



WENATCHEE

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We wish you, our subscribers and advertisers a very MERRY CHRISTMAS And a HAPPY And PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR! From our NCW Media -WBJ Staff and Management

PUD Commissioners vote to explore more options for Fifth Street development



Submitted Photos



Submitted by Rachel Hansen, Senior Communications Strategist

Chelan PUD commissioners directed staff to explore more options over the next three months that complement the community vision for the redevelopment of its Fifth Street campus.

"I look back at the process over the last couple of years, and I want to thank everybody that did a lot of work, and got us a long way,

but I don't think we're there yet," Commissioner Randy Smith said.

"My point is not to reject anything, but to say we're not ready to make a decision and we need more information."

The Chelan-Douglas Regional Port Authority (CDRPA) received four proposals last spring from prospective redevelopment teams: Steinhauer Properties, GTS/Graham Baba/Avara,

Kidder Mathews, and Sadie Bee LLC/Ben Paine.

An evaluation team made up of City of Wenatchee, Greater Wenatchee Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Wenatchee Association, CDRPA and the PUD recommended pursuing further discussion with Steinhauer and GTS/Graham Baba/Avara. After gathering public feedback, PUD commissioners affirmed the rec-

ommendation to move forward with the two finalists in August.

Steinhauer withdrew their proposal in September, citing the need for significant public investment to help with building demolition, roadway construction and utility improvements to make the plan feasible.

On October 10, the evaluation committee met with GTS to hear their revised proposal.

Later, the City of Wenatchee, Greater Wenatchee Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Wenatchee Association and CDRPA recommended GTS/Graham Baba/Avara for contract negotiations.

"We want to get it right," said Commissioner Garry Arseneault. "Feeling rushed, feeling like we have one dance partner, is never the right way to go."

WENATCHEE VALLEY HUMANE society



Wenatchee Valley Humane Society has the highest intake numbers in 55 years

Submitted by Jennifer Bushong

The Wenatchee Valley Humane Society (WVHS) has a record number of animals flooding into the shelter.

The after-effects of COVID-19 have left many people struggling to make tough decisions. Surrendering their pets to the Humane Society is one of them. As winter sets in, the numbers are expected to increase. In fact, the intake is the highest in 55 years of saving pets' lives.

The Community Foundation of North Central Washington's (CFNCW) GIVE NCW campaign will ensure our shelter animals have the best possible medical

treatment and services available.

WVHS will be using this opportunity to raise funds for the shelter and aid in much-needed medical services. WVHS medical clinic offers on-site treatment and care to the animals.

"The Give NCW campaign is a great opportunity for community members to directly impact the Wenatchee Valley Humane Society in the best way possible," says Dawn Davies, WVHS Interim Executive Director. "Imagine a more Humane Society is the statement being used this giving season by WVHS. Every dollar to the Give NCW campaign is maximized and will make a

tremendous difference in a pet's life," added Davies.

For more information on Give NCW or the Wenatchee Valley Humane Society, visit www.wenatcheehumane.org, email wvhs@wenatcheehumane.org or call 509-662.9577.

About WVHS:

Founded in 1967, the Wenatchee Valley Humane Society is a private, non-profit organization with a mission to serve Chelan and Douglas counties through education, protection, and pet adoptions. WVHS cares for displaced pets, rescues injured and lost animals, investigates animal cruelties, and finds homes for orphaned animals. WVHS engages in a Pets for Life philosophy



File Photo

by providing low cost spay/neuter programs, periodic vaccination clinics, and hosting pet food assistance banks to income-qualified residents throughout

its community. By caring for pets and the people who love them, WVHS is creating a humane society in the Wenatchee Valley.

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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
The Leavenworth Echo
215 14th St.

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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Mission Ridge is Open

Submitted by
Mission Ridge

WENATCHEE – Mission Ridge Ski & Board Resort announced that opening day of the 2022-2023 season was Saturday, November 19.

The pre-Thanksgiving operations was the earliest opening in 5 seasons.

The early opening was made possible by the Ridge's top to bottom snowmaking system and the best in the Northwest Snowmaking crew combined with significantly higher than average November snowfall.

The resort kicked off the season with Chair 1, The Wenatchee Express (Chair 2), Chair 4, and the Pika Peak rope tow scheduled for operation from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"We are off to a great start for what is going to be a very exciting season," said Josh Jorgensen, Mission Ridge's General Manager.

"We're rolling out a number of improvements and are most excited about the expansion of night skiing to the top of the mountain and a new magic carpet lift in our learning area.

There will be new opportunities for both beginner and advanced skiers and snowboarders to enjoy.

Mountain Operations Director Brad Whiting added that, "with the early season snowfall, our snowmaking team has capitalized on the cold weather opportunity.

In a typical season, it may take up to three weeks of



work to make snow from the top to the bottom of the mountain.

Taking advantage of 21" of snow and cold weather, we completed snowmaking from the summit to the Base Area in just 9 days.

Snowmaking is now expanding to Chair 4, our Terrain Parks, and high-traffic areas.

Open terrain and ski runs were limited for the opening weekend and additional chairlifts and terrain will

open as conditions permit.

All of the resort's services are open with early season menus at the Chair 5 Pub, Ka Wham Cafe, and Midway Lodge restaurants on offer.

Lift ticket prices were discounted to \$89 for ages 25-69, \$79 for ages 18-24, \$69 for ages 13-17, \$59 for ages 8-12, \$9 for ages 7 & under, and \$30 for ages 70+ for tickets purchased in advance and online to reflect the limited opening of chairlifts and terrain.

About Mission Ridge:

Mission Ridge is located in North Central Washington, 12 miles south of Wenatchee. The ski area has the second-highest base area in the state at 4,570 feet and is spread over 2,000 acres and 2,250 vertical feet. Mission Ridge Ski & Board Resort is operated under special use permits from the U.S. Forest Service and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. More information about the mountain is available at www.missionridge.com.



Mission District Building Businesses in Cashmere

Story and photo by
Matthew Ockinga
Correspondent

CASHMERE – *Never judge a store front by its cover.*

On the south end of downtown Cashmere sits a simple

wooden building. From the outside, one may think it houses two or three stores. Yet around nine businesses happily coexist inside the quaint facility south of downtown. Those local companies will be combing to

host the Holiday Market on Mission on three consecutive Saturdays. The markets will continue on Dec. 10 and Dec. 17 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The market will also be open Friday, Dec. 23 from 1-7 p.m.

Just a block down the street from Aplets and Cotlets, the Mission District Building at 207 S. Mission Avenue served as a pear-packing facility from the 1940's to the early 1990's. With its old beams, vaulted ceilings and reclaimed timber from local orchards, the building offers a homey aura for shoppers.

"There's so many people who live around Cashmere that are not aware of this building," said Claire East, owner of Cashmere Cellars which has been at the Mission District since 2012. "Everybody enjoys coming in and just looking around at the ceiling. The ambience is good. I've seen the building change in time. It's a good change. It's a good feel in here."

Other established Mission District businesses include Leony's Cellars, Color FX, and Cashmere Moon Co. Over the years, the remain-

ing spaces have housed a variety of local businesses, mostly women owned. More recent tenets include J5 Coffee and Salt Creek Apothecary. Local artists Michelle Andurst and Mountain Heather Photography open their studios to shoppers. For Mission District, the name of the game is variety.

"We offer a wide range of delightful finds, from antiques and apothecary to coffee roasting, art, designer fashion resale and even floral arrangements," said Rachel Carey, who along with her cousin and best friend Jacqueline Leslie, has helped lead an effort to revitalize the Mission District Building. "Even more amazing is the enthusiasm and encouragement we are all finding in each other. This group of ladies is becoming family and friends, and that kind of support is invaluable."

Carey and Leslie head Fernweh, a boutique which offers a wide selection of vintage home décor and furniture in addition to high-end designer fashion resale. Leslie owns the store and Carey is the manager. In ad-

dition to running Fernweh, which had its grand reopening party on Dec. 3, their larger goal is to bring awareness to the Mission District Building and the entrepreneurs and artists who call it their business home.

Leslie also views the boutique as an intimate opportunity to add a personal touch to someone's living space. Though some aspects of Fernweh will be online, she feels the in-person shopping experience is priceless.

"I want people to walk in and feel like they're home already," she said. "I want it to be part of a larger story and it's the story of a person's home. So, you want to see that face to face. You want to touch it. And I want people to come in here and touch and sort of breathe in the possibility of what they're creating for themselves."

As Fernweh grows, Leslie hopes to create a brand for it, and there is an underlying motive included in that. She aims to create a transitional skilled trades program for people who are exiting out of human trafficking. Recently, she part-

SEE BUSINESS IN CASHMERE, PAGE 13

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Submitted Photos

2022 Eastern Washington Computer Science Fair

Submitted by
Jenny Rojanasthien,
 Executive Director
 NCW Tech Alliance

On November 9, the first Eastern Washington Computer Science Fair was held at the Town Toyota Center in Wenatchee.

Over 800 high school students with an interest in computer science attended from 26 school districts across Washington State.

Computing occupations are the #1 source of all new wages in the U.S. and make up over half of all projected new jobs in STEM fields (Code.org) and computer science is one of the most in-demand college degrees here in Washington, and

across the nation. Computer science drives job growth and innovation throughout our economy and society. And computing is used all around us and in virtually every field.

For this reason, the Washington Legislature passed SHB 5088 in 2019, to require all comprehensive high schools to offer an elective computer science course for high school students by the fall of 2022. That makes this school year the first time many schools across the state are seeing computer science on their high school schedules.

To help rural students and educators connect this new school requirement to

the growing industry needs, the Apple STEM Network recruited 87 exhibitors and partners from across the state to organize an event that would create a memorable experience for students.

The Eastern Washington CS Fair had a conference feel for students with a special keynote welcome from Dr. Bish Paul, of Snap, followed by the national anthem led by musician and engineer Michael “Wanz” Wansley and breakout sessions, interactive experiences, and

hands-on learning opportunities with more than 50 exhibitors made up of local and statewide technology companies, training programs, community-based organizations, and colleges.

Local Executive Leaders Kirk Hudson of the Chelan County PUD, Drew Zabrocki of Semios, and Jenny Rojanasthien of the NCW Tech Alliance took the main stage early in the day to speak directly with students about the need for technology and computing skills in the

North Central Washington economy. Other sessions included discussions on cybersecurity careers, robotics and engineering, personal career journeys from tech professionals, how to bring high school classes and college credits to your Computer Science degree, women in STEM, data center jobs, and more.

Over 50 exhibitor booths from local and statewide technology companies, training programs, and colleges were onsite for students to visit and explore. Exhibitors spoke directly with students about the countless educational and career opportunities that result from studying com-

puter science. Students also had the opportunity to discuss internships and job opportunities with local organizations.

Dozens of organizations and individuals leaned in to support the event as speakers, workshop leaders, booth exhibitors and volunteers. Representatives from the following organizations took part:

Albion Ventures Inc, Amazon, Apple STEM Network, Avista, Big Bend Community College, Central Washington University, Chelan County PUD, Clean Tech Alliance, Code.org, Columbia Valley Community Health, Computing

SEE COMPUTER SCIENCE FAIR, PAGE 16



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Not with wands but with willpower: 'Godmothers of Health' partner with Confluence Health to expand vaccination access and healthcare equity

Submitted by
Adam MacDonald,
Corporate Communications
Program Manager

The term 'godmother' often conjures up images of magical benefactors, or a trusted protector who helps guide the way. While fairy dust may not have played a role, the Madrinas de Salud – 'Godmothers of Health' – certainly fit this definition to a T and brought their own sort of magic to North Central Washington, though their miracles were performed with willpower, not wands.

Messaging can be hard, especially for something as novel and unknown as COVID-19 when the entire world struggled to understand the magnitude of the issue in early 2020. In the early days of the pandemic, Confluence Health knew there was a need to ensure all communities had access to information about COVID-19, but also recognized that a difficulty in outreach existed.

"In 2020, with the start of the pandemic, it became very clear to us, almost immediately, that COVID-19 was affecting the Latino community in North Central Washington with greater rates of infections and hospitalizations," commented Dr. Bindu Nayak, an endocrinologist and one of the co-chairs of the Health Equity Diversity and Inclusion (HEDI) Committee at Confluence Health. "In our community in the spring of 2020, there was not enough clear messaging that was culturally appropriate, and in Spanish, for the Spanish-speaking Latino community. Understanding the need for culturally appropriate public health information, innovators like Dr. Mabel Bodell created messaging that was easily disseminated on social media."

And these efforts and messaging bore dividends quickly, with one COVID-19 video in April 2020 from Dr. Bodell, a nephrologist at Confluence Health and co-chair with Dr. Nayak on the HEDI Committee, hitting nearly 12,000 views in 24 hours. This information was having an impact and had hit upon a key aspect: messaging from a trusted person who understood the needs of the community.

As vaccines started to become more readily avail-



Rosario Rodriguez, JoEllen Colson, Eliza Zuniga, Dr. Bindu Nayak, Dr. Mabel Bodell, Laurie Bergman, Teresa Bendito, Megan Parish, and Teresa Zepeda

able, Drs. Nayak and Bodell at Confluence Health recognized that this effort needed to have ambassadors for the vaccine within the communities themselves. While they had a slogan and campaign – ¡Si a la vacuna! – that Dr. Bodell launched during a radio program, they needed boots on the ground to get the word out. Someone had to do the work of outreach and the task was far too great for any one person. Additionally, this outreach needed to come from people who could navigate and understand what would, and would not, be effective.

Reaching out to then-CEO of Confluence Health Dr. Peter Rutherford, Drs. Nayak and Bodell asked for a meeting to be set up in January 2021 with leaders in the Latino community, turning to a community action group known as Parque Padrinos – 'Godfathers of the Park' – who had previously shown how community-led, grassroots advocacy could work.

A partnership was born and soon the Confluence Health Foundation, a philanthropic organization that seeks to enhance and support Confluence Health's ability to provide safe and superior healthcare close to home, pledged \$200,000 to the cause, partnering with a local company, Teresita's Consulting, to spearhead the effort to provide multigenerational, community-focused outreach. Later, a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) grant was also obtained. And with that, the Madrinas de Salud began to work their magic.



The Madrinas work sounds simple: to increase access to COVID-19 vaccinations in Latino communities which have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic. However, culturally-relevant messaging can be difficult and requires out-of-the-box thinking.

"The pandemic taught us that the best way to know how to help is to have trusted individuals within these communities be included in formulating a plan. Collaboration between medical centers, health districts, and community leaders is essential to create new ways to address health disparities," continued Dr. Nayak. "The Madrinas de Salud established a great relationship with our vaccination team at Confluence Health, facilitating vaccine clinics all throughout North Central Washington. They did something different that made a difference: providing culturally appropriate communication that made people feel welcome. For example, they set up a vaccination site at El Campesino, a clothing and goods store in Brewster that had been a trusted location for Latino community members for 30 years, making it accessible to working individuals by holding the clinic from 4 – 8pm."

With a combined 4,721 hours worked and 7,491 miles of travel on the origi-

nal grant from the Confluence Health Foundation, the Madrinas de Salud were busy. All told, their efforts yielded over a thousand directly-scheduled appointments, reached out to 300 employers, and held more than 100 community presentations. Between October 2021 and June 2022, the Madrinas facilitated 3,742 vaccinations.

Teresa Bendito, one of the other founders of Parque Padrinos and owner Teresita's Consulting, the company which helped lead the efforts outreach, explained that trust is what made the difference.

"The big part of the success of this initiative was that trust. We didn't have time to wait. We needed to get started," Bendito explained. "We started in January 2021 and, had we waited for months instead, well... this prevented a lot of deaths. Our communities disproportionately affected by COVID-19 weren't an afterthought."

At a gathering this August at Confluence Health to celebrate the efforts of the Vaccine Equity Initiative, it was clear how much this partnership had meant, providing a bright beacon of hope during a dark time. Members of the Madrinas de Salud, the Confluence Health Foundation, and Confluence Health lead-

ership spoke on what the effort had meant to them.

"I needed to help my community, to help others," commented Rosario Rodriguez, one of the Madrinas. "I tried to help people with my heart."

"Confluence Health came to help us. My respect goes out to you all for your decision to help us as a group," said Teresa Zepeda, one of the founders of Parque Padrinos. "I didn't want anybody left behind. By partnering with you, we helped a lot of people who didn't want to believe in the vaccine at first."

"Thank you for helping us to reach even those who were hard to find," added Bendito.

And outreach was hard sometimes, with out-of-the-box thinking ultimately being the key. From Instagram to a priest's pulpit, efforts were made to reach people where they were, from voices they trusted. At a migrant camp near Cashmere, tomatoes and chiles were given out to people who came to hear about vaccinations. In Tonasket, priests offered blessings to families who came to the church to hear about the pandemic and what they could do. One of the Madrinas, Guadalupe Peregrino, described encountering a big bear alongside the road during a road trip to Okanogan County that reared up and charged after their car as they pulled away hurriedly. Luckily, they made their escape and left the bear behind in the dust, shaken but heading off determinedly to continue their efforts.

But whether it was priestly blessings or cantankerous bears, the Madrinas de Salud focused on their task. Through their dedication and partnership with Confluence Health, the effort bore fruit. From a rate of 43% of the COVID-19 ICU patients at Central Washington Hospital identifying as Latino at the end of August 2021 despite making up only 30% of the population, that number dropped to 20% or less within only one month.

