



Photos by Carol Forhan

Protestors took to the streets in Leavenworth on the last Friday of August. Similar protests are appearing at school board meetings and on the streets around North Central Washington.

## The Proletariat are growing restless

By Bill Forhan  
Publisher

Across the country the American People are waking up to the challenges to their freedom. In Loudon County Virginia the School Board had to shut down their meeting when a crowd of concerned citizens showed up to challenge their policies.

In Wenatchee this week a crowd of 30 “unmasked” citizens caused the school board to shut the meeting down and move it to an online meeting. When the meeting was moved online only 4 people spoke according to the Wenatchee World article.

In California there is a recall petition against California governor Gavin

Newsom. Some people in the Tri-cities are attempting to launch a recall of Governor Inslee. Our local school board elections are mostly contested races for the first time in recent history. The point here is people are becoming frustrated by elected officials who are growing increasingly out of touch with the people who elected them.

This week I received a letter from a Leavenworth resident that expresses that frustration. I am offering it here as a Front Page editorial because nothing is more important to the continuation of our great American experiment in self government than the views expressed in this young man’s letter. ▼▼▼

## 2021 Washington Apple Harvest Estimated to be 124.85 Million Boxes

By Tim Kovis  
WSTFA

Yakima – The Washington State Tree Fruit Association (WSTFA) released its forecast for the 2021 Washington state fresh apple crop.

The 2021 forecast is for a crop of just under 125 million standard forty-pound boxes of fresh apples.



Image by lumix2004 @ Pixabay

This would be a 2.3% increase from 2020’s 122 million box crop, but down 7.2% from the 2019 crop of 134.5 million boxes.

“The 2021 Washington state apple crop looks to be similar in size to last year’s crop. Growing seasons are never the same, and currently many WSTFA members are still evaluating the impact of this summer’s adverse and variable weather conditions.

“Members have made their best attempt to incorporate these factors, but with harvest just beginning and several months of unknown weather ahead, further reductions in the size of the forecasted crop are possible.” said Jon DeVaney, WSTFA President.

“In spite of these challenges, our growers anticipate meeting strong consumer demand with an ample and high-quality harvest.

“This crop reflects the continued growth of new varieties to delight all consumer tastes combined with the high standards of quality that domestic and

SEE 2021 WASHINGTON APPLE HARVEST, PAGE 2

## We are in a State of Emergency, but it is not the one the Governor has described

By Pete Kornowski  
Leavenworth Resident

The real emergency is the erosion and outright elimination of our representation in state government. A proclamation from the citizenry, withdrawing consent is in order.

It seems so pathetic to write my ‘concerns’ in a letter and send them off to be read by maybe no one. I am at such a loss, and feeling so powerless and unrepresented. I am compelled to do something, and it begins with this letter.

Should this “State of Emergency” in Washington persist indefinitely? In other states, courts have ruled “No”; but many Governors including Jay Inslee are clinging to unchecked “emergency powers.”

January 28, 2020, Gov. Inslee declared a State of Emergency “effective immediately... until rescinded”. Ever since, he has exercised legal “emergency powers” without the regular oversight of elected representatives of the people.

Now, more than 500 days later, this “State of Emergency” drags on. I understand there is a need for legal emergency powers, that on occasion, decisions and actions need to happen quickly.

However, we are far beyond a reasonable state of emergency when it comes to this virus. This is no longer an “unforeseen circumstance that requires immediate, unilateral action.

“For the last 18 months, the discourse and decision making has been robbed from the state representatives and local municipalities and consolidated to a single office.

This is not the way this State and its local governments are designed to function. A weekly “Proclamation” of executive orders is not the duty of the Governor. The will of the people in the State of Washington is no longer being represented.

Some Washington State Representa-



Pete Kornowski

SEE KORNOWSKI’S LETTER, PAGE 7

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Safeway, 510 Grant Road

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# Publisher's Page

## Time to make some changes

By Bill Forhan

We celebrated our 15th anniversary a few months ago. Fifteen years of bringing business news to Chelan, Douglas and Okanogan Counties.

The founders of this magazine originally limited the content to strictly Wenatchee business news.

In fact, our editor, at the time we assumed ownership, told us the original owners took her out on the roof of the office and told her she could write about anything she could see.

