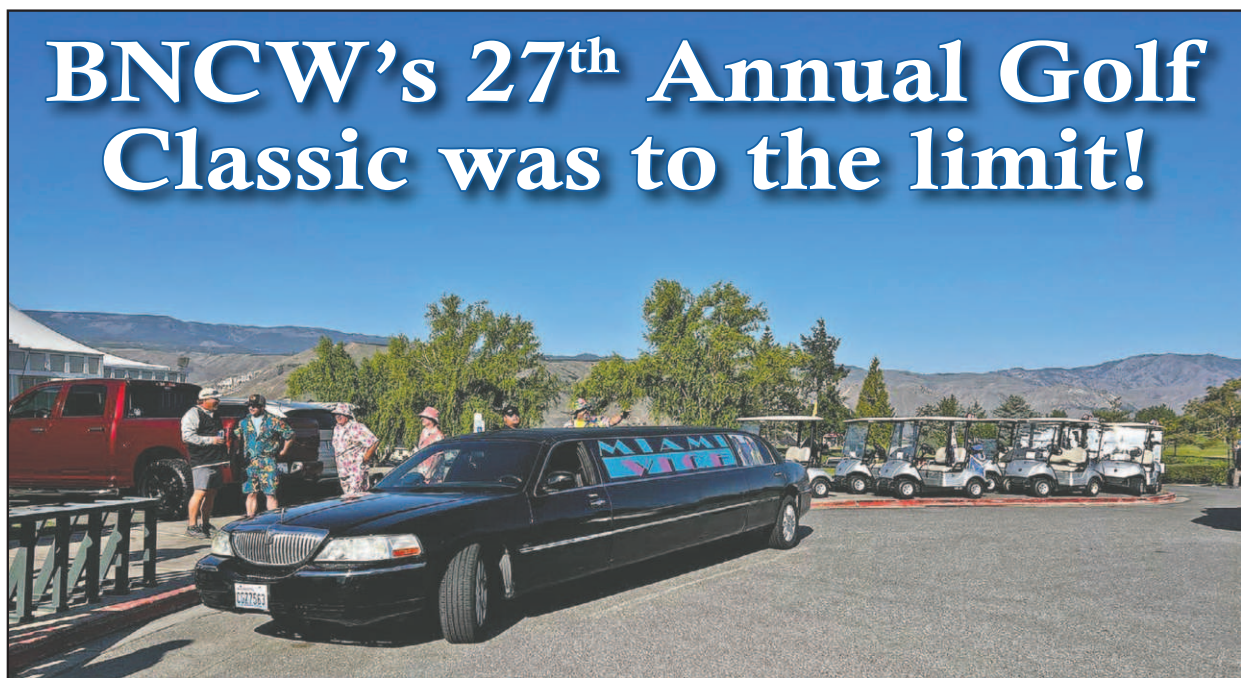
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Our 27th Annual Tournament was held at the gorgeous Highlander Golf Club. This year the teams dusted off their loafers and ironed out blazers to get ready for a Miami Vice-themed Tournament. The crowd took it to the limit!

Our amazing presenting sponsors, American Rock Products and Wenatchee Sand & Gravel helped to put on a day that will go down in history.

Overall, the weather was perfect, and our players, sponsors, and volunteers all enjoyed great golf, good food, drinks, and games. Almost every single hole had a sponsor with an activity or giveaway.

The fun and sun-filled day was wrapped up in the clubhouse with a delicious burger bar, sponsored by Intermountain West Insulation, with raffle prizes and awards galore. Congratulations to all the winners.

A HUGE THANK YOU to our many sponsors for this year's tournament. Their support is crucial and without it, we would not have this incredible event that is enjoyed year after year.

Once again, our event planning committee – worked tirelessly over the last several months to ensure that this year's tournament was the most enjoyable one yet – and that it certainly was.

It truly would be impossible to produce this event at the level that our players have come to expect without the dedication of member leaders and all the other volunteers we're blessed to have joined. Thank you.

THANK YOU to the Highlander Golf Course for being such great hosts.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for our Second Annual Fall Golf Classic to be held at Three Lakes Golf course in Malaga on October 6 hosted by Draggoo Financial Group.

More photos on page 3

2023 TOURNAMENT SPONSORS

American Rock Products
Presenting Sponsor



Wenatchee Sand & Gravel
Presenting Sponsor



Intermountain West Insulation
Dinner Sponsor



1st AND 2nd Place TOURNAMENT WINNERS

• 1st Place Team – Cashmere Valley Mortgage


• 2nd Place Team – Gann Construction

2023 COMMITTEE AND VOLUNTEERS:


- Russ Foresman – IWI
- Julio Ocampo - IWI
- Justin Wood – Asbestos Central LLC
- Hannah Kniery – Banner Bank
- Ed Gardner – EDY Construction
- Anita Onishchuk – Draggoo Financial
- Tracy Harrington – One-Way Construction

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- Sangster Motors
- Jones Concrete
- American Rock Products

Building North Central Washington is a nonprofit trade association dedicated to promoting and protecting the North Central Washington building industry for the preservation and growth of the local economy, small business and quality of life.



LOCATED AT:
2201 N. Wenatchee Ave. Wenatchee, WA 98801
PHONE: (509) 293-5840

Email us for more information:
Info@BuildingNCW.org
Visit us online at:
www.BuildingNCW.org



MEMBER MESSENGER

“Driven to Promote and Protect Small Business”

JULY 2023 ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

PAGE 2



Electrical Arc Flash

Every day in the United States five to 10 arc flash explosions occur in electrical equipment. Anyone exposed to such explosions is at significant risk for death or severe injury.

Arc flash is described by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) as “a dangerous condition associated with the release of energy caused by an electric arc”.

The heat generated (35,000 degrees Fahrenheit) can be hotter than the surface of the sun.

For example, a tool that is inserted or accidentally dropped into an electrical panel or service area, or other objects that are left behind, and come in contact with energized components can create an arc flash. Also, faulty breakers or unmaintained systems have been known to cause an arc flash.

The chances of an arc flash incident occurring increases when a worker fails to ensure that equipment has been properly de-energized prior to servicing or inspecting.

Serious damage to equipment is a likely outcome in an arc flash

incident.

Sometimes affected equipment is so badly damaged that replacement is the only option. And, of course, the human body is equally capable of being destroyed or irreversibly damaged, with no replacement option.

The following arc flash safety tips, can help protect you and your co-workers:

- A written electrical safety program with clearly defined responsibilities covering all your company’s electrical safety policies, including lockout/tagout, internal safety policies and the responsibilities for electrical safety. Know what your program says.

- Only qualified individuals shall work on electrical systems, all others must stay clear of the area.

- Have an electrical engineering firm conduct an arc hazard analysis to determine the arc flash hazards present at your workplace.

The analysis will define the type of personal protective equipment (PPE) that your workers must use while performing any

work when energized parts are exposed.

- All employees should have arc flash safety training. It should be specific to the hazards of arc flash, arc blast, shock, and electrocution. Ensure adequate personal protective clothing and equipment is on hand for those working on electrical systems.

- Those working on electrical systems must ensure the proper tools are on

hand for safe electrical work. This includes insulated voltage-rated hand tools and insulated voltage testing equipment that are properly rated for the specific voltage application of the equipment to be tested.

- Any electrical equipment that is likely to require examination, adjustment, servicing, or maintenance while energized must have arc flash warning labels posted in plain view.



Such equipment includes switchboards, panel boards, industrial control panels, meter socket enclosures and motor control centers.

- Electrical rooms shall not be used as a break room, set up as an office location or as a place for storage of material and tools. Only qualified individuals (electricians) should be in and working in these rooms. If other trades need access to energized electrical rooms, access should be granted by qualified individuals (electricians) who have control

of the electrical rooms.

- Close all electrical rooms off, locking the doors, to keep unauthorized individuals from entering.

- Maintain and update all electrical distribution documentation. This is especially critical when remodeling, expanding, or revising facilities.

Finally, the arc flash will not only severely injure the worker servicing the system but anyone in the work area that is exposed is likely to be injured by the arc flash.



Need a Meeting Room?

As a valued BNCW member company, you’re welcome to utilize the BNCW conference room if you require a place to meet with clients or prospective clients. The room will seat up to 16 people comfortably.

Please contact Danielle Martin at (509) 421-0276 to make the necessary arrangements.

BNCW Member Appreciation BBQ

THURSDAY JULY 20th

12:30PM-3PM

ROTARY PARK NORTH SHELTER

JOIN US FOR A FUN FAMILY EVENT!
FREE TO BNCW MEMBERS








Please RSVP at 509-293-5840
danielle@buildingncw.org



MEMBER MESSENGER

“Driven to Promote and Protect Small Business”

JULY 2023 ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

PAGE 3

BNCW's 27th Annual Golf Classic



	<p>HAPPY 4TH OF JULY</p> <p>WE WILL BE OBSERVING THE HOLIDAY ON JULY 3RD & 4TH. OUR OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED -THANK YOU-</p>	



MEMBER MESSENGER

“Driven to Promote and Protect Small Business”

JULY 2023 ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

PAGE 4

WHO WE ARE

Our Mission

To protect your future



WHAT WE LIVE FOR

Our Purpose

Dedicating our family to yours with trust, honor and friendship. To educate and serve every client under our umbrella of knowledge and experience. We are more than just insurance.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Our Values

- We do the right thing, whatever it takes
- We have fun together
- We are stewards of our community
- We are committed to constant improvement

BNCW EVENTS

BNCW's July Board of Directors Meeting

■ **Wednesday, July 19, 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.

BNCW's CPR & First Aid Training

■ **July 18, 2023** from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Held at Building North Central Washington,
2201 N. Wenatchee Avenue, Wenatchee

Class size is limited to 16 people.

\$50/person for BNCW Members and \$55/person for non-members, includes Continuing Ed credits and is good for new and recertification.

Call BNCW at (509) 293-5840 to Register!

Were you aware that as an employer, unless you are able to get an injured employee to medical care within 3-4 minutes, you are required to have trained and equipped employees? This two-hour class will provide attendees with their certification.

Our instructor — George Templeton — puts on a great class that is enjoyable and informative, too.

Pre-registration Required. Seats are limited to 16 and fill-up quickly, so reserve your spots early!

You may also register online at BuildingNCW.org.

**BNCW Members SAVE on your cell and health insurance costs!
CALL 293-5840 TO LEARN HOW**

WENATCHEE BUSINESS JOURNAL



Serving Chelan, Douglas and Okanogan counties for over 129 years!
NCW Media, Inc. is now an 8 year member supporting BNCW members.