Across the state as of September 2022, 64.2% of Latinos have initiated their primary series of the vaccine; in Chelan County, that number is 65.6%; in Douglas County, 67.7%; and in Okanogan County, 76.4%, making North Central Washington a leader in vaccination rates.

"The confidence that Confluence Health had in the Madrinas de Salud and the service model of neighbors reaching out to neighbors was done at a really important time," reflected Bendito. "Without the trust that this commitment generated, I don't know where we'd be today. The outcomes went beyond vaccination numbers. It transformed lives.

Not just the lives of people knocking on the doors, but those who received the vaccinations since it didn't end there. We also listened to their other needs and heard other impacts from COVID-19, including food scarcity and housing needs, which allowed us to help across a wide spectrum. This showed we cared about their health as a whole and, even more than that, it showed that we're there for them."

Confluence Health serves the largest geographic region of any healthcare system in Washington State, covering over 12,000 square miles of Okanogan, Grant, Douglas, and Chelan counties. Confluence is one of only two locally-lead healthcare systems in the state with the purpose of maintaining availability and access to high-quality, cost-effective healthcare services for North Central Washington. The Confluence Health Board of Directors provides governance for Confluence Health, the Clinic, Central Washington Hospital, and Wenatchee Valley Hospital, and includes nine community board members and six physician board members.

Saving time, saving lives: Confluence Health nationally honored for supply chain innovations using A.I. digital assistant

Submitted by Adam McDonald
Corporate Communications Program Manager

In healthcare, a few minutes can make a massive difference, so having access to supplies as fast as possible is not a matter of convenience, but a matter of life and death. Finding supplies and keeping them stocked to be easily accessible can be daunting in any large organization but, when the minutes count, it becomes even more crucial.

Finding the answer not only solved a long-standing challenge for Confluence Health, but gained them national recognition for the creative solution, winning an award whose nominees included Fortune 500 companies and international competition.

“We want to ensure staff have the tools and supplies they need to provide the best patient care possible to the communities we serve,” commented Chad Hoffman, supply chain operations director for Confluence Health. “Coleman Digital Assistant helps staff to access item information on the go from their phone, helping us locate supplies quicker and making them available to our patients.”

Coleman, a piece of automated software from Infor, is a digital assistant like Amazon’s Alexa or Apple’s Siri.

Except in this case, Coleman doesn’t help you remember the capital of Denmark or let you know that your brownies are cooked, but instead helps Confluence Health staff locate supplies in mere seconds when it used to take a quarter of an hour or longer.

“The Coleman assistant has changed the efficiency in how the STAT CNAs can locate lifesaving equipment in our storeroom,” reflected Aja Rodriguez, a STAT certified nursing assistant (CNA) working in the resource unit for Confluence Health. “Our original resource was a book that is alphabetically

organized by the name of the product.

This is further complicated since a product may be known by several names within the hospital. With the Coleman assistant, I can put in a brief description either verbally or through chat, and it will bring up the options that match. This has saved so much time and is crucial when a patient needs something in a timely manner. It has been a groundbreaking resource, especially for our night shift workers who don’t have a backup after-hours.”

Rather than having to run down to a storeroom, look through a book which may be out of date, and then check a shelf only to find that the resource is low, which then requires trying to find products in other supply areas, a CNA can now quickly ask Coleman where the resource is from their mobile phone while enroute to a supply room and can not only find what shelf the item is on before even arriving, but also get a list of alternate locations if supplies are low or it is available somewhere closer by.

This innovative process not only saves time but also saves personnel since fewer people can be more efficient with their efforts to get supplies by going to the right place the first time. In fact, leadership estimates that key supply management processes are now executed at least 90% faster.

“Coleman helps me locate items quickly that I have in inventory that would normally take me over a half hour to locate in the storeroom,” added Chris Mangold, a CNA in Confluence Health’s resource unit. “It saves a tremendous amount of time.”

Having a strong relationship with their IT vendor Infor, Confluence Health was approached about the technology and asked if it might be useful. Thinking of problems that needed solving, David Boehm, Confluence Health’s senior enterprise resource planning analyst, proposed the innovative solution.

“Knowing the amount of time spent searching for supplies after hours by our STAT CNAs as well as the frustration that this can cause, we felt that utilizing Infor’s Coleman DA could provide us with a solution to an ongoing problem by putting the information needed to locate supplies right at clinical staffs’ fingertips,” commented Boehm.

Infor was so impressed by the creative use of the technology that they nominated Confluence Health for a national award given each year by Constellation Research, a technology research and advisory group, called the SuperNova Award.

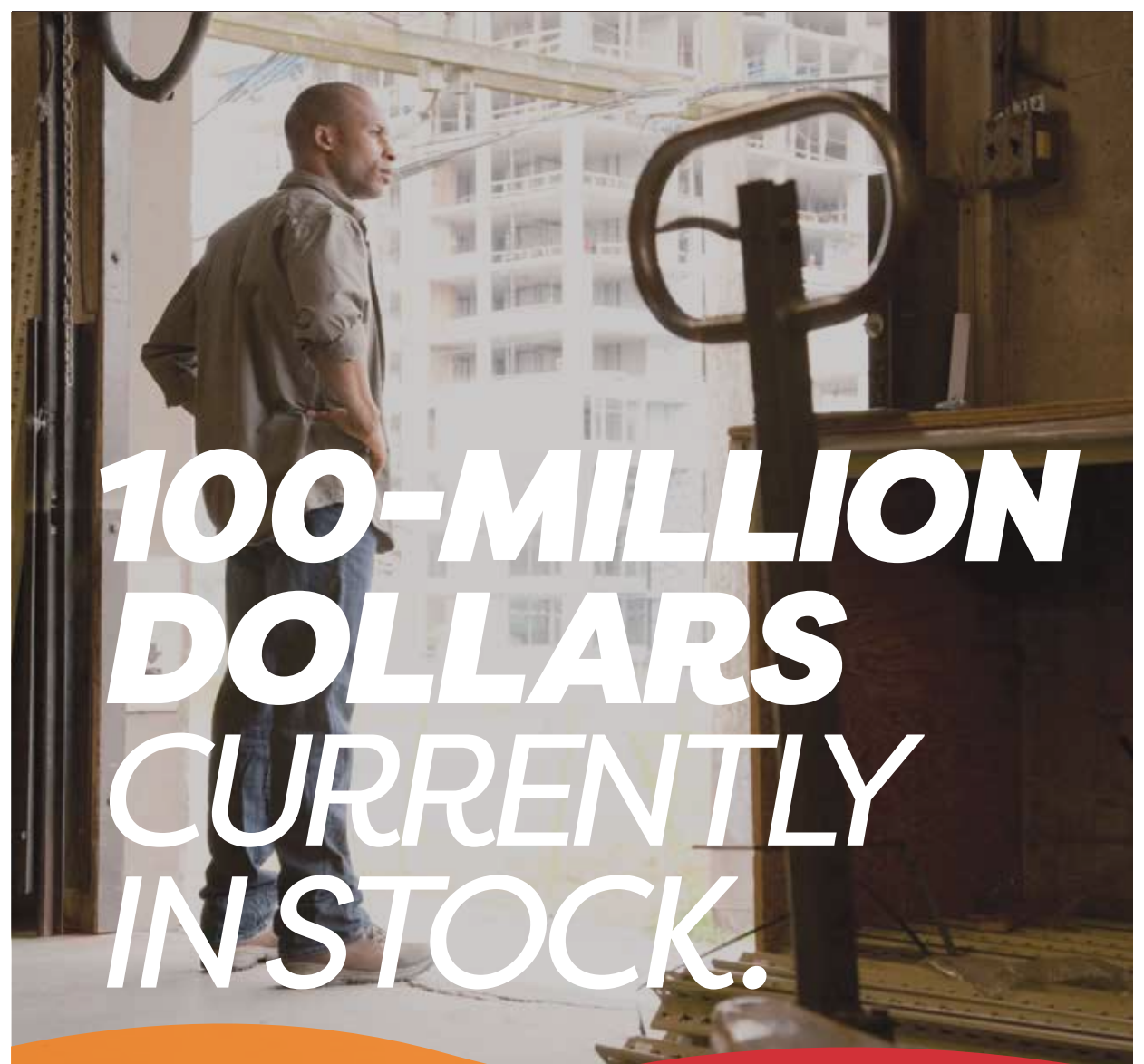
Nominated in the ‘Future of Work: Employee Experience’ category, Confluence

SEE CONFLUENCE AWARD PAGE 6



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The team involved in the project with their award: Stace Webley, financial systems support manager; David Boehm, senior enterprise resource planning analyst; Aja Rodriguez, STAT CNA; Chris Mangold, STAT CNA; and Chad Hoffman, supply chain operations director.



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A helping hand: patient need prompts creative, cost-saving solution at Confluence Health

Submitted by
Adam McDonald
Corporate Communications
Program Manager

MOSES LAKE – Necessity is the mother of invention and oftentimes the great difficulties that arose during the pandemic gave rise to creative and innovative solutions.

In addition to the more readily apparent challenges of COVID-19, staffing shortages and procedure backlogs were another difficulty facing hospitals and clinics.

Testing requirements, delays due to shutdowns, and increased demand led to a lack of available operating room (OR) hospital space in Moses Lake, making it difficult for patients to have access to needed, but non-life-threatening, surgeries. For Dr. Matthew Kai Elliott and Wendy Weston, this wasn't something they were willing to accept.

"I was motivated to do office-based hand procedures because we were only able to do half the procedures we were previously doing

because of a staffing shortage," commented Dr. Elliott, an orthopedic surgeon with Confluence Health.

"I knew hand procedures like carpal tunnel release and trigger finger release were done in-office in many places. In addition to helping these patients get access faster, this would also allow the limited time in the operating room to be reallocated for diagnostic procedures and joint replacement surgeries that really need an OR."

Rather than having patients undergo general anesthesia, these procedures would be done in an office-like setting with local anesthesia, allowing patients to be awake the entire time, which made it possible to utilize fewer staff in an outpatient setting.

This change allowed patients to have the same procedure without having to endure the many difficulties that accompany surgery under general anesthesia.

Patients could skip pre-operative testing, wouldn't have to fast, and could drive

themselves home afterwards. Normal surgeries in an OR would require hours of pre-operative

preparation, the surgery itself, and then recovery time from anesthesia. This new method eliminated all those additional needs in time, space, and staffing. All in all, procedures could be done in as little as an hour.

"Additionally, this leads to significant cost-savings for the patient and the health-care system," continued Dr. Elliott. "I could perform the surgery exactly as I was previously in the hospital, resulting in the same great outcomes with no additional risks."

That is not to say that this creative solution did not come with its own set of challenges. After observing similar procedures and seeing how it could be done, there was the challenge of finding an appropriate space, trained personnel, and the right tools.

"Initially, we didn't have a procedure room, but eventually we were able to share

some space with our general surgery team at the Confluence Health Moses Lake Clinic," explained Wendy Weston, practice manager for general surgeons at Confluence Health.

"Staff trained with the team in Wenatchee. On our end, we worked to get our space set up, meet the licensing requirements, and collaborate with our health and safety teams.

We were lucky in that we have an RN – Tristan Leeder – who has operating room experience, allowing her to take the lead in getting things set up. With the supply chain issues during the pandemic, however, ordering instruments took several months to get some of the items."

Despite the challenges and hurdles, the group persisted and, in March 2022, the first patient had their surgery performed in a procedure room, returning home an hour later with significant time and money savings in their pocket. Since then, Dr. Elliott and his team have performed nearly 40 of these operations.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Dr. Matthew Kai Elliott, a Confluence Health orthopedic surgeon, is shown in a procedure room.

"One of the happy additional benefits of these types of procedures is that, since patients are awake and not fully under, the staff get to visit and talk with the patients while they have their procedure, which the staff really enjoy," reflected Weston.

"And most of the patients I have followed up with have been very happy with the overall process. Patients are happier, surgeries are performed more promptly, and

OR space is more readily available for major needs."

"Looking back, the most important take-away for myself was a realization that, even in trying times such as the unique restrictions and challenges of the COVID pandemic, my drive as a physician is to provide care for my patients and to be able to provide procedures that help with their pain and dysfunction," concluded Dr. Elliott. "And really, that's what we're here for."

DOH strongly urges individuals get vaccinated to prevent spread of flu

Communities seeing rapid increase in flu activity across the U.S.

Submitted by DOH

OLYMPIA – The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) wants the public to know flu cases are rising quickly in Washington state and nationwide.

Flu hospitalizations are at the highest rates seen in 10 years for this point in the year. In the last two weeks, DOH is reporting high cases of flu-like illnesses in Washington.

Flu illness can have serious health consequences, especially for people who are under five years old, age 65 or older, pregnant, immunocompromised, or have chronic health conditions.

In addition to the flu, other respiratory illnesses, such as COVID-19 and RSV, are combining to push our hospitals to emergency capacity. Help keep yourself and your community healthy by getting a flu vaccine and taking other measures to prevent illness.

"Our state's pediatric healthcare system is overloaded with extremely high numbers of children with respiratory infections," said Tao Sheng Kwan-Gett, MD, MPH, chief science officer for DOH.

"Families urgently need to do everything they can to keep everyone healthy and avoid the need for healthcare, and flu vaccination is one of the most important prevention tools."

Following the proper prevention and hygiene practices can halt the spread of respiratory illnesses. Washington State Department of Health recommends:

- Get vaccinated. Vaccination is your best defense against flu and COVID-19.

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water. Use hand sanitizer when soap is not available, and hands are not visibly soiled.

- Consider wearing a mask in crowded settings.

- If you are sneezing or coughing, wear a mask or use the crook of your arm or a tissue to avoid getting germs onto your hands or spreading virus in the air.

- Avoid close contact with sick individuals.

- If you feel sick, stay home.

The most common strain so far is influenza A (H3N2). This strain typically causes more severe disease. All available flu vaccines provide protection against H3N2.

DOH strongly recommends everyone aged 6 months and older get the flu vaccine as soon as possible. It takes two weeks for the flu vaccine to be effective making it a key time to get vaccinated before people get together for the December holidays. If you get the flu when you are vaccinated, it's typically milder and the vaccine can prevent serious complications including hospital care.

The flu vaccine is available at most pharmacies, health care providers' offices, and clinics. State employees are eligible to receive SmartHealth points for receiving a flu vaccine.

The flu vaccine can be received on the same day as the updated COVID-19 updated booster and other vaccines.

Washington state's COVID-19 response website Decommissioned Dec. 1

Stay up to date on COVID-19 information on the DOH website

Submitted by DOH

OLYMPIA – Washington State Department of Health (DOH) has decommissioned the Washington State Coronavirus Response (COVID-19) website coronavirus.wa.gov on Dec. 1, 2022. As of that date, site visitors will be redirected to the DOH COVID-19 landing page at <https://doh.wa.gov/emergencies/covid-19>.

This streamlining of online resources reflects the end of the COVID-19 emergency order and a decrease in web traffic on the coronavirus.wa.gov website. As part of the decommissioning, the public health content on the site will move to the DOH website. DOH is also working with partners to transfer pandemic information to other state agency websites where appropriate.

DOH remains committed to supporting all Washington state communities in the fight against COVID-19 and urges everyone to stay up to date on their vaccinations to prevent severe illness. Hospitals are operating at higher-than-usual

capacity this winter and it has become even more important to utilize preventive measures to ensure there is space for those with critical health needs.

Everyone six months and older should be vaccinated for influenza and COVID-19 to lower the risk of transmission and serious illness. If you have already been vaccinated against COVID-19, make an appointment now to receive your booster. People ages five years and older who had their last COVID-19 shot at least two months ago can get the updated booster. Influenza and COVID-19 vaccines can be safely administered at the same time. By taking just a few precautions, we can gather with our loved ones safely and help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and other serious respiratory illnesses throughout the holidays.

The DOH website is your source for a healthy dose of information. Find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. Sign up for the DOH blog, Public Health Connection.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

Saving time, saving lives

Health beat out several Fortune 500 companies – including Warner Music Group, SAP, and CLIF Bar – to take home the award at a gala held at Constellation's Connected Enterprise event on October 26, 2022.

"I'm most proud of the collaborative effort from ev-

eryone who was involved in the project. We were able to solve a problem that had existed for a long time and to do it using the tools we had available," remarked Stace Webley, financial systems support manager for Confluence Health, who oversaw the implementa-

tion of the project.

"I think this project has proven how valuable a strong partnership can be with other departments and with our IT vendor. Because we have such a strong relationship with Infor, they came to us with the tech and asked if we could use it. It just proves that working together in a collaborative way, and having good relationships, lends itself to success."



Gene Kelly presented with Estwing Gold Hammer Award

By RuthEdna Keys

Gene Kelly (seated) of Kelly's Ace Hardware in Chelan, was presented the Estwing Gold Hammer Award - for Dedicated Service to the Hardware Industry on Nov. 2 at the store with family, friends and staff looking on. The award was presented to Gene by Vic Weston, (right) District Manager of Retail Operations for Ace Hardware Corporation. Also pictured is Pat Kelly (left) Gene's nephew. The plaque on the hammer award, read in part, 'Thank You Gene, for 63 years of dedication.' Gene joined his brother Wayne Kelly at Kelly's Ace Hardware in 1958. The hardware store has been serving the valley since 1925.

Commissioners to appoint Blackmon as Chelan County District Court judge



WENATCHEE – Allen Blackmon, a 26-year veteran of the Chelan County Prosecutor's Office, has accepted a judge's appointment to the Chelan County District Court.