That was one of our first changes. There is no doubt that Wenatchee is the business hub of our region. But Wenatchee is not an island in North Central Washington. It depends heavily on the tourism and agriculture that drives the economies of the area. If those areas

are not growing and making progress then the economy of Wenatchee suffers just as well. We all depend on each other.

We have considered changing the name to NCW Business but that change creates other difficulties with the US Postal Service. We have registered the name with the state and our Web site has been ncwbusiness.com ever since.

I learned about 30 years ago that publishing a business newspaper is different than publishing a general interest community newspaper. I began my newspaper career in Billings, Montana and at one point in my tenure there I was responsible for launching a business newspaper known as Western Business. It was an interesting venture as we struggled with traditional

newspaper staff who viewed writing about businesses as a conflict of interest.

Most journalists at the time looked at rubbing shoulders with those sleazy advertisers as an assault on their editorial independence. Many still do.

There are lots of stories and information that is of interest only to business owners. It makes little sense to fill my community newspapers with content that is only of interest to business owners. Yes, there are national business magazines, but they do not cover small business.

In fact, their focus on Wall Street and publicly traded companies often give the general public a distorted view of business.

The reality is that the publicly traded companies make up only 5% of all the corpora-

tions in the US. The rest are mostly small, mom and pop small businesses.

Our purpose at the Wenatchee Business Journal is to provide those small businesses that shape our economies, information that is most relevant to small business and to the government officials that are representing us in Olympia and Washington D.C.

That said, you will find in this issue some stories that may seem out of place. We celebrate the good work that businesses in our communities do to support the quality of life here in North Central Washington.

We will tell you about events around the area that could be of interest. We provide economic analysis of employment and real estate sales. From time to time, you might find important infor-



Bill Forhan

mation about tourism, agriculture, and new and changing businesses.

You might also find editorials the are critical of government regulations. In the past that has angered some readers who didn't want to see criticism of government policy in the paper.

The problem is that business in general has been under attack in our country. Government regulators and politicians are often anxious to write new rules to regulate business activity. Activity they do not fully understand.

When appropriate we may write editorials on those issues, and we welcome your letters if you disagree.

Finally, if there are stories you would like us to consider, please do not hesitate to email us at [editor@ncwmedia.net](mailto:editor@ncwmedia.net)

## Ivermectin Should Not Be Used To Prevent Or Treat Covid-19

Submitted by  
 Veronica Farias  
 Chelan-Douglas Health District

East Wenatchee – Chelan-Douglas Health District (CDHD) advises people against the use of Ivermectin to prevent or treat COVID-19. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has not approved Ivermectin for use in treating or preventing COVID-19 in humans. Ivermectin is approved at very specific doses for some parasitic worms, and topical (on the skin) formulations for head lice and skin conditions like rosacea. Ivermectin is not an anti-viral (a drug for

treating viruses). CDHD asks that you never use medications intended for animals on yourself. Ivermectin for animals is very different from those approved for humans. Taking large doses of Ivermectin is dangerous and can cause serious harm. If you have a prescription for Ivermectin for an FDA-approved use, get it from a legitimate source and take it as prescribed. Here is what we know:

- There is inadequate evidence to recommend for or against the use of Ivermectin for the prevention or treatment of COVID-19. The

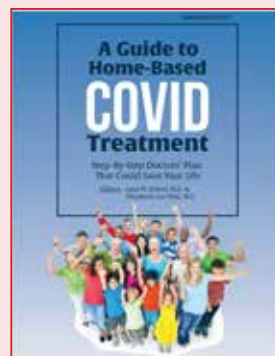
FDA has not reviewed data to support use of Ivermectin in COVID-19 patients to treat or to prevent COVID-19; however, some initial research is underway.

- Ivermectin for approved uses can interact with other medications, like blood-thinners. Adverse side effects from taking Ivermectin, which occur 1-10% of the time with standard doses, include rapid heart rate, swelling of face, swelling of feet, low blood pressure, dizziness, diarrhea, nausea, decreased white blood cell counts, and hepatitis.
- You can overdose

on Ivermectin, which can cause nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, hypotension (low blood pressure), allergic reactions (itching and hives), dizziness, ataxia (problems with balance), seizures, coma, and even death.