To advertise your company/business call one of our Advertising Executives:

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- Ad Executive, **Ruth** 509-682-2213 or email RuthK@lakechelanmirror.com or further questions call
- Ad director, **Carol Forhan** 509-548-5286 Carol@leavenworthecho.com



Kathy Z. Smithson

720 Valley Mall Pkwy,
East Wenatchee



◆ Information You Can Rely On! ◆

Let Kathy assist you with answers to your questions about:

- Group Employee Health & Benefit Plans,
- Individual Health Plans, WA Health Plan Exchange Plans,
- Group and Individual Life, Dental, Vision,
- Long Term Care, Disability and ALL Medicare Planning

Call Kathy Today - 509-884-5195. www.SmithsonInsuranceServices.com



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Dusty Metsker
Lic# INDUSCI011L3

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NEED TO BE

CPR

CERTIFIED?

We got you

JULY CLASS IS STILL OPEN!

EMAIL DANIELLE AT DANIELLE@BUILDINGNCW.ORG



- Ready Mixed Concrete
- Sand & Gravel
- Crushed Rock
- Concrete Supplies & Blocks
- 3 Locations to Serve You

"We are creating a team of highly skilled people working safely to build long-term relationships with our customers and communities. Integrity, superior quality, and exceptional service will continue to be the foundation of our future."

509-886-4853 **509-886-1070**
5515 Enterprise Drive
E. Wenatchee
400 Parkway Drive
Rock Island
Billing: 509-662-6375

TOP PROPERTIES DOUGLAS CO. MAY 2023								
RESIDENTIAL								
Sale Price	Address	Total Acres	Year Built	Residential Area	Basement Area	Bedr.	Bathr.	Garage Area
\$1,649,000	4886 HURST LANDING RD	0.46	2019	3838	306	4	4	1121
\$1,399,999	87 N SHORE DR	0.87		0				
\$970,000	2784 NW ARLENES CT	0.61	2019	3807		4	4	964
\$810,000	160 E MARINE VIEW PL	0.14	2020	2496		3	3	768
\$720,000	2023 LEGACY PL SE	0.16	2016	2640		3	3	560
\$680,000	1325 N ASHLAND AVE	0.16	1966	1944	1776	6	3.25	576
\$670,000	420 7TH ST NE	0.28	1976	2390	2390	8	4	
\$639,000	54 S MEADOWBROOK LN	0.22	2014	2359		3	2	924
\$620,000	2452 NW COLUMBIA AVE #9	0	2009	1908		3	2.5	460
\$610,000	210 S KANSAS AVE	0.27	1978	1444	1352	5	3	572
\$599,000	1006 JACKIE LN	0.19	2005	1888		3	2	528
\$595,000	205 27TH ST NE	0.42	1985	1556	1556	4	3	672
\$589,900	210 27TH ST NE	0.46	2001	2484		4	2.5	1359
\$575,000	2452 NW COLUMBIA AVE	0	2014	1541		3	2	504
\$560,000	13512 US 2	1.17	1968	2066	2210	5	3	288
\$549,000	108 HUMMINGBIRD RD	5.48	2019	1440	1440	3	3	720
\$540,000	240 SUN COVE RD	0.18	1993	1862	1334	3	3	406
\$510,000	2259 S MELODY LN	0.17	2019	1770		3	2	618
\$447,500	156 27TH ST NE	0.39	1994	1716		3	2	528
\$445,000	1351 TRACTOR LOOP	0.26	2006	1344		3	2.5	484
\$444,500	1719 5TH ST NE	0.23	1973	1034	1000	3	2	350
\$440,200	2539 AVIATION DR	0.19	2005	1472		3	2.5	484
\$440,000	1898 3RD ST SE	0.21	2005	1312		3	2	484
\$435,000	3310 NW CASCADE AVE	0.29	1946	1277		2	1.5	900
\$415,000	225 19TH ST NE #39	0	1980	1653		2	2	529
\$415,000	1560 10TH ST NE	0.32	1961	1120	1120	4	1.75	
\$400,000	1337 RD B NW	6.1	1980	1344	1248	3	2	
\$385,000	1245 6TH PL NE	0.21	1959	1102		3	1	
\$380,000	27 DELAWARE AVE	0.23	1998	1782		3	2	528
\$375,000	1200 S WEBB PL	0.94	1983	1797	1797	3	2	560
\$359,000	505 N JACKSON ST	0.34	2010	1716		3	2	
\$355,000	1031 S LYLE AVE	0.41	1985	1344		3	2	240
\$352,500	790 LIBERTY DR	2.71	1998	1680		2	2	
\$350,000	529 12TH ST	0.31	1965	1440	1440	3	2	

TOP PROPERTIES DOUGLAS CO. MAY 2023				
FARM				
Seller	Buyer	Sale Price	Street	Total Acres
TEAK NURSERY LLC	AFC RANCH 8 LLC	\$840,000	US 97	44.2
LEYDA, AUSTIN & EMILY A	MONAHAN, JOSEPH THOMAS & ANGELA ROSE	\$612,500		460.5
KRUSE, STACY MARLEEN & DAVID MICHAEL	CLARK &, DUSTIN W & KAYME A	\$250,000		156
WHITE, DARRYL & HOPE	GARCIA, PRESTON JOSE	\$205,000	75 BUCKINGHAM ALLEY	10
COTE, JACQUELINE	401 MANAGEMENT LLC	\$102,500		160
OLIN, JOSEPH M	WANG, XINBAO & FEN	\$48,000		160
CORNING AND SONS LLC	BROWN, BUCK	\$40,000		2.44

TOP PROPERTIES DOUGLAS CO. MAY 2023				
COMMERCIAL				
Seller	Buyer	Sale Price	Street	Acres
HOMESLEY PROPERTIES LLC	OCEAN BLUE INVESTMENTS LLC	\$780,000	46 ROCK ISLAND RD	0.16
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT 105	THREE MOONS PROPERTIES LLC	\$605,000	1901 ROCK ISLAND RD	0
SPEIDEL PROPERTY LLC	302 - 312 NINTH ST HOLDINGS LLC	\$595,000	19 ROCK ISLAND RD	0.46
JORDAN, DEBORAH	NEU-BAMBERG LLC	\$398,000	889 N DEVON AVE	0.18

MARKETING 101

Do Your Research!

Submitted by Jennifer Bushong



Jennifer Bushong

The best brand names in the world still need to clearly understand their audiences. Today, understanding your market segment is crucial with any brand or product. Advertising the wrong campaign to potential customers may not only cause the company to lose revenue, but the wrong message can harm the brand well into the future.

The time and money required to conduct proper research, is well worth the investment. Good research will provide valuable insights for executives to better understand consumer behaviors, attitudes, buying preferences, media consumption, and potential gaps.

Market research can help test a variety of themes and support new initiatives before investing dollars in advertising campaigns.

Here are a few low-cost ways to conduct adequate research:

Casual research

Conduct an online survey. Use image A versus image B. Watch for consumer comments, shares, likes, or clicks. This type of research will show marketing teams, such as A/B testing, which one resonates over the others, etc.

Exploratory research

Focus groups are an excellent way to better understand consumers.

In-depth interviews or qualitative research methods will help marketers clarify their hypothesis, collect common themes, and create strategies to tailor messages to their targeted audience(s). Small group formats allow for consumers to share their opinions or habits. The data is then analyzed and compiled.

Primary research

The collection of data directly from the consumer could be an online survey, direct mail survey, face-to-face survey, or other methods.

Make sure the questions or images are crafted well for each specific group

of people. Be mindful of diverse communities, countries, or languages so interviewees can easily answer the questions.

Consider offering a gift card, meal, or some type of incentive for those who participate in the research. The experience should be friendly, interesting, and easy.

Most importantly, make sure you have identified the right groups of people and not veer away from your target.

Continued research will help the company confirm marketing strategies, track metrics and other sales indicators.

The quality of information will help build trust in the brand, which in turn will gain new customers well into the future.

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.jbe-marketing.com.

Mission Ridge Ski Team hosts 2nd Annual Kids Triathlon July 8

Submitted by Lindsay Davisson, MRST Administrator and YSL Head Coach

Mission Ridge Ski Team (MRST) is hosting the 2nd Annual Kids Triathlon Saturday, July 8, in Walla Walla Point Park in Wenatchee.

The event is sponsored by Artisan Flooring and begins at 9 a.m.

The event is for kids ages 6-14. Distances for each leg of the swim, bike and run vary by age category. The event begins with the swim leg in the swimming area near the Walla Walla Point Park playground.

Children will be able to touch in the swimming area and lifeguards from the Wenatchee Racquet and Athletic Club will supervise the water events. After exiting the water, participants will transition to the bike leg. Participants need to bring their own bikes.



The event finishes with a run to the finish line. The top three in each age category will receive medals.

“We are so excited to host the kids triathlon for a second year,” said Lindsay Davisson, MRST’s administrator and Youth Ski League head coach.

“Our goal is to inspire

kids to get moving on and off the ski hill and have fun all at the same time.”

No prior experience is required. The event is limited to the first 100 competitors per age group. The cost to register is \$45. All participants will receive a t-shirt.

For more information and to register visit mrst.us.