Chelan County commissioners officially appointed Blackmon, a deputy prosecuting attorney, to position No. 2 of District Court on Nov. 21, when the Board of County Commissioners passed a resolution making the appointment. He will begin serving on the District Court bench in early December.

On Nov. 21, commissioners interviewed three finalists for the judge's position, currently held by Judge Kyle Mott. Commissioner Bob Bugert said Blackmon stood out among the candidates interviewed.

"Allen not only has a broad depth and breadth of experience and understanding of the law but he also

has the temperament to be an effective and respected District Court judge," Bugert said. "We are lucky to have had several highly qualified candidates to consider for the open

Blackmon also serves on numerous mental health and substance abuse disorder committees and groups and helped create the Mental Health Diversion program in Chelan County District Court.

"I plan to expand on the mental health work I have been able to accomplish and will continue to seek better ways of addressing the mental health crisis in the local courts," said Blackmon, who will serve for a year and then can run for election in November 2023.

Blackmon will replace Judge Mott, who announced in October he would be stepping down. Mott, who was running uncontested in the November general election, has accepted a position at a local law firm.

Blackmon and private attorney Jon Volyn also faced off in the current election for Seat 1 on District Court. While the election was not certified until Nov. 29, it appears Volyn has won position No. 1.

"It was a lot of work to get here, not only coming out of the election but also over the span of my career," Blackmon said. "This court can be confident that I will serve the bench and our community with respect, honor and justice in a neutral and fair manner."



Judge Allen Blackmon

position. Allen stood out because of his commitment to helping people experiencing mental health or substance abuse issues. He has great compassion for people."

Raised in Wenatchee, Blackmon has represented the state and Chelan County in all levels of local courts, including appellate courts. For the last 16 years, he has served as a deputy prosecutor in the District Court.

AVHRA Employment Law Summit



Submitted by Robin Fowler

Join us December 8 for Apple Valley Human Resources 2022 Employment Law Summit. Below are session details from the upcoming event.

Managing mental illness at work – speaker Kara Craig

Kara Craig is an Employment Attorney at Vigilant Law Group. She provides strategic day-to-day advice and counsel to Washington and Oregon employers on the entire range of employment and labor law issues. She also drafts workplace policies and employment agreements, represents companies in federal and state enforcement agency investigations, develops learning curricula and speaks publicly about the entire range of employment law issues.

As 2022 ends, and the aftermath of COVID-19 lingers, mental health is one of the biggest challenges facing employees and their employers.

Unlike physical injuries, mental illness can show up as subtle, erratic behavior that is easy to miss or dismiss until it becomes unhealthy or even dangerous. These challenges are amplified at work, where employ-

ers have a duty to protect employees, but to also avoid discrimination.

After attending this training, participants will be able to:

- Capture the attention and buy-in of management regarding the liability and impact of mental health issues at work.
- Identify the signs of a mental health issue, including behavior, appearance, and comments from others.
- Ask mental health questions that are narrow, purposeful, and legal; Apply a checklist approach to a fluid and meaningful interactive process.
- Examine complex, real-life mental health issues using the best practices provided and the most effective agency resources available today.

2023 Employment Law Update – by speaker Erin McCool

Erin McCool, is an attorney at Ogden Murphy Wallace and her law practice emphasizes general litigation, employment & labor law and land use & water law.

During this year's Employment Law Summit, Erin will review upcoming changes listed below and answer questions on how these changes will impact your business.

- Overview of significant legislation introduced in the 2022 legislative session.
- Highlight what bills are on the horizon in the 2023 session.
- Pay Transparency Impact of the Dobbs decision.
- What HR can expect in 2023.



APPLE VALLEY HUMAN RESOURCE ASSOCIATION EMPLOYMENT LAW SUMMIT 2022

DECEMBER 8, 2022

The waters appear to be calming a bit, but life is different than what it was prior to COVID. With the ever changing laws, regulations and restrictions, 2023 will continue to bring change. Join, either in-person or via Zoom, to hear how best to meet 2023's changes head on. **PLUS - the AVHRA Auction is back!!!!** In addition to some great auction items, AVHRA will be giving away one annual SHRM membership!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- **7:30-8:30 am:** Breakfast Served
- **8:30-10:00 am:** Managing Mental Illness at Work; Kara Craig from *Vigilant Law Group*
- **10:00-10:15:** Break/In Person Silent Auction
- **10:15-Noon:** 2023 Employment Law Update; Erin McCool from *Ogden Murphy Wallace*

SESSION DETAILS

- **Date:** Thursday, December 8, 2022
- **Time:** 7:30am-Noon
- **Location:** Wenatchee Convention Center or Zoom
- **Cost:** \$50 SHRM/\$65 non-SHRM
- **Register on Eventbrite:** #388712177587

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SimplePowerIT
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SimplePowerIT adds to team

Submitted by Jennifer Korfiatis

Walter Ramirez has joined the SimplePowerIT team as a Network Technician. Ramirez brings deep experience in network and phone systems, routers, office configuration and troubleshooting to his position at SimplePowerIT. Originally from Mexico, Ramirez quickly built a strong reputation as a technology expert while working for companies such as Crunch Pak, Stemilt, and Starr Ranch.

Previously, Ramirez owned a small business, which helped him develop a solid understanding of the unique needs and environment of small business owners.

“Our team is growing and I’m thrilled to have Walter join us to support our clients with their technology needs. With this growth, we are very mindful to continue to offer the same level of dedicated support to the businesses we serve, and I’m excited to add Walter’s

skills to our team,” explained Owner Martin Straub.

SimplePowerIT was born in 2012 on the premise that most organizations have one shared and basic technology need: computers and software should “just work” so users can stay focused on their goals without frustrating technology glitches. On the occasion there are issues, your frustration level is likely high. We believe that getting up and running again shouldn’t involve long telephone hold times, talking with technicians who aren’t empathetic or don’t understand, and speak in jargon.

The SimplePowerIT team is intentionally small, allowing clients to work with the owner and a dedicated technician who serves as your technology advisor. SimplePowerIT works with small to large businesses in a variety of industries.

Learn more at www.simplepowerit.com.



Walter Ramirez

Rotary District 5060 Governor Karl Ruether



Submitted by Ken Kohnhorst and Karl Ruether

Karl Ruether was born and raised in Germany and came to North America in 1986. He has three grown sons and is married to Denise, they currently live in Peshastin, Washington.

Karl started his career in the Hospitality Industry with a Restaurant Apprenticeship in 1976 at the Sport Hotel, Droste, Germany. As is mandatory in Germany, the required Military Service came next followed by achieving the Serviermeister (Master of Service) Certification in 1984.

In preparation to go to the United States, Karl worked as restaurant manager in Southampton, England after which he went to Cornell University in New York for a summer program. At the completion of this program, he worked at one of the hotels at JFK Airport, followed by moving to Tucson, Arizona to open a new All Suite Property.

In 1987, Karl obtained the CFBE (Certified Food and Beverage Executive) designation. From Tucson it was on to Portland, Oregon and then Banff, Canada managing various types of hotels. From there he went to San Bernardino, California and then Leavenworth Washington’s Bavarian Village where being from Germany was not a pre-requisite, but it helped. In Leavenworth he and his partners opened the

Best Western Icicle Inn in 1992 which is now known as the Icicle Village Resort where he is the General Manager/ Partner. In 1995 he obtained the CHA (Certified Hotel Administrator Designation) and after a successful career spanning 40 plus years and four countries, Karl retired from Hotel/Resort operations in December of 2019.

Along the way came various volunteer/appointed positions with Best Western International as a Regional Governor, a board position on the Washington State Hotel and Lodging Association board, serving as Chair in 2005-2006. A Board member and President of Leavenworth Lodging Association, a founding board member of The Leavenworth Summer Theater serving over 10 years. A Rotarian since 1994 and member of the Leavenworth Rotary Club, President of the Leavenworth Club in 2000. (Presidential Citation Achieved).

PDG Jim Adamson Sr. was his mentor and friend and sponsored Karl into Rotary. Karl served as Board member of the Leavenworth Chamber of Commerce since 1992 and was Chamber Board President for three years.

In July of 2000 he was selected to serve a one-year term on the newly formed Washington State Tourism Advisory Committee. He was the recipient of the ‘Outstanding General Manager of the Year Award’ from the Washington Lodging Association in 2005, as well



SUBMITTED PHOTO
Karl Ruether

as the ‘All Star Governor Award’ in 2003 from Best Western International. Karl accepted several Committee assignments in his role as a Best Western Governor that included the Chair of the Education and Training Advisory Committee, a few years back, and then Chairman of the Quality Assurance Advisory Committee (2015).

On July 1, 2019, Karl was appointed Assistant District Governor for Rotary District 5060, and now he is serving as the DG District Governor for the Rotary year 2022-2023.

Fellow Rotarians, thank you for the confidence you have placed in me for this important role. I am really looking forward to meeting many if not all of you in this exciting continuation of my Rotary Journey. PDG Marvin Monroe used to say, “Rotary is a journey not a Destination” and it is an honor to serve in this role and work closely with many of you.



RE/MAX Advantage earns recognition for highest average transaction per agent

Submitted by Amy Wilczynski, RE/MAX Advantage

CHELAN – RE/MAX Advantage of Chelan County recently received the multi-office award for the highest average transaction per agent among all RE/MAX offices in Chelan and Olympia. The average RE/MAX Advantage agent completed 22 transactions in 2021.

RE/MAX Advantage was also recognized for closing more than \$200 million in sales volume in 2021.

“We are very honored to receive this award from RE/MAX, LLC, which places us in the top two percent of brokerages in the west region,” said Chris Millsap, Designated Broker/Owner of RE/MAX Advantage. “Each team member has worked diligently to achieve this high honor in this market.”

“Chris and his team should take great pride in this well-deserved accolade,” said Amy Lessinger, senior vice president, RE/MAX, LLC. “It recognizes their professionalism and commitment to providing customers with outstanding service. We are proud to have them as part of the RE/MAX brand.”

About RE/MAX Advantage:
RE/MAX Advantage is a locally owned and operated full-service real estate with three office locations in Chelan, Wenatchee and Olympia, Wash. The brokerage is a recognized leader in residential and commercial real estate in Chelan County and on a national level for their achievements by RE/MAX, LLC. RE/MAX Advantage agents are full-time REALTORS® who take every real estate transaction seriously while also working in the communities they serve. RE/MAX Advantage supports various non-profit organizations, including Lake Chelan Food Bank, Touching Tiny Lives, Thrive Chelan Valley, Boys and Girls Club, Leukemia & Lymphoma Research, Multiple Myeloma Society and Children’s Miracle Network. RE/MAX Advantage also supports the Lake Chelan Valley in various volunteer positions and boards. The brokerage is recognized as a Children’s Miracle Network “Miracle Office.” Each RE/MAX office is independently owned and operated.



Building! MEMBER MESSENGER

North Central Washington "Driven to Promote and Protect Small Business"

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PAGE 1

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BNCW Chairman's Corner

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you, our amazing staff, members, and volunteers.

This year has seen an exciting and slightly different direction for our organization. There have been a number of challenges to navigate and to overcome, probably with more to come moving forward. The challenges were met head on and conquered, which have made us better than ever.

From an organizational standpoint 2023 is shaping up to be even better than this year as we refine the direction of our organization even more. BNCW is focused on promoting our members throughout the course of the year, not just during our annual events. We are focused on giving our members the most value for their hard-earned dollars.

I would like to thank our membership for your continued support of BNCW. I want to also thank the fine folks of North Central Washington who continue to support our organization by attending our events. We are a small business organization that is also a resource to consumers. Check out our new and improved website for a directory of member businesses and see what is going on with us at www.buildingncw.org

It has been an honor to be of service to the membership of BNCW this past year as chairman. I'm looking forward to the continued growth of the organization and feel confident in the direction that we are currently headed... Cheers!

Ed Gardner
 EDY Construction Corp.
 BNCW 2022 Chairman

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What’s New From Our CEO

Members,

2022 was a year of firsts and many organizational improvements at Building North Central Washington. However, today I want to focus on 2023 and especially on our key events and a couple of new ideas that we want to bring to life 2023.

First, an update that applies to all BNCW events is our Marketing Strategy. Our marketing strategy includes GEO Fencing, Social Media, our new webpage, Radio, print ads and gorilla marketing.

As an example, our Facebook presence has never reached above 500 of “Post Reach”... our current numbers between September 9th and October 6th were 18.3K. We are leveraging this social media opportunity by continuing to advertise for our

sponsors weeks after our events. Just one of many ways we are creating more value for membership.

Below is a quick overview of our major events and promotions that BNCW are leading in 2023.

If it is an event that started in 2022 aka new, I will identify it as (NEW). Also, many of our events are receiving a long overdue (Update) and I will highlight those changes too.

The Home Show: 4th through the 5th of February and our naming sponsor is Complete Design. The Home Show is still the place to be for all your 2023 home needs plus the following (Updates): 1) Chef’s on Tour 2022 winners Clearwater Catering and Sugar Momma’s Sweets will be selling their cuisine, 2)

Tacos Muy will also be selling their amazing homemade tacos, and 3) Local bands The Prairie Girls, Faraones Del Norte and one more local cover band still in negotiations.

(NEW 2022) BNCW and Habitat for Humanity Yard Sale: Community Glass is our supporting sponsor and the purpose of event is to raise awareness and funds for both organizations. All BNCW proceeds go to our growing trade school scholarship through the sale of serviceable used appliances from remodels donated by members.

BNCW June Golf Tournament: The June golf tournament is best described as a party on a golf course. Thank you to our 2022 Presenting Sponsor Central Washington Concrete / WSG and Highlander Golf Course for making this event possible.

(NEW 2022) Draggoo Financial Fall Golf Classic: This event

was conceived in July, planned in August - September and held the first week of October. We plan on growing it exponentially in 2023 in sponsorships and golf teams. Great event to partner and grow together.

Home Tour and Chef’s on Tour: To our long-time naming Sponsors Banner Bank and E.DY. Construction respectively, THANK YOU! Gann Construction clearly won the People’s Choice Award with a beautiful home while Clearwater Catering overwhelmingly won their second in a row Chef’s on Tour. (Updates in 2022): The “Realtor class” and “Outdoor Living Class” were added. Thanks to you Tricia McCullough, August-edge, for showing her home in the Realtor Class. (NEW 2023): Potentially... I say again Potentially, we will be adding a Tour in the Lake Chelan for 2023, stay tuned for details.



Lawrence “Lee” Shepherd
CEO, BNCW

“It’s all for nothing if you don’t have Freedom.”
— William Wallace

THANK YOU to all our Members, Partners as we are looking forward to an even better 2023!

Lawrence “Lee” Shepherd
CEO, BNCW



Unbe-Leaf-able Networking night at Peoples Bank!



Novembers’ Nothing but Networking event was proudly hosted by Peoples Bank.

Attendees enjoyed street tacos from Tacos De El Buen Pastor & homemade churros!

Along with amazing fun, everyone loved the raffle prizes created by Peoples Bank staff! Congratulations to our winners.

Many thanks to all the hard work the staff at Peoples Bank put into making the evening such a success! Join us in 2023 for even more fun Networking events.

For more info contact us at 509-293-5840 or email Danielle at danielle@buildingncw.org.



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of residential and commercial services to the entire NCW area, from the planning stage through to final permitting.

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home SHOW
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Entertainment

Los Faraones Del Norte
Saturday Feb. 4th
12 pm-2 pm

The Prairie Girls
Saturday Feb. 4th
3 pm-5 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

home SHOW Feb. 4th & 5th

BNCW Yard Sale April 14th

BNCW Summer Golf Tournament June 9th

September

HOME TOUR & RENOVATING EXPO 2023

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.

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BNCW EVENTS

BNCW's December Board of Directors Meeting

■ Wednesday, December 14, 2022
7:00am to 9:00am
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 7:00am 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.

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MARKETING 101

The Benefits of Giving Back this holiday season

Submitted by
Jennifer Bushong

The holiday season is an opportunity for businesses to support youth organizations, charities or non-profits that align with their mission, vision, and values.

Employees are often involved in service clubs or youth organizations that directly impact local communities. By offering these organizations your

employees' support, it will not only benefit your communities, but it will show how meaningful it is to give back to the employees too. It's a win-win-win for all!

According to America's Charities Snapshot Employee Donor Research, 71% of surveyed employees say that it's important for them to work for a company that is supportive of giving back and

volunteering.

Giving back not only feels good, but it shows that the spirit of giving is beyond monetary value for your business.

A giving spirit can help position your business for further growth, employee retention and satisfaction in the New Year. (Teambonding, Oct. 2022)

As a small or mid-size business, how can your giving be a part of the marketing and team strategy?

1. Good Public Relations

Donating and serving your community is just plain good.

Your goodwill will be a model for others to give and create a better place to live and work.

The relationships created with other business professionals, building internal and external teams, and media attention, will only help strengthen ties for the future.

2. Marketing and PR Opportunities

Aligning with a fundraising event or charity is an excellent way to leverage your company's brand.

The more your team sees the company is working together for a greater good, the more it shows compassion for others beyond the bottom line.

It's an excellent morale boost to see your company's logo on community posters, fliers, social media posts or ads.

3. Gain Client and Customer Support

Individuals and clients do business with companies that give back.

Customers feel good about spending or buying a gift from a retail business or agencies that give a percentage back to its community, as their dollars are being used to help others in need.