REAL ESTATE

TOP PROPERTIES CHELAN COUNTY – May 2023

Buyer	Seller	Sale Price	Street	City	Legal acreage	Year Built	Living Area	Bed-rooms	Bath-rooms	Pool	Fire-place
CHELAN DOUGLAS COMMUNITY ACTION COUNCIL	C & O NURSERY CO	\$4,310,000	1700 N WENATCHEE AVE	WENATCHEE	3.12	1925	45937			N	N
AFURADA LLC	SANTANA RANCH PROPERTIES LLC	\$1,575,000	131 CHANDLER RD	MANSON	2.7	1995	8192			N	N
AFURADA LLC	SANTANA RANCH PROPERTIES LLC	\$1,575,000	375 ROSES AVE	MANSON	3.54	1946	1440		3	N	N
AFURADA LLC	EDWIN & CHERRY FALLON TRUST	\$1,300,000	744 WAPATO WAY	MANSON	0.41	2005	4704	9	6	Y	N
TAYLOR ORCHARDS LLC	WILEY KATHRYN HANFORD & HAROLD E	\$1,200,000	7794 ENTIAT RIVER RD	ENTIAT	39	1966	1100			N	N
COLAK PINAR & RECEP	LAMB DAVID R & MICHELLE M	\$1,175,000	2675 SUMAC LN	LAKE WENATCHEE	0.87	2017	1636	3	2.25	N	Y
WEST CAMERON M & DANIELLE J	SCHIMELFENIG SCOTT & PAULA STROZYK	\$1,100,000	12375 VILLAGE VIEW DR	LEAVENWORTH	0.95	2012	2485			N	N
MCDONALD TYLER & KATHRYN	MJB ASSOCIATES LLC	\$1,099,000	3781 SCHOOL ST	WENATCHEE	2.07	1990	2312	5	4	N	Y
NELSON MARK & DEBORAH	CYNKUS NEAL A	\$1,075,000	3111 FIRCREST PL	WENATCHEE	0.44	2016	1632	3	2.75	N	Y
BROTHERTON KARIS A & CHASE JERRY D	BOWEN CHRISTOPHER J & EMILY K	\$1,055,000	63 N SHUGART FLATS RD	PLAIN	2.31	2017	2236	2	2	N	Y
VASUDEVAN NAVEENAN & AMELIA	THOMPSON FRASER H & HUI-MING L	\$1,050,000	540 PORCUPINE LN	CHELAN	0.1	2015	1296	3	2.5	N	Y
DENEGA ALEKSANDR & ERICA	BURKETT CHRISTOPHER A	\$1,025,000	173 DIEDE HILLS LN	WENATCHEE	1.81	2020	3609	4	3.75	N	Y
MILITESCU MICHAEL	SEGUIN MATTHEW C & SHARON M	\$971,000	323 STONEYBROOK LN	WENATCHEE	0.41	1999	2359	4	3.5	Y	Y
REEVE JONATHAN & ERIN	DENEGA ALEKSANDR A & ERICA J ETAL	\$950,000	325 MEADOW DR	LEAVENWORTH	0.17	2019	2606	3	3	N	Y
SECRIST CASSIDY L & KATHERINE A	MEJIA OSCAR & JACQUELYN	\$917,300	5854 LOCUST LN	CASHMERE	0.87	2016	2020	3	3	N	N
BERESFORD HARRY & SHAWNA	TSCC LLC	\$875,000	104 SPADER BAY RD	CHELAN	0.22	0	1160			N	N
CHELAN COUNTY	BICKFORD MONROE L & DIANA J	\$845,250	767 GOOSE ROCK LN	MALAGA	2.95	0	0			N	N
JENSEN BRIAN K & AMANDA M	NELSON BRADLEY A & FAWNA N	\$839,950	821 AUTUMN CREST DR	WENATCHEE	0.53	2015	2456	4	2.75	N	Y
FESTE JONATHAN	ARMANI INVESTMENTS LLC	\$827,000	NELMIDA	CHELAN	0.27	2007	3136	3	3	N	N
KNIGHT JESSE & THEODORE	FLETCHER GEORGE G III ETAL	\$825,000	331 CASCADE ST	LEAVENWORTH	0.28	1918	2028	3	1.5	N	Y
HUDKINS SARAH & JASON	BURKHART LANNY D	\$825,000	56 CHELAN BUTTE RD	CHELAN	5.33	2016	1175	1		N	N
THOMPSON FAMILY TRUST	VANHOOGENDORP JEANNINE	\$816,000	64 GRATEFUL LN	LEAVENWORTH	1	1980	1718	3	2.5	N	Y
BRYANT TIMOTHY J & RAVANZO BRYANT CHERYL	CECKA MICHAEL J	\$815,000	510 BIRCH ST	LEAVENWORTH	0.36	1986	1507	3	2	N	Y
MOBRATEN WANDA M & DARYL W	TALOS CONSTRUCTION LLC	\$799,950	116 SAILING HAWK LN	MANSON	0.24	2022	1894	3	2.5	N	Y
ROSS TOMMY L & RUTH	ROBERTS CONSTRUCTION LLC	\$789,900	966 BENTLEY LN	WENATCHEE	0.21	0	0			N	N
CHEN SIDING & ZHONG JIANCHENG	FERRELL BARRY	\$780,000	285 OLD BURN LN	CHELAN	20	1997	2567	2	2	N	Y
DROVETTO NICHOLAS	HALL KEVIN E & CHERYL L	\$768,000	190 FOX RUN	WENATCHEE	0.53	2004	2614	4	2.5	N	Y
BURTIS KYLE & CHRISTINE M	PARKHILL DAVID J & CARI M	\$765,000	176 ROLLING HILLS LN	WENATCHEE	0.84	2004	1898	4	3.5	N	Y
SIBBERS WILLIAM & DONNA	ZSIGMONDOVICS RONALD B	\$755,000	31 COUGAR CROSSING LN	CHELAN	2.54	2003	988		2	N	N
BYRD JOHN S & RACHELLE S	CARBERRY RANDY LEE	\$750,000	22306 SHETLAND RD	PLAIN	0.35	2020	1469	2	1.75	N	Y
LAMPERT PETER M & SARAH A	KERSTETTER MICHAEL	\$720,000	3652 DIANNA WAY	WENATCHEE	0.46	2000	2143	3	3	N	Y
EZEPELETA KENNETH & JENNY	MARTIN TRACY L	\$700,000	1001 WOODWARD DR	WENATCHEE	1.58	1951	1432	3	2	N	Y
RHEA JONATHAN K & KATIE L	ROBERTS CONSTRUCTION LLC	\$699,900	2014 LIGHTNING LN	WENATCHEE	0.14	0	0			N	N
TUCKER KATHRYN	LUNDBERG J CRAIG & MARY M	\$697,000	237 PROSPECT ST	LEAVENWORTH	0.09	2008	1870	3	2.5	N	N
BLEVINS DANIELLE L & MARTIN	BUGERT ROBERT M	\$690,000	2919 NUMBER 1 CANYON RD	WENATCHEE	0.93	1963	2088	3	3	N	Y
SPRINGER STEPHEN ETAL	CONKLING TIMOTHY	\$680,000	12875 PROWELL ST	LEAVENWORTH	0.38	1979	1136	3	1.5	N	Y
KIEZS DALE R	SIENNA 41 LLC	\$679,900	219 SIENNA RD	WENATCHEE	0.13	2021	1469	3	2.5	N	Y
CIMIC SENAD & CRYSTAL	ELJOBRI LLC	\$675,000	545 JUNCTION LN	LEAVENWORTH	0	0	1080			N	N
SWITZER REBECCA A & NISSLLEY PHILLIP A	BECKENDORF KIRK & TRACEY BECKENDORF EDOU	\$660,000	311 EVANS ST	LEAVENWORTH	0.16	1920	1612	3	1.75	N	Y
MAYBAY JASON & KRISTINA	REIDELL BENJAMIN M & CAMPBELL CARY J	\$660,000	2467 SALAL DR	LAKE WENATCHEE	0.51	1988	1536	3	1.75	N	N
WILLE CHRIS & STACY	LOVE ROBIN C & ALEITHE M	\$655,000	21702 COLT RD	PLAIN	0.33	1991	864	2	1	N	N
WARNER NICHOLAS M & CARRIE G	CHELAN ACREAGE LLC	\$645,000	221 RIVIERA DR	CHELAN	7.22	0	0			N	N
EFRAIMSON ROLAND G & TUHANG EFRAIMSON KRISTIN	KEPPNER BETTY J	\$627,000	3116 OHME RD	WENATCHEE	0.78	1958	1458	4	2.75	N	Y
HOLZINGER GORDON CHELSEA R & THOMAS J	MUNRO ALICIA	\$623,000	547 VILLAGE DR	MANSON	0.1	2010	1783	3	2.5	N	N
DIAZ MARTINEZ MARIA	MOODY RAY	\$620,000	102 CREEKSIDE PL	CASHMERE	0.25	1993	2198	3	2.5	N	Y
GRANGER SCOTT & KELLY	BOLZ DENNIS S & JOYCELYN W	\$617,350	1712 CENTRAL AVE	WENATCHEE	0	2016	2011	3	2	N	Y
SIMPLY KATO LLC	TIBERIO GERARD&COLLEEN	\$600,000	12340 W EMIG DR	LEAVENWORTH	1	0	0			N	N
GRIFFIN MICHELE K	STANTON JR JACK H	\$600,000	104 SPADER BAY RD	CHELAN	0.11	0	535			N	N
BOLZ DENNIS S & JOYCELYN W	ROBERTS CONSTRUCTION LLC	\$599,900	969 RACINE SPRINGS DR	WENATCHEE	0.13	0	0			N	N
SWANSON JASON & KATHERINE	PEDERSEN MARY	\$598,850	25809 BRIDLE LN	PLAIN	0.23	1982	1320	2	2	N	Y
DECKER FAMILY PROPERTIES LLC	ROYS FRED	\$590,000	4450 OLD MONITOR RD	MONITOR	1.66	1928	2091	5	1.5	N	N
FISHER TINA ETAL	DUFNER ROBERT V	\$587,000	1213 SUMMER HILL PL	WENATCHEE	0.28	1970	1947	4	2.25	N	Y
WOODS PETER & GOMILA ROMERO MIGLANY	ZUNIGA ERIC & KAITLYN LOADHOLTZ	\$579,000	545 CHRISAND LN	WENATCHEE	0.28	2003	2120	4	2	N	N