Charities and non-profit organizations often survive all year on the donations from the holiday gift-giving.

The thought of engaging in altruistic behavior increases our happiness.

So, why not make your employees' world, and the World, just a bit better this holiday season? Give a little bit. Build a better



Jennifer Bushong

team. Reap the happiness and let others reap the rewards.

Jennifer Bushong, MA is the owner of JBe Marketing Group, LLC., a full-service strategic marketing and public relations firm in Washington State. JBe can implement marketing, communications, or branding campaigns using a variety of tactics. To learn more or book Jennifer as a speaker, jennifer@jbe-marketing.com or visit www.jbe-marketing.com.



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Mission District Building Businesses in Cashmere

nered with Atlas Free, a Kirkland-based organization that offers aftercare to victims of human trafficking. Atlas Free will receive ten percent of Fernweh's proceeds. Through this partnership, Leslie wants the victims enter a world that may feel beyond them.

"I want to bring that world back within their reach because they're coming out of this horrific experience. They need to get aftercare where they're connected with mental health care services, legal services and not having some big blank on their résumé that maybe they don't want to have to explain," she said.

"They just want to go and live their lives, and we hope that we're able to be a part of them doing that."

Sometimes when businesses share the same facility, it creates an atmosphere of rivalry and competition. That is not the case with the Mission District crew. They realize that a rising tide floats all boats and are happy for whoever gets the business, and it will take a combined effort to make sure everyone enjoys success.

"The nature of our work is going to take a lot more boots on the ground. With the support of everyone else in the building, more communally we can have that inertia to continue to build the momentum and get people to know about us," Leslie said. "Having that communal group also breeds more creativity as we create new ideas to find out ways that people might want to engage with us."

Carey mentioned that one of the biggest challenges for the Mission District group is simply advertising and making people aware of the opportunities available. With the holidays now upon North Central Washington, this dedicated group of business owners hopes to share with the public on the outside what the special building holds on the inside.

"We see the magic in the bones and just how we feel being here throughout the day, and I think that we are just excited to share that with folks," Leslie said, adding that the hope for the building is "to create an attractive space that people can come to and feel relaxed and have a variety of experiences while they're here. Come and hang out with their friends for a great cup of coffee or wine or have a fantastic shopping experience, just making it a place where people want to be."

Local Grounds Coffee Company Ribbon Cutting

By Norm Manly
Community Volunteer

MANSON – The Manson Chamber of Commerce officially welcomed a new business to Manson on Saturday, November 26 with a ribbon cutting at 9:30 a.m. for Local Grounds Coffee Company.

Representing Local Grounds Coffee Company were owner, Cindy Sneesby and General Manager, Anna Sneesby. The weather turned out perfect and the event was well attended by many locals.

Cindy and Anna have worked on this project for quite some time, looking forward to this day.

They attended the "Coffee Fest" in Seattle last fall, which helped them put many of the pieces of the puzzle in place.

"Coffee Fest" is more than a tradeshow – it's the place where the specialty beverage community comes together.

Cindy and Anna's "Coffee Fest" experience included three days of best-in-class educational content featuring the specialty beverage industry's thought leaders and innovators. There was an Expo Hall featuring the latest food and beverage products, retail solutions and technologies. There were competitions at the forefront of innovation and showcasing creativity and networking with the best in the business.

The most important decision of the process was to choose which coffee to serve. This took Cindy and Anna to many coffee companies, where they personally tasted coffee.

"Hands down, Dillanos Coffee Roasters was the best," Anna said. And Anna should know as she has worked as a barista since her teenage years.

Dillanos Coffee Roasters is in Sumner, and they have



PHOTO COURTESY NORM MANLY

Left to Right Anna Sneesby, general manager of Local Grounds Coffee Company and Cindy Sneesby, owner of Local Grounds Coffee Company.

roasted coffee since 1992. Their motto is, "The Roaster for the most successful specialty coffee retailers in America". Part of their service includes

training staff and employees in the proper way to make and serve coffee.

Besides coffee and other
SEE RIBBON CUTTING, PAGE 15

Ray Eickmeyer honored as Rural Health Hero

Submitted by
RuthEdna Keys

CHELAN – In celebration of National Rural Health Day on November 17, the Washington State Office of Rural Health announced the first annual Rural Health Heroes of Washington Awards. These awards exemplify the outstanding work done by those who provide direct patient care, leadership, and teamwork within their organizations.

North Central Washington winners were Ray Eickmeyer, Director of Lake Chelan Health Emergency Services in the Leader category and Guadalupe Cortez, Lead Nurse and Supervisor of Wound Care Department, Quincy Valley Medical Center in the Direct Patient Care category. Tulalip Health Clinic staff won in the Team Category.

The chosen winners had



Ray Eickmeyer

to demonstrate one or more of the following criteria to be nominated as a Health Hero:

• **Commitment:** bringing impactful change to their community.

• **Leadership:** advancing leadership capacity to improve population health and health equity in their community.

• **Fearlessness:** showing tenacity in driving change and innovation that impacts

rural communities.

• **Compassion:** showing an exceptional level of empathy and generosity for team members and patients.

Eickmeyer was born and raised in Spokane, where he started as a volunteer firefighter and then became a resident firefighter before going to Paramedic School. He has been with Lake Chelan Health in Emergency Services for 23 years. His wife Christina is a paramedic and teaches college EMT classes; and they have two children, a 14-year-old daughter and a 10-year-old son.

He jumped in with both feet to serve the community with COVID-19 pandemic interventions. Within 90 days of the start of the pandemic, Ray implemented a telemedicine program for proactive community infection surveillance

and screening of people in their homes for symptoms of COVID; as well as navigation of support for people who needed help. Ray was instrumental in the first responder response by helping to create the Chelan/Douglas County EMS response plan for the pandemic with Medical Program Director Dr. Jobe.

Ray also created a video to educate the community about COVID and how to protect themselves and others from infection. Eickmeyer is passionate about health equity and ensured that no one in his community has been left behind in the COVID-19 response. Early on, Ray stepped up and volunteered to use his staff and resources to deliver COVID-19 testing and vaccinations to meet the community

SEE RURAL HEALTH HERO, PAGE 15

REAL ESTATE

TOP PROPERTIES CHELAN COUNTY – October 2022

| Buyer | Seller | Sale Price | Street | City | Legal acreage | Living area | Year Built | Bed-rooms | Bath-rooms | Pool | Fire-place |
|--|--|-------------|--------------------------|----------------|---------------|-------------|------------|-----------|------------|------|------------|
| EVERGREEN DEVELOPERS LLC | SCRIVANICH LARRY ETAL | \$4,380,000 | 108 N BUCHANAN AVE | WENATCHEE | 0.21 | 11382 | 1930 | | | N | N |
| FLINT TIMOTHY D | KUNITZ JEFFREY L & LYNNE | \$1,732,500 | 16791 MULE TAIL FLATS RD | PLAIN | 1.6 | 1929 | 2012 | 1 | 1 | N | N |
| BISHOP JONATHAN L & JENNIFER M | RECTOR DANIEL J & JACKLYN L | \$1,470,000 | 110 E MOUNTAIN BROOK LN | WENATCHEE | 1.01 | 4455 | 2007 | 2 | 5 | Y | Y |
| EGGERS MITCHELL L & STAUCH \ EGGERS LISA | MCCLELLAND ASHLEY VERPLANK 2010 GENERATIONAL TRT | \$1,425,000 | 78 HORSETAIL LN | PLAIN | 2.52 | 2497 | 1991 | | | N | Y |
| WILT LIVING TRUST | KUTZLE LESLIE REVCBLE TRUST | \$1,420,000 | 1395 NIGHTHAWK RIDGE LN | LEAVENWORTH | 20.98 | 2410 | 1998 | 3 | 2 | N | Y |
| SCHRIEVER TYE & TRACY | ESTES JOHN P & DARCEY R | \$1,350,000 | 203 BOBCAT LN | CHELAN | 0.13 | 2110 | 2018 | 3 | 3 | N | Y |
| BRANSTETTER STEPHEN R & JENNIFER L | JONES GLEN A JR ETAL | \$1,306,000 | 12025 BRETZ DR | PLAIN | 0.66 | 1720 | 2001 | 2 | 3 | N | Y |
| KNERR LORI | BARBER GUYON & VICKIE A | \$1,275,000 | 9047 ICICLE RD | LEAVENWORTH | 0.41 | 2774 | 2018 | 2 | 2 | N | Y |
| MOORE ALEXANDER & LAUREN | CLEGHORN MICHAEL R | \$1,250,000 | 11468 RIVER BEND DR | LEAVENWORTH | 0.28 | 1197 | 1971 | | | N | N |
| BORTH MICHAEL D & MARGARET A | WINKELMANN RICHARD&JUDITH | \$1,150,000 | 12295 VILLAGE VIEW DR | LEAVENWORTH | 1 | 2689 | 2001 | | | N | Y |
| HELMICK MICHAEL T & CORTNY L | CHELAN LOOKOUT LLLP | \$1,110,000 | 1374 BIGHORN WAY | CHELAN | 0.1 | 1172 | 2021 | 2 | 1 | N | Y |
| JACOBSEN JOEL T & DEBRA M | ARNOLD LISA & TORSTEN LIVING TRUST | \$1,100,000 | 12798 POBST PL | PLAIN | 5.02 | 2294 | 2006 | 4 | 3 | N | Y |
| SPINDEL JENNIFER | GRANGER SCOTT M | \$1,075,000 | 2210 SANDY BROOKE | WENATCHEE | 0.6 | 2232 | 2000 | 4 | 4 | Y | N |
| RICHARDS BLAIR ETAL | SUTTON KEITH A SR | \$1,050,000 | 3845 OLD BLEWETT RD | PESHASTIN | 6.38 | 2808 | 1998 | 2 | 2 | N | Y |
| BALSOMA MARIA A & COLLINS JAKE | BURNINGHAM LLOYD | \$950,000 | 32 SERENITY LN | MANSON | 0.76 | 1192 | 2000 | 3 | 3 | N | N |
| ROMERO LUIS M & MENDOZA ROMERO MARIBEL | JACKSON GARY L | \$950,000 | 2325 W HIGH ST | CHELAN | 6.24 | 1496 | 1946 | 2 | 1.5 | N | Y |
| MUNIZ ARROYO JUAN M | COMMUNITY RESOURCE GROUP | \$875,000 | 640 S MISSION ST | WENATCHEE | 0.96 | 14062 | 1949 | | | N | N |
| TORKELSON KURT & MELISSA | DILLY SCOTT J & LISA L | \$872,400 | 54 JOSHUA LN | WENATCHEE | 0.81 | 2128 | 2019 | 3 | 2 | N | N |
| HARRISON ERIC & MARIA | WITHERIDGE ROBERT & BRIENNE J | \$865,000 | 296 ROLLING HILLS LN | WENATCHEE | 0.45 | 2945 | 1993 | 3 | 2.5 | N | Y |
| BRADWIN JOHN M & KRISTY L | LARSEN MATT | \$863,000 | 94 BYRD LN | ENTIAT | 1.83 | 1447 | 1965 | 3 | 2 | N | Y |
| KONNERUP LINDSAY M & JUSTIN T | DEEP WATER PROPERTIES LLC | \$825,000 | 100 SAN REMO LN | CHELAN | 0.17 | 1024 | 2022 | 3 | 1.75 | N | Y |
| DUNSCOMB CHRISTOPHER J & FRANCES L | BLANKENSHIP JAMES | \$810,000 | 1408 1ST ST | WENATCHEE | 0.31 | 1757 | 1964 | 3 | 2 | N | Y |
| DOREY NATALIE J & DAVID J | SCOTT BECKY K & TIMOTHY M | \$800,000 | 216 PATON ST | CASHMERE | 0.35 | 1440 | 1955 | 4 | 2.5 | N | Y |
| YOCUM KARA & LESLIE | MARTIN JAMES E & GAIL E | \$769,000 | 1013 SPRING MOUNTAIN DR | WENATCHEE | 0.17 | 2266 | 2020 | | | N | Y |
| SUTTON KEITH SR & BRENDA | MONGEON STEVEN J & LOREEN M | \$750,000 | 101 MISSION VIEW PL | CASHMERE | 0.32 | 2323 | 1995 | 4 | 2.5 | N | N |
| MORGAN DAVID & LISA | BENDOWSKY BENJAMIN | \$750,000 | 71 LAKE CORTEZ LN | MALAGA | 0.37 | 1870 | 1994 | 3 | 2.5 | N | N |
| BOETTCHER SAM ETAL | CRUTCHER AARON R | \$740,000 | 12758 PINE RIDGE DR | PESHASTIN | 0.71 | 1825 | 1999 | 2 | 2 | N | Y |
| BRABANT DALLAS P & ABEL ELIZABETH J | ROEMER REVOCABLE FAMILY TRUST | \$725,000 | 22 N FRANKLIN AVE | WENATCHEE | 0.13 | 1664 | 1926 | 4 | 2.25 | N | Y |
| STEVIC MICHAEL S & STEPHANIE W | SHER NIGEL I & RACHAEL A | \$725,000 | 400 SPRING VIEW PL | CHELAN | 0.21 | 1314 | 2021 | 4 | 2.5 | N | Y |
| LANE SHERRY L & MARASA ANNE | YOUNG JERRY & BARBARA | \$700,000 | 955 RIDGE CREST DR | WENATCHEE | 0.46 | 1872 | 2004 | 3 | 2.5 | N | N |
| MACKENZIE CRAIG M & ELLEN P | REINTHALER TRAUDE S & PETER S | \$699,500 | 8695 LARSON RD | PESHASTIN | 0.85 | 2607 | 1975 | 4 | 2.5 | N | N |
| VENEGAS JUAN M & AVILA YESENIA | HARPER GUY C | \$695,000 | 728 E WAPATO AVE | CHELAN | 0.4 | 2258 | 1994 | 3 | 2.5 | N | N |
| PAGE AMANDA S & ALBRIGHT RYAN D | PETERSON ANDREW & HALEY | \$679,000 | 6999 BRENDER CANYON RD | CASHMERE | 1.36 | 1128 | 1998 | 3 | 3 | N | Y |
| BARBER VICKI A | DREIS GALEN R & CARLA J | \$654,000 | 8975 ICICLE RD | LEAVENWORTH | 1.64 | 1512 | 0 | | | N | N |
| JAROLIMEK ANDREW & LAURA | NOYD NATALIE A | \$650,000 | 408 DOGWOOD LN | WENATCHEE | 0.18 | 2522 | 2004 | 4 | 2.5 | N | Y |
| BENNETT AMY & MARK JR | REVARD JEREMIAH & KRISTINE | \$650,000 | 444 HILLTOP PL | CHELAN | 0.18 | 1853 | 2012 | 4 | 2 | N | N |
| BROOKS CRAIG & SARAH | MAC INDOE DANIEL S | \$650,000 | 2618 LARCH DR | LAKE WENATCHEE | 0.72 | 1008 | 1989 | 2 | 1 | N | Y |
| HOOPER JEFFREY ETAL | ALPINESTEIN LLC | \$650,000 | 525 ALPINE PL | LEAVENWORTH | 0 | 1119 | 0 | | | N | N |
| MARTIN RODNEY E | BALDWIN JUDITH G | \$649,000 | 1 SUNBURST ST | WENATCHEE | 0.22 | 2958 | 1992 | 3 | 2.5 | N | Y |
| ALLOWAY IRVIN F & JENNIFER M | THOMPSON LANELL L | \$635,000 | 4953 MISSION CREEK RD | CASHMERE | 0.45 | 1656 | 1952 | 2 | 1.75 | N | N |
| SVOBODA JOSEPH II & CHRISTMAN NICHOLAS | DODS YOLANDA ETAL | \$625,000 | 525 ALPINE PL | LEAVENWORTH | 0 | 958 | 0 | | | N | N |
| MC RAE MICHAEL ETAL | HALLANGER PAMELA J | \$620,000 | 205 SUMMERSSET BLVD | MANSON | 0.24 | 1655 | 2006 | 3 | 2 | N | N |
| DUNSCOMB FAMILY TRUST | ROBERTS CONSTRUCTION LLC | \$599,990 | 905 RACINE SPRINGS DR | WENATCHEE | 0.15 | 1792 | 2022 | 3 | 2 | N | Y |
| MOORE AMANDA & STEVE | NEILSON ANN L | \$590,000 | 340 BRANDI LN | WENATCHEE | 0.17 | 1801 | 1999 | 3 | 2.5 | Y | N |
| KASTNER NICHOLAS S & WATERS SHAUNA A | DUNN GREGORY & PARIS R | \$590,000 | 2124 W HONEYSETT RD | WENATCHEE | 0.16 | 1565 | 2005 | 4 | 3 | N | N |
| LARSEN GRAY BAILEY E ETAL | WILLIAMS MICHAEL J & PAMELA J | \$585,000 | 22109 APPALOOSA LN | PLAIN | 0.3 | 1352 | 2002 | 3 | 2 | N | Y |
| E L RASMUSSEN LLC | STEPHENS DANIEL & SUSAN | \$575,000 | 50 CORAL ST | MANSON | 0.14 | 1184 | 2005 | 3 | 2.5 | N | Y |
| ALDRIDGE DEBRA M | CUMMINGS ROBERT T | \$560,000 | 223 PERSHING CIR | WENATCHEE | 0.13 | 1736 | 2018 | 3 | 2 | N | Y |
| GRONLUND CHRISTOPHER | MORGAN HAROLD & CAROL | \$550,000 | 723 WHEELER HILL RD | WENATCHEE | 1.5 | 1848 | 1980 | | | N | N |
| MC NANY MICHAEL A & JENNA A | BLOOMQUIST VERGIL E | \$550,000 | 127 COMMERCIAL ST | LEAVENWORTH | 0.16 | 1238 | 1978 | 2 | 1 | N | N |
| DEPAOLI BARRY P & JAQUELINE K | STAMPS JIM & DORIS | \$550,000 | 106 BUTTE RD | CHELAN | 0.15 | 1571 | 1999 | 3 | 2 | N | N |
| JACKSON SONIA & JARROD | PARSLEY MARIAN G | \$544,000 | 525 ALPINE PL | LEAVENWORTH | 0 | 958 | 0 | | | N | N |
| RIVERA ALBERTO & RIVERA MERAZ SANDRA | MOORE STEVEN & AMANDA | \$540,000 | 401 SADDLEHORN AVE | WENATCHEE | 0.18 | 1530 | 2011 | 4 | 3 | N | N |