Buyer	Seller	Sale Price	Street	City	Legal acreage	Year Built	Living Area	Bed-rooms	Bath-rooms	Pool	Fire-place
HIPPE LINDSEY R & SCOTT R	BILLINGTON JAMES T & KATHY LEE	\$575,000	916 E OKANOGAN AVE	CHELAN	0.28	1914	598	2	2	N	N
MAGINNIS JOSEPH M	STARCHER ORO M & DIANA M	\$570,000	417 E WAPATO AVE	CHELAN	0.16	1946	960	3	2	N	Y
JONES CODY R	JONES PATRICIA M & DONNIE R	\$550,000	4734 MISSION CREEK RD	CASHMERE	1.08	1989	2584	3	2.5	N	Y
CHRISTIANSEN DAVID L & BRIMHALL MELISSA J	SIMICICH THOMAS & CHERYL	\$550,000	17774 CHUMSTICK HWY	LEAVENWORTH	7.06	1990	924			N	N
SNYDER ANDREW ETAL	FERRELL CHESTER P JR & SARAH E FOLAND	\$540,000	914 WILLIS ST	WENATCHEE	0.18	1979	1912	3	3.5	N	Y
EVANS LISA K & GREENFIELD JOHN	JOHNSON MICHAEL & LISA	\$540,000	1308 SENECA ST	WENATCHEE	0.19	1972	1706	3	1.75	N	Y
PALASZ PAMELA	CLARK DAVID T & DONNA B	\$539,000	1728 WINDSOR CT	WENATCHEE	0.24	1997	1893	3	2	N	N
NUANEZ RICARDO & FUKUHARA GENE	STURM DAVID J & JOYCE A	\$539,000	1317 ORMISTON ST	WENATCHEE	0.36	1966	2444	4	2.5	N	Y
BLACK JESSICA	KAYTOR TERRY & ROBERTA	\$535,000	808 W MANSON RD	CHELAN	0	0	1085			N	N
DE LA CRUZ MIGUEL A	SHERMAN JEFF & LINGENFELTER LACEY	\$530,000	808 W MANSON RD	CHELAN	0	0	1100			N	N
BEST JOHN LIVING TRUST	SHAW SCOTT M	\$529,000	919 SUNRISE DR	MANSON	0.15	1995	1296			N	N
PETTIT SUSAN L ETAL	BROWN DAVID T & KACIE J ETAL	\$525,000	22602 CORRAL ST	PLAIN	0.33	1993	750	2	1	N	Y
WARD JACOB & GLOVER DAVID	WARD JONATHAN E	\$525,000	16062 RIVER RD	PLAIN	0.59	1991	1148	2	2	N	Y
FULL CIRCLE REALTY LLC	KINGDOM REALTY LLC	\$522,500	2020 DAWN TERRACE	WENATCHEE	0.26	1967	1456	4	2.75	N	Y
BRIGGS ANN M	MARSHALL MAX & MARGARET REV LIV TRT	\$517,500	1325 CASTLEROCK AVE	WENATCHEE	0.42	1956	1522	3	1.75	N	Y
SPOHNHOLTZ NICHOLAS A & JENNY A	DYE BRETT	\$516,000	10006 SASKA WAY	ENTIAT	0.2	2016	1740	3	2.5	N	N
MADELIS DIMITRI & BRENDA	KUNTZ JUDITH & STEVEN	\$510,000	UNASSIGNED	WENATCHEE	20.05	0	0			N	N
CALHOUN VANESSA J	BREEZE JANIS KAY	\$505,000	411 E HIGHLAND AVE	CHELAN	0.21	1959	1206	4	2.5	N	N
ABLE/SUNSHINE LLC	HUGHES ROBERT W	\$505,000	641 KAYLA WAY	WENATCHEE	0.22	2006	1834	3	2	N	N
HANNIGAN NEIL R & LINDA K	CHAMBERLAIN CHARLEY & JANET	\$500,000	1479 MELISSA WAY	WENATCHEE	0.26	2003	1971	4	2.75	N	N
RANKIN CHRISTOPHER & STACY	HAUCK EDWARD J & V COLEIN	\$500,000	173 TWIN PONDS LN	CASHMERE	3.13	1994	1742			N	N
URGENSON LAUREN & PETERSON ERIK	BYRD RACHELLE L & JOHN S	\$486,500	22307 SHETLAND RD	PLAIN	0.34	1968	725	2	1	N	Y
CHURCHILL BLAKE & KAITLYNN M	GREEN JUSTIN L & KILEY J	\$485,000	6199 ENTIAT RIVER RD	ENTIAT	1.3	2011	1288			N	N
GELBACH ADAM J & HARMONY T	FORDYCE SAMUEL W	\$480,000	1204 S MISSION ST	WENATCHEE	0.3	1980	2350	4	2.25	N	Y
HELLIGSO JULIE M	CARLSON COURTNEY G	\$479,900	811 KRISTI CT	WENATCHEE	0.14	1986	1441	3	1.75	N	Y
EDOU TRACEY L	TIMMERMANS WILLIAM	\$473,500	325 DIVISION ST	LEAVENWORTH	0	0	821			N	N
CANIZAL PATRICK	KILLY INC	\$466,000	2220 W WOODIN AVE	CHELAN	0	0	1054			N	N
RUELAS ALEYSS & BREED CHRISTOPHER	HEARL BRETT W & LANCASTER PEGGY LEE ETAL	\$460,000	1119 MADISON ST	WENATCHEE	0.19	1951	880	3	2	N	N
SOOTER ERIK & KATHRYN	HADDENHAM PATRICK L	\$455,500	21310 STETSON RD	PLAIN	0.26	1973	984	1	1	N	Y
EVANS JOSHUA & HEIDI	SWEENEY TODD & JODI	\$452,000	4580 NAVARRE COULEE RD	CHELAN	4.56	2005	1400			N	N
SULLIVAN MALLORY D ETAL	NOBLES EMERSON R & HEIDI A	\$440,000	909 N WESTERN AVE	WENATCHEE	0.28	1928	1408	3	1	N	Y
WALTON LESA A	WOLFE PEGGY J	\$433,750	103 N GARFIELD AVE	WENATCHEE	0.15	1926	1449	3	1.75	N	Y
GALE AARON	WEAVER RYAN	\$432,150	1818 JEFFERSON ST	WENATCHEE	0.19	1978	1668	3	2.5	N	Y
RODDICK STEVEN & DONNA	EIDER PROPERTIES LLC	\$430,000	910 POPLAR AVE	WENATCHEE	0.08	0	0			N	N
STEPHENS KRISTIN	JORDAN MITCHELL A	\$429,900	8488 LAKE ST	PESHASTIN	0.11	1924	1060	2	1	N	Y
MATHER RILEY E	FISHER TINA	\$428,000	513 ROSS AVE	WENATCHEE	0.11	1910	1321	3	2.5	N	Y
CAVERLY SUSAN	ALBRIGHT KERRY L & MC DANIEL MICHELLE M	\$425,000	30 VINO BLANCO DR	CHELAN	0.59	0	0			N	N
MENDOZA MENDEZ GLENDA E & MENDOZA MEDINA ANTONIO	FALCON ROBIN S ETAL	\$420,000	50 S MADELINE RD	MANSON	0.19	1945	632	2	1	N	N
O'KEEFE JACQUELINE ETAL	EIDER PROPERTIES LLC	\$420,000	910 POPLAR AVE	WENATCHEE	0.04	0	0			N	N
LAMOY JEREMY W	COOPER ROYCE J & MARJORIE I	\$412,500	1212 AMERICAN FRUIT RD	WENATCHEE	0.41	1952	1606	3	1	N	Y
PARKHILL DAVID J & CARI M	SAGE HOMES LLC	\$405,000	23 EMMA DR	WENATCHEE	0.14	2022	1874	3	2	N	Y
BOYLE BRIAN L & LISA	SCHWAB MATTHEW & KIRSTEN	\$400,000	103 PROSPECT ST	LEAVENWORTH	0	0	940			N	N
GILBERT TODD & LISA	STREAT DEREK & DIANA	\$395,000	325 DIVISION ST	LEAVENWORTH	0	0	819			N	N
WINGER JOSH K & CAITLIN M	JENKINS CHELSEY M & FITZMAURICE SEAN K	\$392,000	1825 DUKE ST	WENATCHEE	0.29	1940	1284	3	1.5	N	N
HERNANDEZ CRUZ JOSE R	HEART FOR HOMES LLC	\$390,000	781 4TH ST	CHELAN FALLS	0.16	1998	891			N	N
EILERS JOHNNA E & PAPROCKI NEIL	MORROW DAVID & IRENE	\$389,000	1014 MONTANA ST	WENATCHEE	0.12	1948	886	3	1.75	N	Y
SHREINER THERESE	DOBBINS MATTHEW R & KRISTIN L	\$385,000	407 MARIE AVE	WENATCHEE	0.2	1957	1220	3	2	N	Y
P100 LLC	DAUT RODNEY M	\$385,000	533 METHOW ST	WENATCHEE	0.16	1905	1692	3	3	N	N
PINKERTON LEE & GENEVIEVE	MC DONALD ERMA OPPILIE	\$377,199	716 KENASTON DR	WENATCHEE	0.22	1953	1292	3	1.75	N	Y
ALEXANDERSON RANDY L	HAASE SHIRLEY	\$375,844	475 TOTEM POLE RD	MANSON	0.51	1945	1364	4	1.5	N	N
FAILLE SUZETTE M	CRITCHLOW BRIAN K & TAYLOR D	\$374,900	8650 NAHAHUM CANYON RD	CASHMERE	10.45	0	0			N	N
CROWE ELIZABETH & GARRETT GRANT	EVANS PHILIP & KAREN	\$370,000	100 SKI BLICK STRASSE	LEAVENWORTH	0	0	1156			N	N
BALINT GERDA ETAL	MELBY CHELSEA	\$370,000	421 PIONEER DR	WENATCHEE	0.14	1945	1286	2	1	N	N
ISRAELI SAGI & AVIV SHAHAR	SAGE HOMES LLC	\$370,000	258 EMMA DR	WENATCHEE	0.14	2022	1666	3	2	N	Y
EVANS JOHN ETAL	OLSEN RICKY L & COOK KRISTINA M	\$360,000	17855 ENTIAT RIVER RD	ENTIAT	0.45	2005	1296			N	N
TRUJILLO HERNANDEZ SAUL R	GAYTAN VICENTE H & MARIA P FRANCO-LUZ	\$350,000	3742 SQUILCHUCK RD	WENATCHEE	0.55	1999	1232			N	N



WASHINGTON RETAIL
ASSOCIATION

Submitted by Washington Retail Association

POLICY

WR board of directors map out future strategies for a thriving marketplace and political influence

The Washington Retail Association 20-member Board of Directors met in mid-June at the beautiful Suncadia Lodge in Cle-Elum, Washington. The association's board, led by President & CEO Renée Sunde, and chaired by Kent Wilson, Target, is comprised of a strategic mix of Washington-based retailers and multi-state retailers who represent hundreds of thousands of employees in all regions of the state. In addition to important association business – leaders representing retail storefronts in all 49 legislative districts met to discuss two primary goals.

As we set the stage for Washington's future, a focus on creating the necessary long-term political infrastructure that will support a free enterprise marketplace, maintain fiscal responsibility, and support personal accountability is a critical place to start.

We also recognize that setting the stage for Washington Retail Association's future means retailers may be better positioned than other business interests to highlight policies that are strongly aligned with the current political majority. These include positions on sustainability, community engagement, employee education, and reskilling opportunities through our diverse and inclusive workforce.