TOP PROPERTIES CHELAN COUNTY – October 2022 – continued from page 14

| Buyer | Seller | Sale Price | Street | City | Legal acreage | Living area | Year Built | Bed-rooms | Bath-rooms | Pool | Fire-place |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------|-----------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|------------|-----------|------------|------|------------|
| BOULANGER VANCE R & CHRISTINE | GRAVES KENNETH B & MARY E | \$530,000 | 369 STRADA DELLA VIS | CHELAN | 7.14 | 2240 | 2008 | | | N | N |
| WENZEL ZACHARY & JORDAN | STONE MARILYN K | \$528,000 | 2209 LARK BROOKE | WENATCHEE | 0.23 | 1903 | 1999 | 3 | 2 | N | Y |
| MORRIS SCOTT ETAL | PITTSINGER BRET & JULIE | \$525,000 | 2107 W WOODIN AVE | CHELAN | 0.15 | 997 | 1946 | 2 | 2 | N | Y |
| DENSLEY DAVID & DENISE | EASTERN WA CONSTRUCTION INC | \$516,747 | 1118 SUNSET LN | CHELAN | 0.21 | 1811 | 2022 | | 2 | N | Y |
| GOMEZ GUSTAVO JR & KATHRYN A | MILANOS NIKOS | \$514,000 | 3822 IROQUOIS LN | MONITOR | 0.32 | 1488 | 1980 | 5 | 2.5 | Y | Y |
| HOYER MARKUS & CATIE | RANKIN CHAD J | \$500,000 | 4280 MISSION CREEK RD | CASHMERE | 1.01 | 1678 | 1989 | 3 | 2.5 | N | N |
| STUBBE STEPHANIE L | COOPER DEBORAH JEAN | \$500,000 | 1342 HOLBROOK ST | WENATCHEE | 0.14 | 1429 | 1986 | 3 | 1.75 | N | N |
| CARMAN KENNETH C & SHERRY L | MOSER GREGORY W & FRANCES | \$495,000 | 2573 AUVIL AVE | ENTIAT | 2.47 | 1188 | 1995 | | | N | N |
| HEALE GARY J & KIRSTEN L | FREEBERG DOLORES J | \$488,000 | 915 WOODWARD DR | WENATCHEE | 0.33 | 2216 | 1965 | 4 | 2 | N | N |
| WALIN ABIGAIL & JACOB T | LAKE CHELAN CLINIC PROPERTIES LLC | \$475,000 | 217 N SANDERS ST | CHELAN | 0.08 | 1028 | 1951 | 2 | 1 | N | Y |
| HC 268 LLC | CLARK D EDSON & BARBARA | \$475,000 | 322 W WOODIN AVE | CHELAN | 0 | 441 | 0 | | | N | N |
| MARSHLAIN TEENA J & KENNETH W | NELMIDA FAMLLY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP | \$475,000 | 425 S LAKE ST | CHELAN | 0.13 | 1035 | 0 | | | N | N |
| HC 268 LLC | CLARK D EDSON & BARBARA | \$475,000 | 322 W WOODIN AVE | CHELAN | 0 | 217 | 0 | | | N | N |
| KLIEWER LYNN H | HANSON JOANNE S TRUSTEE | \$472,988 | 11382 S LAKESHORE RD | CHELAN | 0.25 | 1236 | 1991 | | 1 | N | Y |
| GARRETT LORETTA J | SWANK JASON & HILL AMANDA L | \$467,000 | 726 LYNN ST | WENATCHEE | 0.19 | 1008 | 1972 | 3 | 2 | N | N |
| MENLEY MICHAEL A & KRISTINA | DAVIS JENNIFER | \$450,000 | 1499 REX RD | WENATCHEE | 0.16 | 1872 | 2003 | 4 | 4 | N | N |
| J & J DICKSON REAL ESTATE LLC | KOPFER REAL ESTATE LLC | \$445,000 | 533 S MISSION ST | WENATCHEE | 0.13 | 0 | 0 | | | N | N |
| KENNEDY RANDY | BEEM JON B & JOLENE A | \$437,500 | 106 W PLEASANT AVE | CASHMERE | 0.39 | 0 | 0 | | | N | N |
| FRY LEDALE S | SAMPLES FREDIO R & BRENDA H | \$435,000 | 947 SUNRISE DR | MANSON | 0.16 | 1593 | 1994 | | | N | N |
| MC WHINNEY HENRY C & KORCZ TRINITY D | AMEZCUA JUAN M & MONICA I | \$430,000 | 1222 ORMISTON ST | WENATCHEE | 0.14 | 1816 | 1952 | 3 | 2 | N | N |
| HUNTER DAVID L & BONNIE L | GOODWILL CAROLIN | \$429,000 | 1126 LINWOOD AVE | WENATCHEE | 0.15 | 936 | 1956 | 3 | 2 | N | Y |
| SOMMERFELD KAYLA | TYSON YASUKO | \$425,000 | 209 W COMMERCIAL ST | LEAVENWORTH | 0.36 | 1172 | 1920 | 3 | 1 | N | Y |
| JOI PROPERTIES LLC | MORO GERALD R | \$415,000 | 232 OKANOGAN AVE | WENATCHEE | 0.14 | 2474 | 1928 | 1 | 3 | N | Y |
| HERRON JAMES D | STUBBE STEPHANIE L | \$399,000 | 256 SADDLEHORN LN | WENATCHEE | 0.05 | 1422 | 2014 | 3 | 2.5 | N | N |
| RICH KAYLA & MASSEY CRYSTAL A | ZELLNER LONA | \$395,000 | 905 GELLATLY ST | WENATCHEE | 0.21 | 1520 | 1957 | 4 | 1.75 | N | N |
| BRITT RANDY & DEBORAH | SAGE HOMES LLC | \$390,000 | 222 EMMA DR | WENATCHEE | 0.19 | 1688 | 2022 | 3 | 2 | N | Y |
| CARRENO DIAZ LORENA & ROMERO JESUS H | HARDGROVE FRANCES A | \$385,000 | 324 S DIVISION ST | CASHMERE | 0.28 | 1104 | 1924 | 3 | 1.5 | N | Y |
| MALIDORE BRITTANY L & MICHAEL J | LAKE CHELAN CO LLC | \$379,050 | 201 BLUEBELL LN | CHELAN | 0.09 | 0 | 0 | | | N | N |
| DE PAZ HEIDI L | RINKE CHRISTOPHER & KARI | \$375,000 | 7949 KINNEY RD | DRYDEN | 0.5 | 1151 | 1992 | | | N | N |
| DALGAS GEOFFREY C & JENNIFER L | CABANA 10 LLC | \$375,000 | W MANSON RD | CHELAN | 0 | 548 | 0 | | | N | N |
| MAJOR GUY & STEPHANIE | INTEGRITY II LLC | \$365,000 | 1902 W PROSPECT ST | CHELAN | 0 | 666 | 1993 | | | N | N |
| LILES LINDA | DAVELAAR WILMA A | \$364,900 | 14904 VOSS PL | ENTIAT | 0.17 | 1307 | 1994 | 3 | 1.75 | N | N |
| MARTINEZ CALLAN E | JORDAN SHIRLEY | \$362,500 | 2153 ROPER LN | WENATCHEE | 0.04 | 1160 | 2015 | 2 | 2 | N | N |
| DAVIS JENNIFER L | SHAE ANDREA A | \$360,000 | 2116 ROPER LN | WENATCHEE | 0.05 | 1176 | 2014 | 2 | 1.5 | N | N |
| NE 6TH PL LLC | GADD POWYS | \$355,000 | 119 N FRANKLIN AVE | WENATCHEE | 0.12 | 696 | 1930 | 3 | 1.75 | N | Y |
| DALGAS GEOFFREY & JENNIFER | LEWIS LORRAINE A & GAVIN ERIN T | \$354,000 | 420 W MANSON RD | CHELAN | 0 | 510 | 0 | | | N | N |
| SMITH TERESA C | DAVIS KYONG H | \$350,000 | 763 MONROE ST | WENATCHEE | 0.15 | 960 | 1926 | 3 | 1 | N | N |
| BEHRLE BENJAMIN C ETAL | ELDRED WILLIAM | \$350,000 | 401 4TH ST | WENATCHEE | 0.17 | 1809 | 2006 | | | N | N |
| RUDBACK MATIAS A & SARAH M | MILLER JANICE M | \$350,000 | UNASSIGNED | CASHMERE | 3.3 | 0 | 0 | | | N | N |

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13
Local Grounds Coffee Company Ribbon Cutting

drinks, Local Grounds offers a menu of treats including Avocado Toast, Nutella and Banana Toast, Turkey Pesto Toast a Breakfast Sandwich and much more.

Local Grounds Coffee Company, located at 94 Wapato Point Parkway, Unit D is open seven days a week, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Use their convenient drive-up window for a quick cup of coffee or come inside and sit with friends and enjoy the space at your leisure. You can also call your order ahead at 509-888-7022 and coming soon, you will be able to order and pay online.

Attending the ribbon cutting ceremony included Cindy, Anna and Dave Sneesby from Local Grounds Coffee Company and representing the Manson Chamber were Todd Link, Kim Ustanik, Kurt Sixel, Kaz Elliot, Jeff Conwell and Director, Debbie Conwell. Congratulations to the Local Grounds Coffee Company.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13
Ray Eickmeyer honored as Rural Health Hero

where they were at. His team took on the responsibility to vaccinate first responders (police, fire, EMS, forest service, park service) for all of Chelan and Douglas Counties.

Ray has been laser-focused on serving the most vulnerable people in his community, and he was the first in the state to provide mobile vaccination clinics to reach agricultural workers.

Governor Jay Inslee traveled to see Ray's mobile vaccine clinic at Chelan Fruit, where 300 employees were vaccinated. He has coordinated, planned, and implemented mobile and mass vaccination clinics to jails, people experiencing homelessness, temporary and migrant agricultural workers in orchards, seven different school districts, colleges, adult family homes, assisted living facilities, homebound people, nursing homes, essential workers, the Colville Tribe, and more.

He also coordinated mobile vaccinations to remote villages and towns including Holden Village and Stehekin. Rural Health Heroes of Washington will be honored in March 2023 at the National Rural Health Conference.

TOP PROPERTIES DOUGLAS September 2022
FARM

| Grantor | Grantee | Sale Price | Street | Total Acres |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| C & S ORCHARDS II LP & | C & S RANCH LLC | \$41,910,407 | | 3262.14 |
| CRANE & CRANE INC | CRANE RANCH PACKING & ORCHARDS LLC | \$10,500,000 | 32 CRANE WAREHOUSE RD | 31.44 |
| DOVEX FRUIT CO | AFC RANCH 5 LLC | \$8,609,000 | | 979.75 |
| KRC ORCHARDS LLC | KRC RANCH LLC | \$6,211,904 | 106 CRANE ORCHARD RD | 178.5 |
| K&R ORCHARDS LLC | K&R RANCH LLC | \$3,763,790 | | 685.75 |
| NYSTROM, CLIFF & KAMIE | PEREZ, ELMER JOEL & MAGALY TERESA | \$650,000 | 4828 8TH ST SE | 8.06 |
| BUCK SPRING LLC | KRUSE, BRANDI | \$613,500 | | 514.51 |
| A.B.C.D. TRUST | WILLIAMS FIVE LLC & | \$22,000 | | 196.4 |
| MATTHIESEN, ROBERT A | DAY, JERRY | \$10,000 | | 38 |

COMMERCIAL

| Grantor | Grantee | Sale Price | Street | Description |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| JOHNSON JR, LARRY & JUDITH ANN | MILL POND ARMS LLC | \$550,000 | 1052 VALLEY MALL PKWY | SHALOM TEMPLE |

| TOP PROPERTIES DOUGLAS September 2022 | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------------|-------|--------|-------------|
| RESIDENTIAL | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sale Price | Address | Total Acres | Type | Style | Year Built | Residential Area | Basement Area | Partition Finish Area | Bedr. | Bathr. | Garage Area |
| \$1,500,000 | 4942 HURST LANDING RD | 0.5 | Single-family residence | 1 1/2 Story finished | 2017 | 3231 | | | 3 | 3.5 | 708 |
| \$1,224,500 | 147 N SHORE DR | 0.83 | Single-family residence | One story | 2010 | 3672 | | | 5 | 3.5 | 726 |
| \$1,000,000 | 1811 6TH ST SE | 1.77 | Single-family residence | One story | 2016 | 2307 | | | 4 | 2 | 499 |
| \$935,000 | 1521 COUNTRY CLUB DR | 0.27 | Single-family residence | 1 1/2 Story finished | 2006 | 3411 | | | 4 | 4 | 711 |
| \$899,000 | 2271 SUNRISE PL | 0.59 | Single-family residence | Two story | 2011 | 4201 | | | 5 | 3.75 | 858 |
| \$890,000 | 2874 N BAKER AVE | 0.32 | Single-family residence | One story | 2015 | 1670 | 1636 | 1636 | 4 | 2.5 | 600 |
| \$845,000 | 318 29TH ST NW | 2.75 | Single-family residence | One story | 1978 | 1092 | 1092 | 1092 | 3 | 2 | 784 |
| \$819,000 | 601 EASTMONT AVE | 0.17 | Low-rise multiple | Two story | 2001 | 4004 | | | | | |
| \$800,000 | 2945 MARTIN PL | 2 | Single-family residence | 1 1/2 Story finished | 2008 | 2633 | | | 3 | 2 | 803 |
| \$728,900 | 447 DORADO CT | 0.36 | Single-family residence | One story | 2005 | 2243 | | | 3 | 2 | 624 |
| \$650,000 | 2584 NE OLYMPIC DR | 3.03 | Manufactured housing | Doublewide | 2015 | 1512 | | | 3 | 2 | 576 |
| \$649,900 | 2515 1ST ST SE | 0.31 | Mixed | One story | 2021 | 2288 | | | 1 | 1 | 600 |
| \$633,790 | 931 N NEWPORT LOOP | 0.29 | Single-family residence | One story | 2021 | 1722 | | | 3 | 2 | 440 |
| \$632,500 | 717 GORMLEY ST NE | 0.2 | Single-family residence | One story | 1972 | 1659 | 1659 | 1659 | 4 | 2.5 | 462 |
| \$600,000 | 1006 JACKIE LN | 0.19 | Single-family residence | One story | 2005 | 1888 | | | 3 | 2 | 528 |
| \$595,000 | 1320 BOULDER LOOP | 0.17 | Single-family residence | One story | 2008 | 1829 | | | 3 | 2 | 636 |
| \$560,000 | 1818 MANHATTAN DR | 0.2 | Single-family residence | One story | 1993 | 1439 | 1401 | 1050 | 4 | 3 | 672 |
| \$559,000 | 1376 CENTER ST | 0.21 | Single-family residence | Two story | 2016 | 2596 | | | 4 | 3 | 528 |
| \$544,900 | 351 19TH ST NE #10 | 0 | Town house, end unit | One story | 1993 | 1677 | 1677 | 1029 | 3 | 2 | 648 |
| \$540,000 | 1830 4TH ST SE | 0.49 | Single-family residence | 1 1/2 Story finished | 1985 | 2183 | | | 4 | 2 | 400 |
| \$539,000 | 200 13TH ST NE | 0.29 | Single-family residence | One story | 1969 | 2232 | 1032 | 1032 | 4 | 2 | 1080 |
| \$530,000 | 23 MAKENNA LN | 0.22 | Single-family residence | One story | 2007 | 1896 | | | 3 | 2.5 | 770 |
| \$525,000 | 1111 3RD ST SE | 0.27 | Single-family residence | One story | 1973 | 1286 | 1200 | 1200 | 5 | 3.5 | 528 |
| \$515,000 | 2521 NW BOSTON AVE | 0.6 | Single-family residence | One story | 1955 | 1525 | 1525 | 1525 | 3 | 2 | 500 |
| \$510,000 | 2414 HIGHLAND VIEW DR | 0.27 | Single-family residence | One story | 1995 | 1414 | | | 3 | 2 | 506 |
| \$485,000 | 3251 NW EMPIRE AVE | 0.52 | Single-family residence | One story | 1930 | 1560 | | | 2 | 2 | 720 |
| \$475,000 | 570 N DARWOOD AVE | 0.21 | Single-family residence | One story | 1964 | 1327 | 500 | 500 | 3 | 1.5 | 351 |
| \$465,000 | 2366 HERNDON DR | 0.2 | Single-family residence | One story | 2002 | 964 | 864 | 480 | 3 | 2 | 384 |
| \$458,000 | 3275 1ST ST SE | 0.45 | Manufactured housing | Doublewide | 2003 | 1620 | | | 3 | 2.5 | 720 |
| \$435,000 | 624 S LAWLER AVE | 0.17 | Single-family residence | One story | 1997 | 1258 | | | 3 | 2 | 400 |
| \$425,000 | 1380 EASTMONT AVE #204 | 0 | Town house, end unit | One story | 1995 | 1665 | | | 2 | 2 | 650 |
| \$425,000 | 583 N MONTCLAIR AVE | 0.16 | Single-family residence | One story | 2013 | 1241 | | | 3 | 2 | 420 |
| \$425,000 | 141 25TH ST NW | 0.19 | Manufactured housing | Doublewide | 1985 | 1506 | | | 2 | 2 | 528 |
| \$420,000 | 2548 NE NOBLE LOOP | 0.17 | Single-family residence | One story | 2011 | 1102 | | | 3 | 2 | 440 |
| \$415,000 | 312 S MARY LN | 0.15 | Single-family residence | One story | 1999 | 1239 | | | 3 | 2 | 441 |
| \$399,500 | 1275 THEO WAY | 0.14 | Single-family residence | Two story | 2021 | 1610 | | | 3 | 2 | 506 |
| \$391,000 | 1244 GRANT RD | 0.25 | Single-family residence | One story | 1956 | 1044 | 1044 | 1044 | 3 | 2 | 240 |
| \$390,000 | 217 WILLOW VIEW DR | 0.17 | Single-family residence | One story | 1976 | 560 | | | 1 | 1 | |
| \$389,500 | 1283 THEO WAY | 0.14 | Single-family residence | Two story | 2021 | 1536 | | | 3 | 2 | 440 |
| \$380,000 | 1711 7TH ST NE | 0.21 | Single-family residence | One story | 1974 | 1138 | 1100 | 750 | 4 | 2 | 350 |
| \$380,000 | 1121 JEAN ST SE | 0.18 | Single-family residence | One story | 1972 | 1277 | | | 3 | 1 | 528 |
| \$379,500 | 1267 THEO WAY | 0.14 | Single-family residence | Two story | 2021 | 1480 | | | 3 | 2 | 440 |
| \$367,000 | 560 CANYON DR | 0 | Manufactured housing | | 1998 | 2190 | | | 2 | 2 | 648 |

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

2022 Eastern Washington Computer Science Fair

for All, Confluence Health, Concentrix, CSTA, Dataiku, DigiPen Institute of Technology, Distrokid, Eastern Washington University, Epoch, Firefly, FIRST Washington, Gonzaga University, Grant County PUD, Ignite Worldwide, innov8.ag, Microsoft, Microsoft Data Centers, NCW Tech Alliance, NCW Libraries, North Central Educational Services District, Nothing But Net, Pacific Lutheran University, Pacific Northwest National Labs, RecaptureIT, Sabey, Seattle University, Semios, Snapchat, St. Martin's University. TEALS, Tableau, University of Washington Foster School of Business, UW Paul G. Allen School Computer Science & Engineering, VMware, Walla Walla University, Washington State University, Washington State University – Everett, Washington State Board of Education, Wenatchee Valley College, Western Washington University, Whitman College, Whitworth University, Xbox, and Yahoo.

Students had the opportunity to participate in five interactive workshops that were run throughout the day to experience hands-on-learning opportunities in coding, cyber security, UX design and 3D creation.

The 360 Photo Booth hosted by CitySoundWave and Virtual Reality Stations hosted by Epoch captured memories and provided entertainment for everyone on the day.

The Computer Science Fair was organized to inform and inspire students about the countless educational and career opportunities that result from studying computer science. The event is also an opportunity for organizations to network and connect with other professionals in computing and technology education and industry roles.

The students in attendance responded with enthusiasm and appreciation for the opportunity:

"I never really had the chance to put into perspective the number of opportunities there was for me before I came to this event. After attending the main speech and going booth to booth, I got to put my potential futures into perspective. I honestly wish I could have come to one of these events sooner so that my abilities and interest in tech could have grown more exponentially... I honestly hope to come back to one of these in the future, but not as a student looking for opportunities, rather a man that can give others the same, or better, opportunities." -Eastmont High School Senior

"The 2022 CS Fair made a huge impact on the vision I see for my future in computer science. At first, I didn't know what career to choose, but after this fair, it inspired me to choose computer science. My future is now more open, and I see how much it can help me." -Chelan High School Freshman

"As a high school senior who struggles with the thought of my future, I took great pleasure in getting to explore possible career paths and opportunities. The 2022

CS Fair is filled with a multitude of career paths and college degree pathways in computer science fields. I can confidently say that I feel more secure in not just my future, but in myself." -Tonasket High School Senior

"It was so fun and interesting... I wish I could go again." -Eastmont High School Junior

"I've seen new possible colleges to apply to with strong computer science programs. Learned about opportunities and internships and job positions that interested not only me but my friend group. It was a great experience, and I had a lot of fun." -Wenatchee High School Junior

"The 2022 CS Fair was an eye-opening experience for me. I have always wanted to go into computer science, but I didn't have a clue as to what I wanted to do or achieve in the field. I had heard about different careers in computer science, but never truly understood what people in those positions did." -Walla Walla High School Senior

"The 2022 CS Fair has impacted me into knowing the possible opportunities I can go with my future. Even coming from a small town, I still have every opportunity as someone who lives in a bigger city." -Tonasket High School Senior

"It helped open my eyes to all the options that are available and all the schools that I'm able to attend. It was very interesting talking to all the different people and hearing about the guest speakers' experiences. It has definitely encouraged me to keep pursuing my dream of a career in computer science and being a first gen student." -Columbia Basin Technical Skills Center Senior

The event was sponsored by the Apple STEM Network, NCW Tech Alliance, the North Central Educational Services District, Microsoft Philanthropies, and Microsoft TEALS, Code.org + AVID, and the Chelan County PUD. The organizers will consider hosting the Eastern Washington Computer Science Fair at a future date.

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

About 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, to 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

LABOR MARKET REPORTS

Okanogan County Labor Area Summary - September 2022

Overview

This report provides an update on the Okanogan County economy incorporating not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm employment and civilian labor force data. Analysis focuses on year over year (September 2021 and September 2022) and average annual data changes (between 2020 and 2021) in the labor market.

Unemployment rates

Civilian Labor Force (CLF) data show that Washington's not seasonally adjusted average annual unemployment rate fell from 8.5 percent in 2020 to 5.2 percent in 2021. Between September 2021 and September 2022, the rate dropped from 4.6 to 3.6 percent. This 3.6 percent reading is the lowest rate for the month of September in

Washington since state data began to be recorded electronically in 1976. In Okanogan County, the not seasonally adjusted average annual unemployment rate decreased two and two-tenths percentage points between 2020 and 2021, from 8.9 to 6.6 percent. The September 2022 unemployment rate of 4.5 percent is lower than September rates during the past two years but is four-tenths of a point higher than the historic low of 4.1 percent in September 2018 (four years ago).

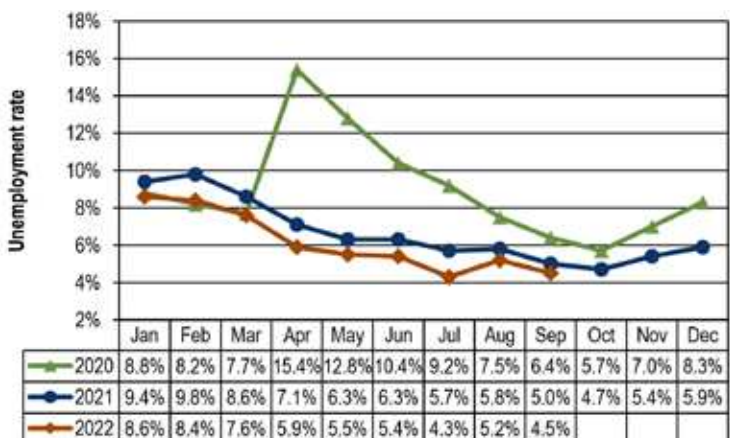
Total nonfarm employment

Between 2020 and 2021, estimates indicate that Washington's labor market provided 81,100 more nonfarm jobs, an average annual increase of 2.5 percent. Year over year, Washington's nonfarm market has expanded in each of the past 18 months (April 2021 through September 2022). This September, business and government organizations statewide tallied 3,566,500 jobs (not seasonally adjusted) compared with 3,417,400 in September 2021, up by 149,100 jobs and 4.4 percent.

SEE OKANOGAN LABOR MARKET, PAGE 17

Okanogan County unemployment rates, not seasonally adjusted Washington state, January 2020 through September 2022

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



Okanogan County's unemployment rate dropped by five-tenths percentage points between September 2021 and September 2022.

New Business Licenses

Business licenses are required for any business that does business physically in Wenatchee, East Wenatchee, Cashmere and Leavenworth. The following businesses have been issued new business licenses according to city records. Businesses without addresses are operating from a home location in a residential area.

WENATCHEE

A&L Excavation & Construction LLC, 385 Broad Ave., Wenatchee. License issued to Agustin, De La Paz.

Betterman's Properties LLC, 1108 Crescent St., Wenatchee. License issued to Pablo Romero.

AMD General, 642 Kayla Way, Wenatchee. License issued to Carmen and Jose Amezcua.

N&G Cleaning Services, 1801 No. 2 Canyon Rd., Wenatchee. License issued to Norma Gomez.

Higher Living Coaching LLC, 5 S. Wenatchee Ave. Ste. 222, Wenatchee. License issued to Denise Cavner.

Raquel's Family Daycare, 100 Walker Ave., Wenatchee. License issued to Raquel Navarro.

Klaudia's Cleaning Service, 1261 Utah St., Wenatchee. License issued to Claudia Marquez.

Tamale To Go, 1050 Maple St., Wenatchee. License issued to Gina Alvarez and Sean Garrick.

J. Wyeth Woodworking LLC, 1505 Maiden Ln. Bldg. 2, Wenatchee. License issued to John Barkhausen.

Wild Birds Unlimited of Wenatchee, 212 5th St. Ste. 10, Wenatchee. License issued to Thomas Halvorson and Brooke Thomsen.

Peerless Pools & Construction, LLC, 510 Slurry Rd., Wenatchee. License pending to Nicholas Chaffin.

Wenatchee Bighorns, 1702 Jefferson St., Wenatchee. License issued to Sterling Fournier, Chase Larsen and Anthony Williams.

Ruby's Mini Market, 229 Okanogan Ave. Apt. 3, Wenatchee. License issued to Rene Cabrera.

Wenatchee Smiles, 222 N. Mission St. Ste. C, Wenatchee. License issued to Brian Mooney and Erik Holmberg.

Endless Beauty LLC, 5 S. Wenatchee Ave. Ste. 214, Wenatchee. License issued to Izabella Reyes.

Angel Spa, 328 N. Chelan Ave., Wenatchee. License issued to Ling Yang.

Pinedale Excavation, 511 Pinedale Ln., Wenatchee. License issued to Thomas Ercanbrack.

Progressive Delivery, 413 N. Mission St., Wenatchee. License issued to Shayla Winter.

Larios Construction, 135 Laverder Ct. Apt. 28, Wenatchee. License issued to Juan Larios Mejia.

Poppa's Workshop, 605 Pearl St., Wenatchee. License issued to Jill Roberson.

Judith Lurie Law PLLC, 1137 Lower Sunnyslope Rd., Wenatchee. License issued to Judith Lurie.

Elite Excavation, 1315 Poplar Ave., Wenatchee. License issued to Lorenzo Huereca.

Jazzy Belle Beauty, 5 S. Wenatchee Ave. License issued to Jasmine Moore.

NCW Vape, 225 N. Mission St. Ste. 1, Wenatchee. License issued to Han Bin Yoo.

Pacific Northwest Pilot Services LLC, 5575 Squilchuck Rd., Wenatchee. License issued to Tyson McInnis.

Buchanan Fine Woodworking, 1734 Skeena Ct., Wenatchee. License issued to Charles Buchanan.

Shine Works, 207 N. Emerson Ave., Wenatchee. License issued to Kelly Clifton and William Purdy.

Fig EXP, 1040 Kittitas St., Wenatchee. License issued to Jesus Figueroa.

Central Valley Home Inspection LLC, 1246 Cranmer Rd., Wenatchee. License issued to Nathan Rochon.

Mass Construction LLC, 203 Island Vw., Wenatchee. License issued to Jose Gomez Rodriguez.

Jared's Auto Detail, 725 Gellatly St., Wenatchee. License issued to Jared Vidal.

Morning Lion LLC, 23 S. Wenatchee Ave., 124B, Wenatchee. License issued to Logan Heine.

Leavenworth Polar Express, 1511 S. Wenatchee Ave., Wenatchee. License issued to Byron and Monique Lott.

Cleverly Constructed LLC, 1047 Cherry St. Bldg. 1, Wenatchee. License issued to Susan Cleverly.

GardenVintage, 1311 Westwood Ave. #20, Wenatchee. License issued to Suzanna Walker.

Rich Wood and Resin Works, 911 Meadowridge Dr., Wenatchee. License issued to Richard Campbell.

Rosalia's Daycare, 918 Plum St., Wenatchee. License issued to Rosalia Rios Martinez.

Lavender Lamb Design, 747 Saddlerock Dr., Wenatchee. License issued to Haley Lamb.

Studio 607, 607 S. Mission St., Wenatchee. License issued to Christine Bellamy.

Marvelous Makings LLC, 895 Riverside Dr. #C226, Wenatchee. License issued to Graham Morgan.

Wicked Ways Custom Creations LLC, 3012 GS Center Rd. #A1, Wenatchee. License issued to Racheal Barker.

Schoenmakers Construction LLC, 1505 Tacoma Ave., Wenatchee. License issued to Joseph Schoenmakers.

Marie's Learning Center, 406 N. Franklin Ave., Wenatchee. License issued to Marie Royster.

Pak it Rite, 36 N. Chelan Ave., Wenatchee. License issued to Ashley, John, Michael and Paige Monteith.

M&J Little Star Daycare, 1326 Cashmere St., Wenatchee. License issued to Maria Ponce-Martinez.

Mayo Clinic Health System, 218 Sunnyslope Heights Rd., Wenatchee. License issued to Robert Albright, Eric

Crockett, Christopher Hasse, Praveen Mekala.

Seasonally Living, 1407 Maiden Ln., Wenatchee. License issued to Jennifer and Paul McNeill.

Vero's-Rainbow of Learning Daycare, 121 S. Miller St., Wenatchee. License issued to Veronica Ontiveros Salgado.

The Grand Royal Salon LLC, 640 S. Mission St., Wenatchee. License issued to Juan Muniz Arroyo and Wilbur Zaldivar.

Tim's Tools & Service, 50 Owl Ln., Wenatchee. License issued to Timothy Bovee.

EAST WENATCHEE

Jangelica's Foundation Corporation, 2026 Autumn Pl., East Wenatchee. License issued to Yeral Cortes, Jasmany Naranjo, Fidel Reyna, Heredia Salvador.

A&K Rentals LLC, 1756 Blanchard Loop, East Wenatchee. License issued to Armando and Kelsey Farias.

Bow Knot Bar Homestead LLC, 770 Rd. V SW, East Wenatchee. Licensed to Rachel Goetz and Victoria Robins.

Red Apple Creative LLC, 351 19th St. NE, #5, East Wenatchee. Licensed to Peggy Ludwick.

R&R Auto Service, 2467 N Ashland Ave. #2467, East Wenatchee. Licensed to Roque Raya.

Interwest Investments LLC, 1507 Country Club Dr., East Wenatchee. Licensed to Aren Magnussen.

Ridge to River Photography, 773 S. Perry Ave., East Wenatchee. Licensed to Daniel Collier.

JP Johnston Construction LLC, 1220 N. Ashland Ave., East Wenatchee. Licensed to JP Johnston.

Cozy LLC, 2464 Talon St. NE, East Wenatchee. Licensed to Hernan Lemus Luna.

Mitch's Metal Works, 75 29th St. NW, East Wenatchee. Licensed to Mitchell Bryan.

Rosa Mendoza, 530 Valley Mall Pkwy. #9, East Wenatchee. Licensed to Rosa Mendoza.

Prianka & Navjot, 3061 Breckenridge Dr., East Wenatchee. Licensed to Navjot and Prianka Narwal.

Blossom Valley Behavioral Health LLC, 636 Valley Mall Pkwy. #5, East Wenatchee. Licensed to Brandi Larson.

Airwing Upholstery Service LLC, 1948 Legendary Ln. SE, East Wenatchee. Licensed to Leonard Jolly.

Stimac Home Builders LLC, 235 3rd St. SE, East Wenatchee. Licensed to Nolan Charlton, Jay Gutzman and Vince Stimac Jr.

Izzy's Construccion, 2447 1st St. NE, East Wenatchee. Licensed to Ismael Murillo Tovar.

Black Diamond Siding LLC, 206 Eastridge Dr., East Wenatchee. Licensed to Luis Valdivinos Acosta.

All Point Services LLC, 706 13th St. NE, East Wenatchee. Licensed to Max Segaline.

Dangit Clothes, 860 N. Devon Ave.,

East Wenatchee. Licensed to Oliver Cawdery.