These goals helped to set the stage for two days of dynamic speakers and focused strategic planning. Sally Poliak, Co-Quarterback of Project 42, and Executive Director Kaitlyn Virtertun of League of Our Own shared the many "capacities" established over the past years to help build a durable infrastructure for Washington's future. Newly elected state representative April Connors (D-8) from the Tri-cities is an excellent example of League of Our Own's success in electing moderate, consensus-building, pro-business candidates.

Senator Mark Mullet, (D-5-Issaquah) gubernatorial candidate in the race for Washington State Governor, spoke about his commitment to pragmatic leadership and reasonable, balanced governance necessary to accomplish things in Olympia.

The newly elected deputy Republican House leader, Representative Mike Steele (D-12 Chelan) spoke about a similar commitment to bring together both parties to work towards common sense solutions. Both leaders spoke about their commitment to making Washington State a welcoming environment for citizens and businesses alike.

A facilitated work session focused on preparing for WR's future was facilitated by Doug Mah of Mah & Associates. The outcomes included discussing how WR will sustain successes while developing top priorities to meet the many identified challenges. The role of WR's Board of Directors has never been more important and timelier - as we meet both challenges and opportunities ahead.

ECONOMY

Retail sales increase again in May

Retail sales rose again in May as consumers continued to spend despite economic challenges. Consumers continued to spend

Washington Retail Report



Submitted photo

on household priorities in May, supported by gains in the job market and wages.

Retailers recognize the ongoing pressure on cost-sensitive consumers and are offering competitive pricing, a wide product mix, and convenient shopping options to help stretch family budgets.

Despite inflation and interest rate pressures, there are no signs of an abrupt slowing ahead.

Shoppers have slowed purchases in some categories year-over-year, but these numbers confirm that consumers are still spending. Job growth and wages are providing support, although inflation continues to nibble away at consumer income.

As spring shopping peaks, May has historically been a strong month for retail, but above-average temperatures and below-average precipitation have likely played a favorable role.

The U.S. Census Bureau said overall retail sales in May were up 0.3% from April and up 1.6% year over year. In April, sales were up 0.4% month over month and up 1.2% year over year. Core retail sales, which exclude automobile dealers, gasoline stations, and restaurants, showed May was up 0.4% from April and up 4.4% unadjusted year over year. In April, sales were up 0.6% month over month and 1.4% year over year.

How commercial real estate owners can combat organized retail theft

The widespread issue of organized retail theft is creating substantial challenges across the United States, particularly impacting retail tenants, landlords, and customers in Washington state.

This form of criminal activity, which involves multiple individuals stealing goods to fund various illicit pursuits, has been expanding in magnitude and intricacy.

In response, property owners and retailers are on a quest to find effective ways to safeguard the welfare of their customers and staff while also trying to mitigate the economic impact of such crimes on their businesses.

In a recent episode of The Property Line

podcast, an enlightening discussion on this rising problem took place.

The guests on the show, Alesha Shemwell, WR Vice Chair, and Carl Kleinknecht from the Kemper Development Company and the Bellevue Collection, joined hosts Brian Atherton and Eric Greenberg to share their encounters with organized retail theft.

They also discussed various technological solutions and resources that landlords and retail tenants can leverage to deter these criminal activities.

Carl Kleinknecht mentioned the 'Guide to Navigating Public Safety & Retail Crime.'

This guide is a complimentary resource WR offers on its Public Safety and Retail Crime webpage. It is designed to equip retailers with knowledge and tools to effectively respond to and prevent such theft.

TRENDS

Most consumers dump a brand after one bad experience

Walmart, the largest retailer in the U.S., is planning a significant overhaul of its packaging to curb waste. One significant change will be replacing plastic mailers with recyclable paper versions, a move expected to remove over 2,000 tons of plastic from circulation in the country by next January.

Walmart also intends to deploy technology that creates custom-fit boxes at around 50% of its fulfillment centers, reducing material usage and optimizing truckload efficiency. The retail giant will also offer customers the option to skip using plastic bags for curbside pickups by the end of the year, demonstrating a continued commitment to environmental responsibility. Walmart's new initiatives align with a growing business focus on digital sales, representing about 13% of the company's total annual sales.

Senior Vice President of Sustainability at Walmart, Jane Ewing, stressed that the aim is to make sustainability an effortless choice for customers, with eco-friendly products not carrying a higher price.

This approach is expected to resonate

with environmentally conscious consumers and those frustrated by accumulating packaging waste at home.

Walmart's move to more sustainable packaging mirrors initiatives by other major retailers, including Amazon and Target.

Amazon has also adopted custom-fit packaging and encouraged vendors to use their own containers, while Target has introduced recyclable paper cushioning and returnable bags at select stores.

The sustainability drive isn't just for appealing to consumers. It also brings cost benefits. Custom-fit packaging, for instance, not only lessens the use of materials but also makes transportation more efficient and simplifies labor tasks.

By championing sustainable practices, Walmart hopes to meet customer demand and reduce its environmental footprint.

SAFETY

Safety training for employees working different shifts

Taking the time to discuss the safe use of tools and equipment specific to your operation is crucial. It is also important to document these discussions.

Making a log to verify those who attended is tangible evidence of your proactive approach to safety. According to L&I, a lack of documentation verifying regular employee safety meetings was the second most cited item during workplace inspections in 2022.

Employers with workers on different shifts or aren't scheduled on safety training days often wonder how to offer flexible ways to ensure training for all employees.

Thankfully, there are alternate methods for employees to make up for the missed training while satisfying L&I's requirements:

1. After safety meetings, make detailed topic notes available in designated areas for workers to review on their next shift.
2. Provide a convenient method for workers to ask questions on the subject matter to ensure comprehension.
3. Ensure workers sign off, confirming their review of the training content upon completion.

Our Retro members can find a variety of safety topic ideas in our safety packet which we send to members monthly. These packets are also available on our web portal. Another tool is RS SafetyTV, which contains a variety of video topics to assist you with your safety meeting.

Our safety team is available to help members elevate their safety practices from simply meeting requirements to implementing quality safety measures. Contact us at safety@waretailservices.com to learn more.



Submitted photo



Prestige Care Centers receive “Five-Star” rating from CMS



Colonial Vista Post-Acute and Rehabilitation Center in Wenatchee recognized

Submitted by Justin Camara, Firmani + Associates Inc.

PORTLAND – Prestige Care is pleased to recognize its skilled nursing centers for achieving a “Five-Star Overall Rating” by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

Eight Prestige centers in three states earned the highest rating from CMS based on the centers’ much above average performance in several measurable areas of quality and safety.

The five-star centers that were

recognized by CMS included local facility, Colonial Vista Post-Acute and Rehabilitation Center, along with Carson Tahoe Transitional Rehabilitation Center in Nevada; Cascade Terrace Nursing Center, Hood River Care Center, Prestige Care and Rehabilitation of Reedwood, Timberview Care Center in Oregon; and Discovery Nursing and Rehab of Vancouver, and Prestige Post-Acute and Rehab Center – Kittitas in Washington.

CMS created the Five-Star Quality Rating System to help con-

sumers, their families and caregivers easily compare skilled nursing and rehabilitation centers.

The Centers’ Nursing Home Care Compare website features a quality rating system that gives each skilled nursing center a rating between one and five stars. Centers with five stars are considered to be significantly above average in health inspections, staffing and quality measures.

“Across all of our Prestige centers, ensuring we provide safe, high-quality care is always our

highest priority. These centers exemplify our commitment and set the standard for the care and service patients and families deserve when they’re in need of skilled nursing care,” said Molly Jones, Division Vice President.

“We’re so proud to recognize all of the team members whose commitment to safe, quality care helps earn ratings like these, and we look forward to continually enhancing all of the care and service we provide.”

Prestige Care is dedicated to

helping patients return to active, independent lifestyles by offering specialized short-term rehabilitation as well as long-term skilled nursing care.

Prestige’s skilled care professionals provide ongoing, comprehensive care that enables their patients to recover and prevent future complications through education and enhanced well-being.

For more information on Prestige Care and Prestige Skilled Nursing centers, visit www.prestigecare.com.



WASHINGTON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT COUNCIL

The National Governors Association funds a new way to showcase and verify worker skills and training

Submitted by Washington Student Achievement Council

A multi-agency partnership led by the nonprofit Greater Spokane Inc. (GSI) has received a \$150,000 grant to create new career pathways for unemployed and underemployed skilled workers.

The funding from the National Governors Association (NGA) will create a Learning and Employment Record (LER) bridge program in Summer 2023 and Washington is one of 10 funded states to build a LER community of practice.

LERs are a digital wallet, or digital resume, that showcase and verify a worker’s training and skills to future employers. LERs help workers use their skills, gain full employment and take agency over their career pathways. These NGA grants are to focus on workers of color, Indigenous workers, low-income workers, rural workers and workers with disabilities.

The project brings together Merit, Greater Spokane Inc (GSI), Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC), Washington State University Extension, and the Washington Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board, along with education, workforce and training leaders.

“The opportunity to establish a community of practice around skills-based

hiring and credentialing strategies is a national endeavor to support our workforce needs,” said Christi Harter, Ph.D., vice president of education and talent at GSL. “Greater Spokane Inc. is grateful to have innovative business and education partners like Providence Health and Eastern Washington University willing to try new methods to meet the needs of our community, and we look forward to evolving these efforts with additional local and statewide partners.”

“Electronically housing skills will empower our caregivers and volunteers with a knowledge they can quickly access and apply to the next steps in their education and career development,” said Julia Williams, human resource business partner for Providence Inland Northwest Washington.

The demonstration project will pilot the effective uses of LERs: connecting job seekers to career positions that match their skills, equipping employers with technology and resources to manage talent and bridging regional gaps in the labor force to drive business development.

“The question we’re asking with this project is: How does a community bring regional partners together to empower workers? Our hope is that this project will help answer that question,” said Inez

Olive, associate director for workforce programs at WSAC.

“We recognize that not every region has the same resources and relationships. But our goal is to identify strategies that will allow us to grow sustainable, equitable systems throughout Washington.”



USDA to invest \$3 million to support cooperative soil science and soil survey research

Submitted by USDA

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) plans to invest \$3 million in partnerships to promote research that informs and improves soil surveys at the regional level, which is part of an ongoing effort to continue to provide critical data to the country.

Proposals from institutions of higher education in the Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CESU) network should be submitted to USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) by July 22, 2023.

“For more than 120 years, scientists have been conducting soil surveys, investigations and research,” NRCS Chief Terry Cosby said.

“We are mandated to keep soil information relevant and available in useful forms to assist our customers – from community planners, to engineers, to farmers and ranchers – so they can make the most informed land use decisions. Collaboration is key as we continue to move the needle on advancing soil surveys.”

Each proposal must include significant collaboration with soil survey personnel, such as the NRCS National Soil Survey Center (NSSC) research staff or Major Land Resource Area (MLRA) soil survey or regional offices.

The proposals’ deliverables and their connection to soil surveys must be clearly explained. These priorities were developed through iterative meetings and feedback gathered in conjunction with the 2022 regional conferences of the National Cooperative Soil Survey (NCSS).

NRCS expects to select at least one proposal for funding from each of the four NCSS regions (North Central, Northeast, Southern and Western). The work should have regional application and fill gaps in soil survey knowl-

edge and databases. Work could extend up to three years. Individual proposals must have a total cost between \$50,000 and \$500,000.

Within the NCSS region where the work occurs, proposal topics should:

- Address emerging issues such as urban soils, ecosystem services, wetlands/hydric soils, climate, wildfire and/or soil biodiversity and how those topics intersect with ecological sites and soil surveys.

- Enhance collaborative efforts between soil survey staff and cooperative research projects with emphasis on practical tools for MLRA staff and use of long-term monitoring and experiment locations.

More Information

Extra consideration will be given to proposals that include Dynamic Soil Survey Research Support (targeted towards close collaboration with NSSC researchers).

All proposals must include a data management plan and all data and deliverables must be made publicly available per USDA regulations. Additional information is available in the notice of funding. USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways.

In the Biden-Harris administration, USDA is transforming America’s food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to safe, healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America.

To learn more, visit usda.gov.



Wenatchee MSA (Chelan and Douglas Counties) Labor Area Summary – May 2023

Overview

This report provides an update on the Wenatchee Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) economy using not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm employment and civilian labor force data. Analysis focuses on year over year (May 2022 through May 2023) and average annual data changes (between 2021 and 2022).

Unemployment rates

Washington's not seasonally adjusted average annual unemployment rate fell from 5.2 percent in 2021 to 4.2 percent in 2022. The monthly unemployment rate de-

creased five-tenths of a percentage point between May 2022 (3.8 percent) and May 2023 (3.2 percent).

In the Wenatchee MSA, the average annual unemployment rate fell from 5.5 percent to 5.0 percent between 2021 and 2022. Year over year, monthly rates stabilized in March 2022 and March 2023 before declining in April and May 2023.

The 3.2 percent unemployment rate this May is the lowest reading for the month of May since county-level unemployment data began to be recorded electronically in 1990.

Wenatchee MSA unemployment rates, not seasonally adjusted Washington state, January 2021 through May 2023

Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)



The Wenatchee MSA's unemployment rate declined by one and three-tenths points between May 2022 and May 2023.

Total nonfarm employment

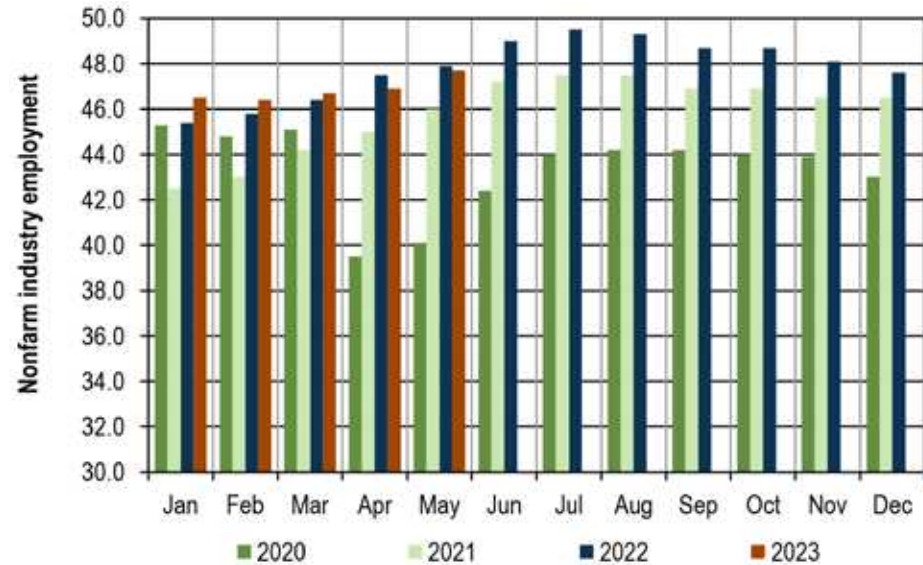
Between 2021 and 2022, estimates indicate that Washington's labor market provided 159,200 more nonfarm jobs, an average annual increase of 4.7 percent. Year over year, Washington's nonfarm market has expanded in each of the past 26 months (April 2021 through May 2023). This May, business and government organizations statewide tallied 3,626,400 jobs (not seasonally adjusted) compared with 3,521,700 in May 2022, up by 104,700 jobs and by 3.0 percent.

The Wenatchee MSA's economy added 2,000 jobs during 2022, a 4.4 percent upturn,

slightly less robust than Washington's 4.7 percent growth rate between 2021 and 2022. Year over year, the local nonfarm market expanded for 24 months (April 2021 through March 2023) before contracting in April and May 2023. This May, total nonfarm employment netted 200 fewer jobs than the 47,900 jobs tallied in May 2022, a -0.4 percent decrease. Hence, year-over-year nonfarm job growth in the Wenatchee MSA's has "hit a tough patch" this April and May, while statewide the growth pace in total nonfarm employment has expanded in each of the past 26 consecutive months.

Wenatchee MSA nonfarm industry employment, not seasonally adjusted, in thousands Washington state, January 2020 through May 2023

Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; Current Employment Statistics (CES)



Nonfarm employment in the Wenatchee MSA decreased by -0.4 percent between May 2022 and May 2023.



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 Employment Security Department
 Kittitas County WorkSource, 510 N. Pine Street,
 Ellensburg, WA 98926
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 Website: <https://esd.wa.gov/labormarketinfo>

Wenatchee MSA labor force and industry employment, not seasonally adjusted Washington state, May 2023. Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), Current Employment Statistics (CES)

Wenatchee MSA	Preliminary May-23	Revised Apr-23	Revised May-22	Change (in #)		Change (in %)
				Apr-23	May-22	May-22
Labor force and unemployment						
Civilian labor force	65,985	65,373	64,087	612	1,898	3.0%
Resident employment	63,869	62,727	61,196	1,142	2,673	4.4%
Unemployment	2,116	2,646	2,891	-530	-775	-26.8%
Unemployment rate	3.2	4.0	4.5	-0.8	-1.3	
Industry employment (numbers are in thousands)						
Total nonfarm ¹	47.7	46.9	47.9	0.8	-0.2	-0.4%
Total private	38.2	37.6	38.7	0.6	-0.5	-1.3%
Goods producing	6.1	6.0	6.2	0.1	-0.1	-1.6%
Mining, logging and construction	3.4	3.3	3.4	0.1	0.0	0.0%
Manufacturing	2.7	2.7	2.8	0.0	-0.1	-3.6%
Service providing	41.6	40.9	41.7	0.7	-0.1	-0.2%
Private services providing	32.1	31.6	32.5	0.5	-0.4	-1.2%
Trade, transportation, warehousing and utilities	10.0	9.7	9.8	0.3	0.2	2.0%
Retail trade	6.7	6.5	6.6	0.2	0.1	1.5%
Education and health services	8.2	8.2	8.1	0.0	0.1	1.2%
Leisure and hospitality	6.8	6.5	6.8	0.3	0.0	0.0%
Government	9.5	9.3	9.2	0.2	0.3	3.3%
Federal government	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.1	0.0	0.0%
State government	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0%
Local government	7.5	7.4	7.2	0.1	0.3	4.2%
Workers in labor/management disputes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	

¹ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of the armed services, workers in private households and agriculture. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month. Columns may not add due to rounding.

The Wenatchee MSA nonfarm market provided 47,700 jobs in May 2023, a loss of 200 jobs since May 2022.

Employment and unemployment

Washington's Civilian Labor Force (CLF) increased by 91,636 residents (a 2.4 percent upturn) between 2021 and 2022. Year over year, the state's CLF has expanded during the past 21 months (September 2021 through May 2023).

Recently, Washington's labor force grew by 81,364 residents (up 2.1 percent), from 3,967,534 residents in May 2022 to 4,048,898 in May 2023.

The Wenatchee MSA's CLF increased from 66,239 residents in 2021 to 66,983 in 2022, a 1.1 percent upturn. Year over year the local labor force has expanded in each of the past eleven months (July 2022 through May 2023).

Current Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) estimates indicate that there were 1,898 more Chelan or Douglas County residents in the CLF this May than in May 2022, a 3.0 percent upturn. There were also 775 fewer residents out of work

in the Wenatchee MSA this May (2,116 unemployed) versus in May 2022 (2,891 unemployed), a strong -26.8 percent decrease.

Hence, this year over year decrease in the number of unemployed coupled with the increase in the number of Wenatchee MSA residents returning to the labor force pushed the local unemployment rate down one and three-tenths of a point, from 4.5 percent in May 2022 to 3.2 percent in May 2023 – and of course, a declining unemployment rate is good economic news.

It is also interesting to note the 4.4 percent rise in resident employment between the Mays of 2022 and 2023. This 4.4 percent reading was a bit stronger than the 3.0 percent rise in the CLF between the Mays of 2022 and 2023. This could be an indicator not only that more residents are working in the MSA, but that relatively more of these residents are teleworking to jobs outside of Chelan and Douglas counties.

Nonfarm industry employment

Year over year, the Wenatchee MSA's nonfarm market expanded for 24 months (April 2021 through March 2023) before contracting in April and May 2023. Conversely, Washington's nonfarm job market has steadily expanded for 26 months (April 2021 through May 2023). However, job growth rates across WA have slowed modestly during the past 12 months (i.e., from 4.7 percent in June 2022 to 3.0 percent in May 2023).

A few service providing categories such as retail trade, private education and health services, and local government provided more jobs in May 2023 in the Wenatchee MSA than in May 2022. Yet, "private services providing" industries (i.e., jobs in all private service sector industries, except government) stagnated in March and declined in April and May 2023. Between May 2022 and May 2023 "private services providing" employment waned from 32,500 jobs to 32,100 jobs in the Wenatchee MSA, a 400 job and -1.2 percent downturn.