Grace's Roots, 3450 10th St. SE, East Wenatchee. Licensed to Grace Scott.

Columbia Valley Cleaning Services, 1024 N. Baker Ave. #B, East Wenatchee. Licensed to Elijah and Raquel Weber.

Walters Excavation LLC, 2532 Aviation Dr., East Wenatchee. Licensed to Todd Walters.

Anthis Trucking LLC, 781 N. Jerome Ln., East Wenatchee. Licensed to Jacob Anthis.

J&S Contractor, 3074 Breckenridge Dr., East Wenatchee. Licensed to Jason and Stacey Holeman.

Domestic Diva LLC, 625 Gormley St., East Wenatchee. Licensed to Tracy Hall.

Crianza Positiva LLC, 2471 4th St. SE, East Wenatchee. Licensed to Marco Carreno.

Thomas Property Management LLC, 1521 Hannah Way, East Wenatchee. Licensed to Benjamin Thomas.

JayBlendz Barbershop, 879 Valley Mall Pkwy. #879, East Wenatchee. Licensed to Jerry Ramos.

L&M Inspections, 335 Pugsley Pl. NW, East Wenatchee. Licensed to Louis Bencze.

Easthills Transport LLC, 1401 Easthills Terrace, East Wenatchee. Licensed to Felipe Alvarez and Lorenzo Gomez Silva.

Just Simply Imagine, 723 14th St. NE, East Wenatchee. Licensed to Brandy Lee.

Central Star Painting, 2516 J St. NE, East Wenatchee. Licensed to Ramiro Arevalo Mendoza.

Lasting Impression Personalized Gifts, 511 Valley Mall Pkwy., East Wenatchee. Licensed to Ryan Ramos.

Yonko Law Firm LLC, 2415 Sunset Hwy., East Wenatchee. Licensed to Richard Yonko.

Showdown Mobile Automotive LLC, 343 N. Kansas Ave., East Wenatchee. Licensed to Dustin Riibe.

Seasonal Maintenance & Construction, 295 N. Iowa Ave., East Wenatchee. Licensed to Zackery Hernandez-Ceballos.

Talored Media, 2224 S. Melody Ln., East Wenatchee. Licensed to Adam Bauer and Kellen Shimizu.

Salon Beauty, 589 Highline Dr., East Wenatchee. Licensed to Jennifer Morris.

Behniwal Brothers LLP, 2450 Berkley Loop, East Wenatchee. Licensed to Rocky Behniwal.

Mackay Enterprises LLC, 1308 Clements Circle, East Wenatchee. Licensed to Robert Mackay.

Ryan Parsons Construction, 734 S. Lexington Pl., East Wenatchee. Licensed to Ryan Parsons.

Tyes Dyes, 2130 Canal Blvd. S., East Wenatchee. Licensed to Tyler Pierre.

Deep Cleaning Services, 214 Eastridge Dr. #A, East Wenatchee. Licensed to Mauricio Paz.

Big River Plumbing LLC, 484 N. Keller Ave., East Wenatchee. Licensed to Calvin Pearsall.

Mora Orchard LLC, 3220 NW Alan Ave., East Wenatchee. Licensed to Audon, Jaime and Maurisio Mora.

Nexgen Nails & Lashes LLC, 810 Valley Mall Pkwy., East Wenatchee. Licensed to Lena Pham.

CASHMERE

JMS Plumbing LLC, 6087 Sunset Hwy., Cashmere. Licensed to Courtney and Jeffrey Shively.

Chris Johnson Repair & Maintenance, 112 W. Prospect St., Cashmere. Licensed to Chris Johnson.

Bella Luna Essentials LLC, 253 Independence Way, Cashmere. Licensed to Ryan Ochoa.

Nurturing Characters, 4603 Rank Rd., Cashmere. Licensed to Krystin Henley.

Dawnz Gallery, 5970 Larson St., Cashmere. Licensed to Dawn Lippert.

Fenell Homes LLC, 7080 Olalla Canyon Rd., Cashmere. Licensed to Ian Fennell.

The Doggy Barber LLC, 3982 Eels Rd., Cashmere. Licensed to Jordan Beckmann.

Morning Glory Massage Therapy LLC, 203 Mission Ave. #212, Cashmere. Licensed to Melissa Reynerson.

Ozian Colorful Visions, 5914 Larson St., Cashmere. Licensed to Oropeza Neftali.

Ronald L. Burke, DVM, DRPH, 7280 Olalla Canyon Rd., Cashmere. Licensed to Ronald Burke.

Azimuth Environmental, 35 Millholm Ln., Cashmere. Licensed to Daniel and Daniel Scott Auerbach.

Side Street, 107 Railroad Ave., Cashmere. Licensed to Lana Thomas.

LEAVENWORTH

Betty Ann Farms, 10791 US Hwy. 2, Leavenworth. Licensed to Andrea Dodson and Lester Stoltz.

Eagle Creek Sleigh Rides LLC, 7951 Eagle Creek Rd., Leavenworth. Licensed to Jared Guy and Benjamin Mason.

ZTEKImpressions, 9890 Eagle Creek Rd., Leavenworth. Licensed to Randy Zerger.

21731 Palomino LLC, 21731 Palomino Rd., Leavenworth. Licensed to Yining Shao.

West Haus Escape, 2254 Riffle Dr., Leavenworth. Licensed to Austin, Chanel and Clayton West.

Bavarian Ritz Hotel, 633 Front St., Leavenworth. Licensed to Robert Ahrens.

True North Getaway, 14281 Chumstick Hwy., Leavenworth. Licensed to Anita and William Randall.

Swinton Condo, 525 Alpine Place #N4, Leavenworth. Duane and Janet Swinton.

MPC LLC, 247 Commercial St., Leavenworth. Licensed to Mark Pieretti.

JR Cleaning, 9297 Icicle Rd., Leavenworth. Licensed to Jazibe Reyes.

E.T.C. Catering, 900 Front St. #K, Leavenworth. Licensed to Christopher and Erin McFann and Tara Walter-Waugh.

OKANOGAN LABOR MARKET

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

The Okanogan County economy peaked at 13,040 nonfarm jobs in 2008, before the national Great Recession (December 2007 through June 2009) hit the local job market.

Average annual total nonfarm employment countywide has experienced some ups and downs ever since, but 2008 was the apex of nonfarm employment in Okanogan County.

In 2020, the local nonfarm market lost 690 jobs (-5.4 percent) from the prior year; primarily caused by COVID-19-related layoffs, which pushed average annual employment down to 12,020 - the lowest point in 13 years (2008 through 2020, inclusive).

Calendar year 2021 was "kinder" to the local economy as nonfarm employment recovered to 12,480, a 460 job and 3.8 percent increase from the 12,020-job average in 2020.

Between the Septembers of 2021 and 2022, total nonfarm employment elevated by 90 jobs (up 0.7 percent) from 12,820 jobs to 12,910, respectively.

Employment and unemployment

Washington's Civilian Labor Force (CLF) edged downward by 15,964 residents (a -0.4 percent downturn) between 2020 and 2021.

This year-over-year labor force contraction occurred in the first three months of 2021. Since then, the state's CLF has either stabilized or expanded during each of the

past 15 months (July 2021 through September 2022).

Washington's labor force grew by 62,908 residents (up 1.6 percent), from 3,943,513 residents in September 2021 to 4,006,421 this September.

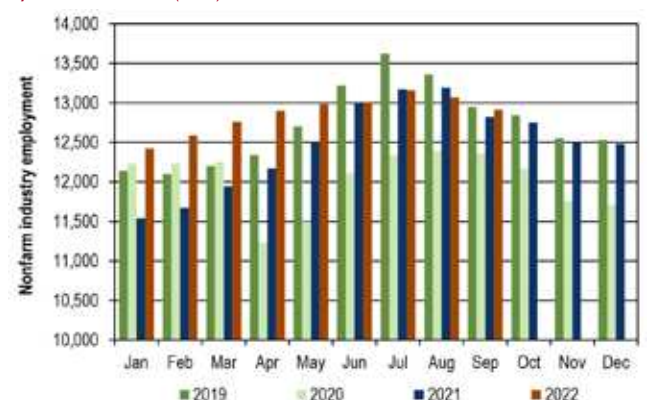
Okanogan County's CLF edged upwards by 0.4 percent between 2020 (19,464 residents) and 2021 (19,538 residents). On a monthly basis, the Okanogan County labor force expanded from May 2021 through June 2022 before contracting in the past three months (July through September 2022). Between the Septembers of 2021 and 2022, the CLF shrank by 833 residents, from 20,752 to 19,919, a -4.0 percent downturn.

Fortunately, 135 fewer Okanogan County residents were out of

work during this timeframe (a -13.0 percent downturn) which helped push the County's not seasonally

adjusted unemployment rate down from 5.0 percent in September 2021 to 4.5 percent in September 2022.

Okanogan County nonfarm industry employment, not seasonally adjusted, in thousands Washington state, January 2019 through September 2022 Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; Current Employment Statistics (CES)



In September 2022, nonfarm employment rose to 12,910, a 90-job increase above the 12,820 jobs tallied in September 2021.

LABOR AREA REPORTS

Wenatchee MSA (Chelan and Douglas Counties) Labor Area Summary – October 2022

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 (October 2021 and October 2022) and average annual data changes (between 2020 and 2021).

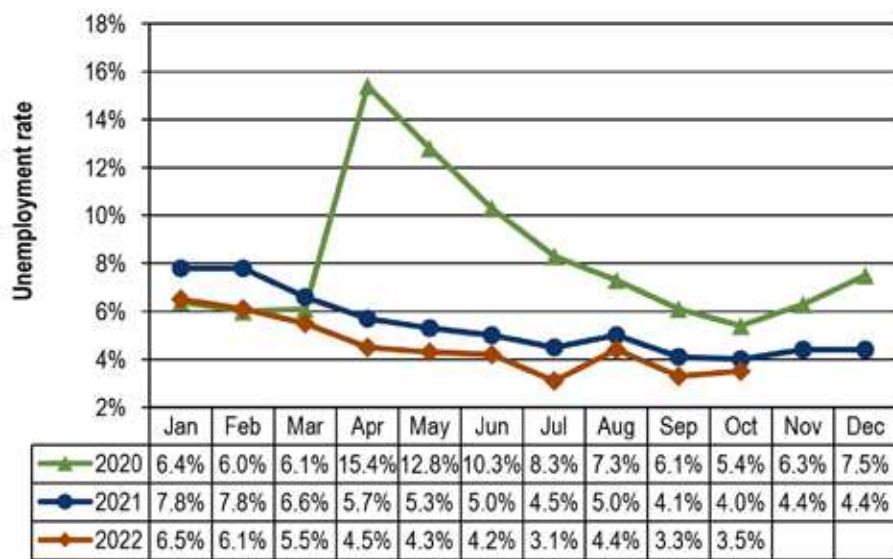
Unemployment rates

Civilian Labor Force (CLF) data show that Washington's not seasonally adjusted average annual unemployment rate fell from 8.5 percent in 2020 to 5.2 percent in

2021. Between October 2021 and October 2022, the rate dropped from 4.2 to 3.7 percent. This 3.7 percent reading is the lowest rate for the month of October in Washington since state data began to be recorded electronically in 1976.

In the Wenatchee MSA, the average annual unemployment rate fell from 8.2 percent to 5.4 percent between 2020 and 2021. This October's 3.5 percent reading is the lowest rate for the month of October in the Wenatchee MSA since county-level data began to be recorded electronically in 1990.

Wenatchee MSA unemployment rates, not seasonally adjusted Washington state, January 2020 through October 2022
Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)



The Wenatchee MSA's unemployment rate declined by five-tenths of a percentage point between October 2021 and October 2022.

Total nonfarm employment

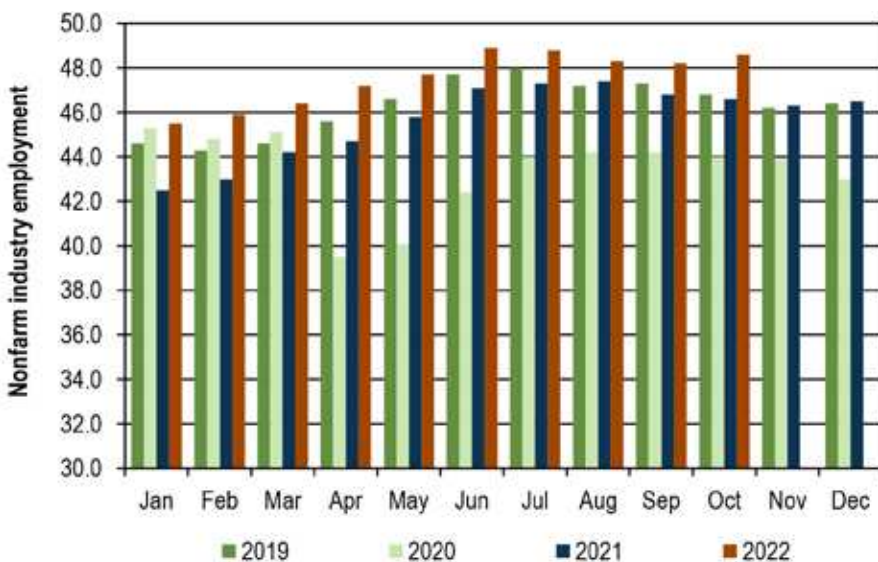
Between 2020 and 2021, estimates indicate that Washington's labor market provided 81,100 more nonfarm jobs, an average annual increase of 2.5 percent. Year over year, Washington's nonfarm market has expanded in each of the past 19 months (April 2021 through October 2022). This October, business and government organizations statewide tallied 3,580,700 jobs (not seasonally adjusted) compared with 3,450,400 in October 2021, up by 130,300 jobs and 3.8 percent.

The Wenatchee MSA's economy added

2,300 jobs during 2021, a 5.3 percent upturn, more robust than Washington's 2.5 percent growth rate between 2020 and 2021. Year over year, the Wenatchee MSA's nonfarm market contracted for 12 months (April 2020 through March 2021) prior to employment increases during the past 19 months (April 2021 through October 2022).

This October, total nonfarm employment netted 2,000 more jobs than the 46,600 jobs tallied in October 2021, a 4.3 percent increase. In fact, the two-county Wenatchee MSA economy provided 1,800 more nonfarm jobs (up 3.8 percent) in October 2022 (48,600

Wenatchee MSA nonfarm industry employment, not seasonally adjusted, in thousands Washington state, January 2019 through October 2022 Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; Current Employment Statistics (CES)



Nonfarm employment in the Wenatchee MSA increased by 2.0 percent between October 2021 and October 2022.



Donald W. Meseck, Regional Labor Economist
Employment Security Department
Kittitas County WorkSource, 510 N. Pine Street,
Ellensburg, WA 98926
Phone: (509) 607-3267; E-mail: dmeseck@esd.wa.gov
Website: <https://esd.wa.gov/labormarketinfo>

Wenatchee MSA labor force and industry employment, not seasonally adjusted Washington state, October 2022 Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), Current Employment Statistics (CES)

| | Preliminary Oct-22 | Revised Sep-22 | Revised Oct-21 | Change | | Percent change |
|---|--------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| | | | | Sep-22 Oct-22 | Oct-21 Oct-22 | Oct-21 Oct-22 |
| Wenatchee MSA | | | | | | |
| Labor force and unemployment | | | | | | |
| Civilian labor force | 67,856 | 68,149 | 68,032 | -293 | -176 | -0.3% |
| Resident employment | 65,461 | 65,886 | 65,328 | -425 | 133 | 0.2% |
| Unemployment | 2,395 | 2,263 | 2,704 | 132 | -309 | -11.4% |
| Unemployment rate | 3.5 | 3.3 | 4.0 | 0.2 | -0.5 | |
| Industry employment (numbers are in thousands) | | | | | | |
| Total nonfarm ¹ | 48.6 | 48.2 | 46.6 | 0.4 | 2.0 | 4.3% |
| Total private | 39.2 | 39.2 | 37.6 | 0.0 | 1.6 | 4.3% |
| Goods producing | 6.1 | 6.1 | 6.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 1.7% |
| Mining, logging and construction | 3.3 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0% |
| Manufacturing | 2.8 | 2.8 | 2.7 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 3.7% |
| Service providing | 42.5 | 42.1 | 40.6 | 0.4 | 1.9 | 4.7% |
| Private services providing | 33.1 | 33.1 | 31.6 | 0.0 | 1.5 | 4.7% |
| Trade, transportation, warehousing and utilities | 10.0 | 9.9 | 9.9 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 1.0% |
| Retail trade | 6.7 | 6.6 | 6.6 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 1.5% |
| Education and health services | 8.4 | 8.3 | 7.9 | 0.1 | 0.5 | 6.3% |
| Leisure and hospitality | 7.0 | 7.1 | 6.4 | -0.1 | 0.6 | 9.4% |
| Government | 9.4 | 9.0 | 9.0 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 4.4% |
| Federal government | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 11.1% |
| State government | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0% |
| Local government | 7.3 | 6.9 | 7.0 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 4.3% |
| 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 48,600 jobs in October 2022, a gain of 2,000 jobs since October 2021.

jobs) than in the pre-COVID month of October 2019 (46,800 jobs), demonstrating that the nonfarm job-market has rebounded above pre-pandemic levels.

Employment and unemployment

Washington's Civilian Labor Force (CLF) edged downward by 15,964 residents (a -0.4 percent downturn) between 2020 and 2021. Year over year, the state's CLF has expanded during each of the past 15 months (August 2021 through October 2022). Recently, Washington's labor force grew by 65,953 residents (up 1.7 percent), from 3,958,555 residents in October 2021 to 4,024,508 this October.