Detailed Current Employment Statistics (CES) estimates, showing which Wenatchee MSA "private services providing" industries lost jobs between the Mays of 2022 and 2023, are not available. But, at the state level, industry specific data exists, and some "private services provid-

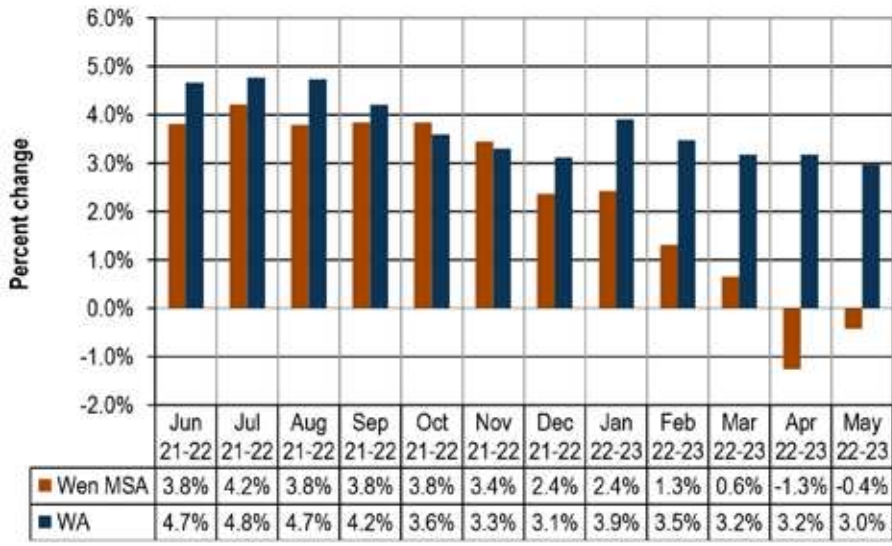
ing" industries have experienced job losses between May 2022 and May 2023. Hence, it is logical to assume that these recent statewide downtrends also occurred in the Wenatchee MSA. Specifically, the number of employment services jobs fell statewide from 63,300 jobs in May 2022 to 55,500 in May 2023, down -12.3 percent, certainly not a good economic indicator. Also on the downside, insurance carriers and related activities in Washington state (classified under financial activities) provided 43,500 jobs in May 2022 versus 40,200 in May 2023, a -7.6 percent retrenchment.

Summaries of employment changes/trends between May 2022 and May 2023 for three local industries (construction, education and health services, and local government) are provided as follows:

- ◆ In the mining, logging, and construction category, most jobs are in "construction." Year over year, construction employment in the Wenatchee MSA expanded or stabilized for 28 months (November 2020 through February 2023) before stagnating or declining in the past three months (March through May 2023). In the Mays of 2022 and 2023, construction provided 3,400 jobs across the MSA.

On the real estate sales side, according to the May 2023 Real Estate Snapshot newsletter published by Pacific Appraisal As-

Wenatchee MSA and Washington state, total nonfarm employment changes Washington state, June 2022 through May 2023. Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)



Year over year, the Wenatchee MSA's nonfarm market expanded for 24 months (April 2021 through March 2023) before contracting in April and May 2023. Conversely, Washington's nonfarm job market has steadily expanded for 26 months (April 2021 through May 2023).

associates, there were 82 fewer closed sales of single-family homes or condominiums from January through May 2023 versus the first five months of 2022 in the Wenatchee Market (i.e., in Wenatchee, Malaga, East Wenatchee, Orondo, and Rock Island, WA). This was a -23.9 percent Year-to-Date (YTD) downturn as closed sales slipped from 343 between January and May 2022 to 261 in the corresponding first five months of 2023. Simultaneously, the number of active listings rose from 104 listings in May 2022 to 116 in May 2023 (up by 12 listings and 11.5 percent). Hence, more units are currently "on the market." Reference home prices in the Wenatchee Market; they are declining. The Real Estate Snapshot newsletter for May 2023 stated that the median sales price of homes/condominiums sold in the Wenatchee Market decelerated from \$485,000 Year-to-Date (YTD) in May 2022 to \$460,000 YTD in May 2023, a -5.2 percent decline.

Conversely, across Washington, construction employment has posted year-over-year increases for 26 consecutive months (April 2021 through May 2023). Between May 2022 and May 2023, the number of construction jobs statewide advanced by 2.8 percent (up 6,400 jobs) from 231,700 jobs to 238,100. Washington's residential building construction contractors saw employment climb by a respectable 5.5 percent clip, from 38,400 jobs in May 2022 to 40,500 in May 2023.

◆ In the combined education and health services category, health services employers provide the lion's share of employment. Year over year, employment in the Wenatchee MSA's private education and health services industry either stabilized or expanded for 26 months (April 2021 through May 2023). Between May 2022 and May 2023, the number of private education and health services jobs in the

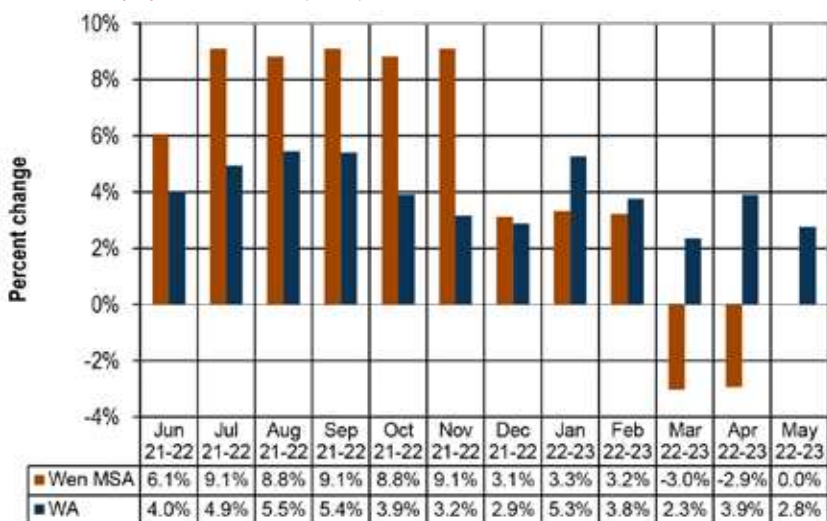
Wenatchee MSA advanced from 8,100 to 8,200 respectively, a 100 job and 1.2 percent increase. Statewide this industry has consistently added jobs for 26 months (April 2021 through May 2023). Current Employment Statistics (CES) estimates indicate that Washington's education and health services employers tallied 543,700 jobs this May versus 513,700 in May 2022, a 30,000 job and 5.8 percent upturn. Nursing and residential care facilities, an industry within the broader education and health services category, posted a respectable 9.6 percent employment growth rate during this period, advancing from 56,400 jobs in May 2022 to 61,800 jobs in May 2023.

◆ Year over year, employment at local government organizations has increased for 25 consecutive months (May 2021 through May 2023). Between the Mays of 2022 and 2023, local government added 300 jobs across the MSA, a 4.2 percent upturn as employment escalated from 7,200 jobs to 7,500. It should be noted however that average annual employment in local government across the Wenatchee MSA in 2022 averaged only 7,100 jobs, 300 jobs and -3.5 percent below the pre-COVID employment average of 7,400 jobs for calendar year 2019. Employment in Washington's local government sector has also expanded in each of the past 26 months (May 2021 through May 2023). Statewide, local government employment elevated 2.7 percent (up by 9,600 jobs) between May 2022 (359,000 jobs) and May 2023 (368,600 jobs).

Agricultural employment / production

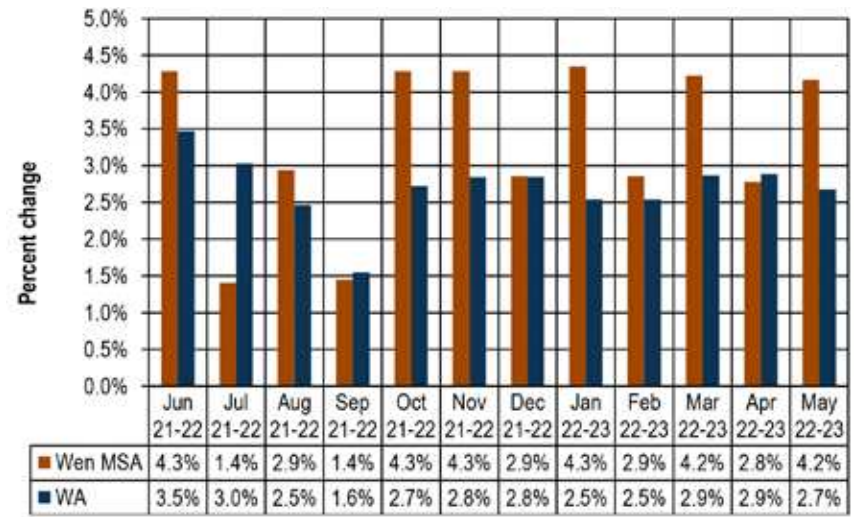
The Bureau of Labor Statistics' Quarterly Census of Employment and Wage (QCEW) program, conducted by the Washington State Employment Security Department provides agricultural and nonagricultural employment and wages for firms, organizations, and individuals whose em-

Wenatchee MSA and Washington, construction employment changes Washington state, June 2022 through May 2023. Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)



Year over year, construction employment in the Wenatchee MSA expanded or stabilized for 28 months (November 2020 through February 2023) before stagnating or declining in the past three months (March through May 2023). Statewide, construction employment has been growing for 26 consecutive months (April 2021 through May 2023).

Wenatchee MSA and Washington, leisure and hospitality employment changes Washington state, June 2022 through May 2023. Source: Employment Security Department/DATA; Current Employment Statistics (CES)



Year over year, local government in the Wenatchee MSA has increased for 25 months (May 2021 through May 2023). Statewide, local government employment has also expanded from May 2021 through May 2023.

ployees are covered by the Washington State Employment Security Act. Frequently termed "covered" or "QCEW" data, this information provides a reliable data set for comparing employment and wage trends at the county level. In November 2022, revised average annual QCEW data for calendar year 2021 became available. An analysis of industry employment and wage changes from 2011 through 2021 shows that in Chelan County:

◆ Total covered employment rose from 38,939 in 2011 to 42,277 in 2021, a 3,338 job and 8.6 percent upturn with an annualized growth rate of 0.8 percent. However, agricultural employment (a subset of total covered employment) decreased from 9,419 jobs in 2011 to 8,080 in 2021, a significant downturn of -14.2 percent and loss of 1,339 jobs, equating to an annualized loss rate of -1.5 percent.