The Wenatchee MSA's CLF revived from 66,257 residents in 2020 to 66,818 in 2021, a 0.8 percent upturn. However, year over year, the local Civilian Labor Force has retrenched in each of the past five months (June through October 2022). Current Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) estimates indicate that there were 176 fewer Chelan or Douglas County residents in the CLF in October 2022 than in October 2021, a -0.3 percent downturn. Fortunately, the number of unemployed residents in the Wenatchee MSA dropped from 2,704

in October 2021 to 2,395 in October 2022, a substantial -11.4 percent decrease.

This noteworthy decline in the number of unemployed helped depress the local unemployment rate from 4.0 percent in October 2021 to the 3.5 percent reading in October 2022 – a historical low unemployment rate for the month of October in this two-county MSA. Despite this low unemployment rate in October 2022, all local labor force trends are not positive, especially when compared with the pre-COVID era of 2019.

Specifically, the Wenatchee MSA's Civilian Labor Force (CLF) contracted in each of the six months from May through October 2022 below the corresponding six months in 2019 (i.e., in the pre-COVID era). Local CLF loss rates from May through October 2019 compared with May through October 2022, respectively, were -1.1 percent, -2.6 percent, -4.8 percent, -1.1 percent, -2.5 percent, and -2.7 percent. These downturns indicate that the Wenatchee MSA's labor force (or "labor pool") shrank during this most recent six-month timeframe when compared with the pre-pandemic labor force – a trend to watch in the months ahead.

Nonfarm industry employment

Year over year, the Wenatchee MSA's nonfarm market contracted for 12 months (April 2020 through March 2021) prior to employment increases during each of the past 19 months (April 2021 through October 2022). Between October 2021 and October 2022, total nonfarm employment in Chelan and Douglas counties (the Wenatchee MSA) rose from 46,600 to 48,600 jobs, a 2,000 job and 4.3 percent upturn, a bit more rapid than Washington's nonfarm job growth pace of 3.8 percent during this period.

Summaries of employment changes/trends between October 2021 and October 2022 for three local industries (construction, education and health services, and leisure and hospitality) 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 from December 2020 through July 2022, contracted in August 2022, and stabilized this September and October.

This October, construction provided ap-

proximately 3,300 jobs in the MSA, the same number as in October 2021.

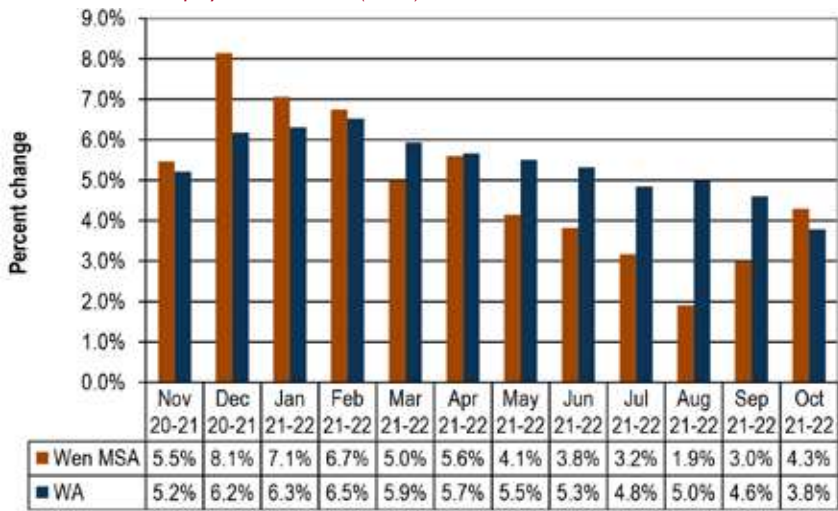
According to the October 2022 Real Estate Snapshot newsletter published by Pacific Appraisal Associates there were 103 fewer closed sales of single-family homes or condominiums in the first ten months of 2022 in the Wenatchee Market (i.e., in Wenatchee, Malaga, East Wenatchee, Orondo, and Rock Island, WA) compared with closed sales from January through October 2021.

This equated to a -11.8 percent downturn as closed sales fell from 870 (January through October 2021) to 767 (January through October 2022).

Simultaneously, the number of active listings has skyrocketed from 96 listings in October 2021 to 184 in October 2022 (up by 88 listings and 91.7 percent); hence, many more units are currently "on the market." Reference home prices in the Wenatchee market; they've been surging.

This Real Estate Snapshot newsletter stated that the median sales price of homes/condos sold in the Wenatchee market accelerated from approximately

Wenatchee MSA and Washington state total nonfarm employment changes Washington state, November 2021 through October 2022. Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)



Year over year, the Wenatchee MSA's nonfarm market contracted from April 2020 through March 2021 but has expanded in each of the past 19 months (April 2021 through October 2022). Washington's nonfarm market also retrenched from April 2020 through September 2021 prior to expanding from April 2021 through October 2022.

\$440,000 Year-to-Date (YTD) in October 2021 to \$500,000 YTD in October 2022, a jump of 13.7 percent. Statewide, construction employment has been rising for 19 months (April 2021 through October 2022). Between October 2021 and October 2022, the number of construction jobs across Washington advanced by 4.8 percent (up 11,100 jobs) from 229,300 jobs to 240,400.

Nearly two-thirds (64.9 percent) of this year-over-year upturn in Washington's construction industry has occurred amongst specialty trade contractors (i.e., roofing contractors, electrical contractors, plumbing contractors, painting/wall covering contractors, etc.) where the number of jobs grew by 7,200 from 146,800 in October of last year to 154,000 in October 2022 (up 4.9 percent).

Between the pre-pandemic year of 2019 and calendar year 2021, average annual education and health services employment in the Wenatchee MSA rose from 7,600 to 7,800, a 200 job and 2.4 percent upturn. In this combined (private education and health services) category, health services employers provide the lion's share of employment.

Year over year, employment in this industry has either stabilized or expanded in each of the past 19 months (April 2021 through October 2022) with job growth picking up steam as 2022 progresses. For example, year over year, private education and health services employment was stable in January 2022 and elevated by 2.6 percent in February 2022; but by September and October 2022 year-over-year growth rates were 6.4 percent and 6.3 percent, respectively. Between October 2021 and October 2022, the number of local education and health services jobs advanced from 7,900 to 8,400 respectively, a 500-job increase (up 6.3 percent).

Statewide this industry has added jobs during each of the past 19 consecutive

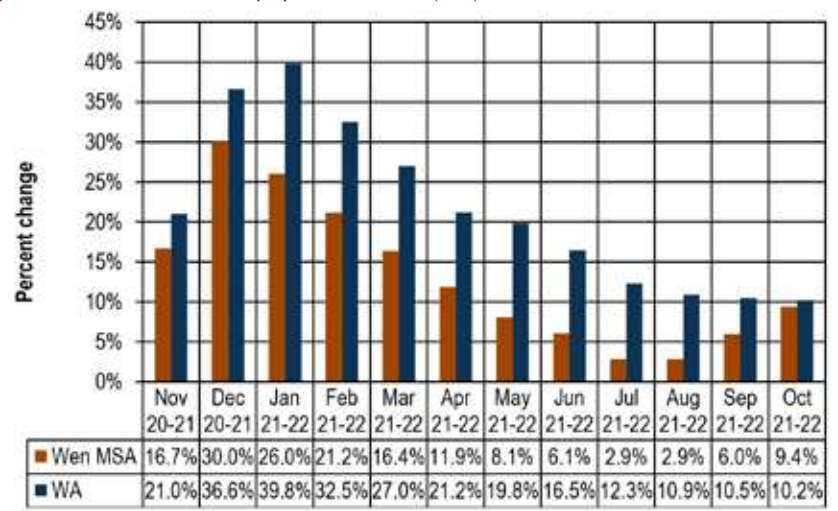
months (April 2021 through October 2022). Current Employment Statistics (CES) estimates indicate that Washington's education and health services employers tallied 526,900 jobs this October versus 509,200 in October 2021, a 17,700 job and 3.5 percent upturn. Nearly half (48.6 percent), or 8,600 of these new 17,700 education and health services jobs generated statewide between October 2021 and October 2022 were in the social assistance subsector (NAICS 624). Social assistance is comprised of the following organizations/businesses: individual and family services, community food and housing, vocational rehabilitation services, and child day care services.

COVID-19-related layoffs in leisure and hospitality were more severe than layoffs in any other Wenatchee MSA industry during 2020. In fact, of the 2,900 nonfarm jobs lost in 2020 across the MSA, 1,600 jobs, or 55.2 percent, were in the leisure and hospitality sector. Conversely, re-hiring in the local leisure and hospitality industry was stronger than re-hiring in any other Wenatchee MSA industry during 2021. Of the 2,300 nonfarm jobs gained in 2021 across the MSA, 900 jobs, or 39.1 percent, were in the leisure and hospitality sector.

Year over year, employment in the local leisure and hospitality industry has increased for 19 consecutive months (April 2021 through October 2022). Between October 2021 and October 2022, leisure and hospitality (primarily hotels, eating and drinking places, and amusement and recreation services) added 600 jobs across the MSA, a 9.4 percent upturn, as employment revived from 6,400 jobs to 7,000.

The number of leisure and hospitality jobs in the two-county Wenatchee MSA this October (7,000) was also 100 jobs and 1.4 percent above the 6,900 jobs tallied in the pre-COVID month of October 2019. Although this is not an overpowering increase, it does indicate that the local

Wenatchee MSA and Washington leisure and hospitality employment changes Washington state, November 2021 through October 2022. Source: Employment Security Department/DATA; Current Employment Statistics (CES)



Year over year, employment in the Wenatchee MSA's leisure and hospitality industry has increased from April 2021 through October 2022. Employment in Washington's leisure and hospitality industry has also expanded from April 2021 through October 2022.

leisure and hospitality industry has begun to recover to an employment level approximating that of the pre-pandemic era. Employment in Washington's leisure and hospitality industry has registered year-over-year gains in each of the past 19 months (April 2021 through October 2022). Recently, statewide leisure and hospitality employment advanced by 10.2 percent from October 2021 (306,800 jobs) and October 2022 (338,000).

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 employees 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 upturn 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 relatively 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 relatively less influential in the local economy. In fact, between 2011 and 2021, the number of agricultural jobs actually "peaked" countywide in 2018 at 10,609 jobs (23.5 percent of total covered employment) and then steadily declined in 2019, 2020, and 2021. Anecdotal evidence suggests at least three possibilities for this agricultural employment 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.

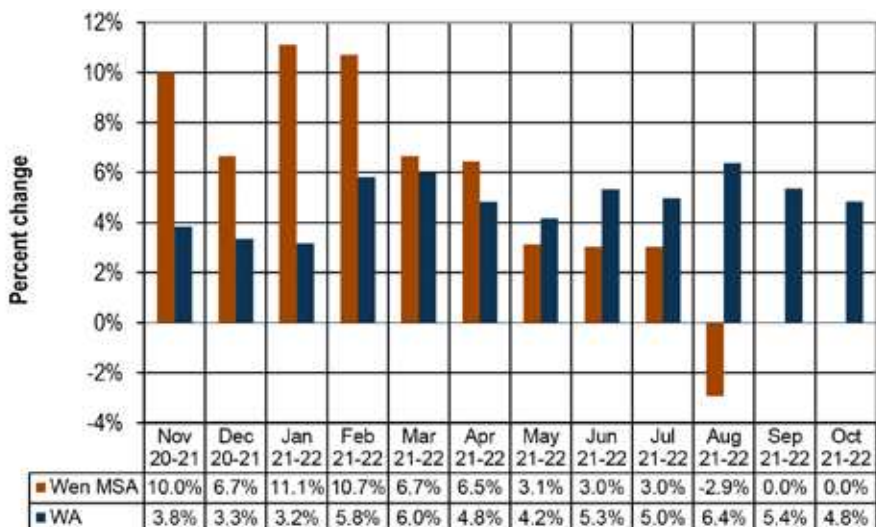
For Douglas County, an analysis of industry employment changes from 2011 through 2021 shows that:

- 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 upturn 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.

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

Wenatchee MSA and Washington construction employment changes Washington state, November 2021 through October 2022. Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)



Year over year, construction employment in the Wenatchee MSA expanded from December 2020 through July 2022, contracted in August 2022, and stabilized this September and October. Statewide, construction employment has been rising for 19 consecutive months (April 2021 through October 2022).



Celebrate Christmas in the Mountains with the Leavenworth Village Voices



Photo by Heidi Swoboda

By Diane Priebe

The Leavenworth Village Voices community choir can't wait to share the magic of the Christmas season with you this year!

After a triumphant return to performing in 2021 after the COVID-19 pause, the Leavenworth Village Voices is welcoming in the 2022 Christmas season with several new members and a repertoire of traditional holiday songs, familiar favorites, and new arrangements.

Accomplished choir director Mindy Wall has once again fine-tuned the choir of skilled performers who will be spreading the Christmas spirit to one and all.

They will be accompanied this year by Kumchu Dickenson, a talented and expressive local pianist. Performances include a 2 p.m., Sunday matinee at Leavenworth's Snowy Owl Theater, Icicle Creek Center for the Arts on December 11.

This concert will feature both the Leavenworth Village Voices and the Marlin Handbell Ringers, delighting fans of these

two long-time Leavenworth musical traditions.

A second concert with the Leavenworth Village Voices and guest artists will be featured at the Snowy Owl Theater at 7:30 p.m., on December 11, and a final concert at the Numerica Performing Arts Center (PAC) in Wenatchee at 7 p.m., Saturday, December 17.

Visit www.leavenworthvillagevoices.org for details and to purchase tickets. Tickets will also be available at the door.

For over 40 years, the Leavenworth Village Voices has been sharing the joy of music with locals and visitors alike.

Founded in 1982 with a mix of local church choirs and enthusiastic community members, the Leavenworth Village Voices started as a year-round choir, echoing Leavenworth's Bavarian theme through traditional music and German attire.

After 40 years of musically enriching our community, today's full choir performs exclusively during the Christmas season.

The Women's Ensemble formed from choir members who wished to perform year-round. Together, the choir is guaranteed to inspire and spread the joy of the season.

Music for this year's concerts include Christmas classics such as "Carol of the Bells," a modern take on an old French melody in "Sing We Now of Christmas," and a toe-tapping variation of "Deck the Halls," called "A Very Merry Fa-La-La."

The choir is also delighted to be performing "Christmas Town," a new song composed by James Knight in honor of our very own Christmas Town of Leavenworth, Washington.

The two evening concerts will end with the choir's tradition: a sing-along of Handel's magnificent "Hallelujah" chorus, an audience favorite.

In addition to its choral pieces, LVV concerts will feature talented local artists, including Eric Link, the Bavarian Brass, Russian indie pop sensation BOSAYA, and Corban Welter. There is something for everyone,

from kids from one to 92!

You may also hear the Leavenworth Village Voices perform in the Front Street gazebo during the final weekend of Leavenworth's Village of Lights in on Sunday, December 18 at 5 p.m., Small groups of choir members will also lead caroling in the streets in downtown Leavenworth during each of the Christmas Lighting Festival weekends.

If you've never attended a Leavenworth Village Voices concert, don't miss out this year. Give yourself and your loved ones the gift of the Christmas spirit through music, while supporting this hard-working nonprofit organization in your community.

The performances are guaranteed to inspire and send the audience out the doors spreading the peace, hope, and love of the season.

For more information about the Leavenworth Village Voices or how to contact them to sing at your special event, find them on Facebook or at www.leavenworthvillagevoices.org.

THE WENATCHEE VALLEY SYMPHONY



Nikolas Caoile - Music Director & Conductor

the *Nutcracker*

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky



A CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY



Four Performances December 9th - 11th
Friday - 7pm
Saturday - 2pm & 7pm
Sunday - 2pm

Information & Tickets

wenatcheesymphony.org

or

509-663-2787 (PAC Box Office)



Music in your Community

The Marlin Handbell Ringers announces Holiday Concerts

By Alex Weirich

The Marlin Handbell Ringers are excited to announce four Christmas concerts this holiday season, including a special joint concert with Leavenworth Village Voices.

Ring in the season with 10 ringers and 108 English handbells and experience your holiday favorites through the delightful and enchanting sound of the bells!

The schedule includes:

Sunday, December 4, 4 p.m. – Marlin Handbell Ringers at Saddlerock Church – Admission by donation.

Saturday, December 10, 3 p.m. – Marlin Handbell Ringers at George Community Hall - \$5 at the door, free for ages 12 and under.

Sunday, December 11, 2 p.m. –

Marlin Handbell Ringers and The Leavenworth Village Voices at Icicle Creek Center for the Arts, Snowy Owl Theater – Tickets \$20 adults, \$18 senior, \$10 student at icicle.org.

Sunday, December 18, 5 p.m. – Marlin Handbell Ringers at Grace City Church – Tickets by donation at <https://brushfire.com/gracecitychurch>
More information at marlinhandbellringers.com

About the Marlin Handbell Ringers

The Marlin Handbell Ringers is a non-profit community music group that has been captivating Leavenworth audiences for over forty years. Formed in 1979 to help promote the "Bavarian Village", our group consists of ten ringers and 108 English handbells. The group regularly performs in December and May in various locations around North Central Washington. www.marlinhandbellringers.com



Submitted photo