In 2011, Chelan County's agricultural industry accounted for 24.2 percent of total covered employment; but ten years later (in 2021), this industry provided only 19.1 percent of total covered employment countywide. Hence, the agricultural share of total covered employment sank by five and one-tenth percentage points (from 24.2 to 19.1 percent) in Chelan County during this ten-year period.

◆ Total covered wages (not adjusted for inflation) rose from \$1.29 billion (in 2011) to \$2.08 billion (in 2021), a \$787.3 million and 61.0 percent upturn with an annualized growth rate of 4.9 percent. The agricultural payroll (a subset of total covered wages) advanced from \$193.4 million in 2011 to \$271.5 million in 2021, a \$78.1 million and 40.4 percent uptrend with an annualized growth rate of 3.4 percent. In 2011, Chelan County's agricultural industry accounted for 15.0 percent of total covered wages, but by 2021, agricultural wages tallied 13.1 percent of total covered payroll; meaning that the agricultural share of total nonfarm payroll decreased by one and nine-tenths percentage points (from 15.0 to 13.1 percent) during this timeframe. This dip in the agricultural share of wages (versus total covered wages/payroll) in the past ten years (2011-2021) was less severe than five-point drop in the agricultural share of employment (versus total covered employment) during this period.

◆ The agricultural industry is still a "bedrock" to the Chelan County economy. Nevertheless, one could generalize from these 10-year data trends that agriculture (from an employment perspective) has become less influential in the local economy. In fact, between 2011 and 2021, the number of agricultural jobs "peaked" countywide in 2018 at 3,278 jobs (25.3 percent of total covered employment) and then declined in 2019, 2020, and 2021. Anecdotal evidence suggests at least three possibilities for this agricultural em-

ployment decline in Chelan County: automation, the gradual conversion of some seasonal agricultural jobs to year-round positions, and the increased use of H-2A agricultural labor.

For Douglas County, an analysis of industry employment changes from 2011 through 2021 shows that:

◆ Total covered employment rose from 10,832 in 2011 to 12,032 in 2021, a 1,200 job and 11.1 percent upturn with an annualized growth rate of 1.1 percent. The number of agricultural jobs (a subset of total covered employment) decreased sharply from 3,030 in 2011 to 2,268 in 2021, a 762 job and -25.1 percent downturn with an annualized loss rate of -2.9 percent. In 2011, Douglas County's agricultural industry accounted for 28.0 percent of total covered employment. In 2021, agricultural employment accounted for only 18.8 percent of total covered employment countywide. Hence, the agricultural share of employment plummeted by nine and two-tenths percentage points (from 28.0 to 18.8 percent) in Douglas County during this ten-year period.

◆ Total covered wages (not adjusted for inflation) rose from \$320.5 million in 2011 to \$541.4 million in 2021, a \$220.9 million and 68.9 percent upturn with an annualized growth rate of 5.4 percent. The agricultural payroll (a subset of total covered wages) advanced from \$56.2 million in 2011 to \$73.1 million in 2021, a \$16.9 million and 30.1 percent uptrend with an annualized growth rate of 2.7 percent. In 2011, Douglas County's agricultural industry accounted for 17.5 percent of total covered wages, and by 2021, agricultural wages tallied 13.5 percent of total covered payroll. Hence, the agricultural share of wages (versus total covered payroll) showed a four-percentage points contraction from 2011 to 2021 whereas agricultural employment showed a plunge of nine and two-tenths percentage points during this timeframe.

◆ The agricultural industry is still important to the Douglas County economy. But a basic data trend analysis of local employment and wage trends make it clear that this industry became less influential in the local economy over this most recent 10-year period (2011 through 2021). In fact, between 2011 and 2021, the number of agricultural jobs "peaked" countywide in 2018 at 3,278 jobs (25.3 percent of total covered employment) and then declined in 2019, 2020, and 2021.

Anecdotal evidence suggests at least three possibilities for this agricultural employment decline in Douglas County: automation, the gradual conversion of some seasonal agricultural jobs to year-round positions, and the increased use of H-2A agricultural labor.

Web link to Monthly Employment Report (MER) for Washington state
<https://esd.wa.gov/labormarketinfo/monthly-employment-report>



Local artist Nena Howell, debuts art at Gallery 110 as EmergEAST finalist

By Shayley Timm,
Gallery 110

Founded in 2018, Gallery 110's Emerging Artist Program provides visual artists exhibition opportunities, subsidized gallery membership and other resources to help grow their art career.

This year, eligible applicants are those emerging visual artists who live in Eastern Washington without significant solo exhibitions and/or gallery representation.

With this program, we sought to support artists from predominantly rural regions in WA who are not afforded similar access and opportunities to connect with larger audiences in metro areas.

During an inspiring reception celebrating the ten finalists from eastern Washington at Gallery 110 in Seattle, the jurors selected three awardees:

- Sarah Barnett, Core membership
- H.R. Emi, Affiliate membership
- Nena Howell, Affiliate membership

Congratulations to Sarah, H.R., and Nena as we welcome them into the gallery community.

At Gallery 110, we have two categories of membership: Core and Affiliate. Both afford different exhibition opportunities and full access to other gallery benefits for both levels.

An Affiliate level was established to provide more accessible membership options for different artists' needs. As is often the case, selecting artists for awards is always challenging as each artist has a unique vision, background, need for support, and experience presenting their artwork.

Each of the 15 artists that originally exhibited at Heritage University in Toppenish, and the 10 finalists chosen to exhibit in Seattle were all very deserving artists and are to be commended for their efforts in creating and exhibiting their artwork in each venue. Congratulations to all.

The EmergEAST Finalist Exhibition is a collaboration with Heritage University Art Department and Gallery 110 in Seattle and generously supported in part by the Robert B. McMillen Foundation, 4Culture, the Seattle Office of Arts and Culture, and generous donations from

the community.

The EmergEAST Finalist Exhibition will be on display at Gallery 110 from June 1 – July 1, 2023. Join us in celebrating these fantastic artists. Gallery hours are Thursday – Saturday from 12 p.m. – 5 p.m. and by appointment.

Artist statement from Nena Howell:

Like my ancestral spirits beating on their drums, my work is born out of that feeling of celebration and rhythm. I find a sweet calmness in that soft, intertwined place with my brushes and oils. When I'm in that in-between space that connects, it creates a fluidity that enlivens and energizes my palette.

Every day is an imaginative quest lost in time. I bring themes of survival, connection, stewardship, respect, and gratitude forward on canvas. I seek out and witness pursuits and passions that enmesh that intimate connection between people and nature. With transparent and thick strokes where figures meet nature.

My contemporary figurative artist with reverence for my Northwestern coastal



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Nena Howell with her winterscape oil painting of Front Street Leavenworth

Tlingit formline and abstract expressionism style.

I continue to find inspiration from artists such as Richard Schmid, Lee Krasner, Jeffrey T. Larson, Preston Singletary and, of course, the works of my late grandfather, master Tlingit artist, Rudolph Walton from Sitka, AK. His works can be found at the Burke Museum, Seattle, Washington and in all Pacific Northwest and Canadian museums.

Reverence for my elders, stewardship for all people, land and sea finds pride

of place in my work. My work is an expression of the movement and spiritual energy that connects all life.

I've always revered the tools in my hands - garden implements, playing board/card games, and drawing tools. My brushes and oils are my air and water. It's more than materials and what can be seen, it's presence and a guiding fluid energy that connects and celebrates all sentient life.

Background: Nena feels her ancestral spirits guide as she creates her contem-

porary figurative oil paintings. Nena's work is an expression of movement and connection that intersect people and nature. Born from her Tlingit Indian and Ukrainian roots she strives to infuse each work with themes of abundance, wellness, and stewardship. After a full career in business and marketing, in the winter of 2020, Howell pivoted full-time to the development of her art. She currently works from her studio in Wenatchee, not far from her childhood home in Edmonds, Washington.



Photo by Mike Maltais

Mauk's Fishing Stuff celebrates grand opening of new store

By Mike Maltais

Mike Mauk, owner of Mauk's Fishing Stuff at 1408 Sunset Drive in Brewster, cuts the ribbon during the grand opening of the new business on Saturday, June 17. Joining Mauk for the occasion was niece Erin

Mauk, left, with daughter, Piper, and brother Ernie Mauk and wife, Marilyn.

In addition to being a business owner, Mauk serves as Brewster Chamber of Commerce President, and organizer of the annual Brewster King Salmon Derby

celebrating its 17th year on August 4-6.

Mauk's Fishing Stuff specializes in bait, tackle, and the custom Lure Safe tackle covers.

Contact the business at 509-449-0605 or visit lure-safe.com online.

Treehouse, a place for Support for youth in foster care

Submitted by
Katie Adams, Treehouse



Treehouse is a nonprofit supporting youth in foster care across Washington state. We provide material and financial resources, as well as education-based support so youth in care complete high school with a plan for the future.

Treehouse works at the intersection of the foster care and education systems, and we recently expanded the eligibility of all of our school-aged programs. Graduation Success, which provides 1-on-1 education support, as well as the Treehouse Store and Just-in-Time Funding programs are now available in your area. The Treehouse Store provides material goods (clothes, books, toys, school supplies) and Just-in-Time Funding pays for expenses in a variety of areas, such as school and enrichment activities.

Currently Treehouse is supporting approximately

20% of the youth in care in Chelan County and are offering new programs and support services now available that can help a lot of youth such as:

Educational Advocacy

Remove and resolve barriers to school success for youth in foster care in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade across Washington State.

Graduation Success

Partner with high school youth in foster care to invest in their education and future through our youth-centered academic support program.

Launch Success

Continued support after high school for young adults who have experienced foster care until they achieve a degree or credential, living wage and stable housing.

Tribal Engagement

Support for tribal youth

with culturally competent educational coaching, opportunities and the development of self-advocacy skills.

Dual-System Involved Youth

Providing access to basic and special education, transition planning and post-secondary opportunities for youth who have experienced both foster care and incarceration.

A Strong Network of Support

We invest in the unique educational needs of children, youth and young adults who have experienced foster care and create a strong network of support as they make the difficult transition into adulthood. In partnership with the community, foster parents, social workers, school staff and most importantly our youth, Treehouse fosters a brighter future across Washington state. Learn more at treehouseforkids.org.