Effective ways to limit the spread of COVID-19 continue to be the use of masks, staying at least 6 feet apart from others who do not live with you, avoiding large crowds and frequent hand washing. For public health updates, visit [www.cdhd.wa.gov](http://www.cdhd.wa.gov)

**Editor's note:** A reader has provided me with a document



from The Association of American Physicians and Surgeons that has issued a "A Guide to Home-Based Covid Treatment." It is a 26 page document. It is the most complete guide I have seen regarding the risks and treatment for this pandemic. You can find it at <https://aapsonline.org/covidpatientguide/> or I will post it to my websites.



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## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

### 2021 Washington Apple Harvest

international consumers have come to expect." For the third straight year, Gala will be the most numerous variety at 21%, Red Delicious is projected at 16%, followed by Honeycrisp and Granny Smith at 14%, and Fuji at 13% of total production. This year, Cosmic Crisp is forecast to come in at 3% of the total crop, a 114% increase from the 2020-21 crop, and Cripps Pink at 6%.

Organic apple production is forecast to be 12.3% of the total, or 15.36 million boxes. This is essentially unchanged from the 15.6 million boxes in the 2020 apple crop. Although it should be noted that typically not all organic production is ultimately packed and marketed as organic.

This forecast is based on a survey of WSTFA members and represents a best estimate of the total volume of apples that will eventually be packed and sold on the fresh market (excluding product sent to processor). Apple harvest typically begins in August and continues into November, and as a result this forecast is still subject to several months of variable weather which can affect the final harvest total.

For additional information contact:  
 Tim Kovis at 509-528-9586 or [tim@wstfa.org](mailto:tim@wstfa.org)

## \$2 million for farmworker improvements

# Gebbers Farms, L&I reach settlement over 2020 COVID deaths

By Mike Maltais  
Staff writer

BREWSTER – Gebbers Farms and the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) have reached a settlement stemming from fines and citations levied by L&I last year following COVID-19-related farmworker deaths.

Under terms of the mediated agreement Gebbers will invest more than \$2 million for housing, health care, and safety of its farm labor force.

In the original action initiated last July 2020 L&I assessed a \$2.06 million fine after two Gebbers farmworkers died from COVID-19 and cited the farm for a half dozen related violations.

Gebbers Farms spokesperson Amy Philpott of Watson Green, LLC noted in her statement that prior to the L&I action Gebbers had already implemented COVID-response protocols that it developed in consultation with an infectious disease specialist.

“Gebbers Farms has always cared deeply about

the well-being and safety of its workers,” said Cass Gebbers, CEO of Gebbers Farms.

“Each year, Gebbers Farms makes improvements to its temporary housing facilities to enhance the safety and comfort of its workers. This mediation agreement will result in even more improvements, and it will benefit the community at large through the farm’s donations to community charities and non-profits.”

Under the terms of the mediation agreement, Gebbers Farms will invest approximately \$1.4 million to improve workers’ facilities that include:

- Entirely new farmworker housing to include demolishing and rebuilding one of the older housing camps originally built in the 1970s.

- “This camp has separate sleeping, cooking, and toilet facilities and consistently requires corrective actions to meet minimum licensing requirements,” said the L&I assessment.

- “Three new units with all

new amenities will be built in its place.”

- Constructing a cell tower to improve workers’ communications with families.



Amy Philpott

- Upgrading electrical systems to support washing machines and dryers.

- Installing air conditioners and making power upgrades.

- Purchasing new mattresses for temporary worker housing.

- Building and maintaining sports/recreation facilities including a soccer field, picnic tables, and benches.

- Installing signage

at housing camps to help emergency responders locate them.

- Payment of a \$10,000 fine.



Cass Gebbers

As part of the settlement Gebbers Farms agrees to allocate \$150,000 to hire a full-time safety officer for three years who will oversee worker safety and health issues including development and implementation of Gebbers Farms’ existing and new worker safety programs. The safety officer will be empowered to stop any activity deemed unsafe or in violation of the safety and health rules.

The company will also donate \$513,000 to area hospitals, health care centers, emergency medical services, day care and recreational centers serving the workers and their families to improve health care access for them.

“Although we are pleased this issue is resolved, we have not forgotten the thousands who lost loved ones during this pandemic,” said Gebbers.

“Sadly, in 2020, Gebbers Farms also lost longtime team members and familiar faces to our family. These men, their families, and all Gebbers employees are part of the reason why we are gratified that the agreement includes our continued investment in our workers and our local communities.”

An L&I media release noted the benefits of reaching the settlement.

“Because a court could not order Gebbers to make these changes, this is a better result for workers than we could have achieved through litigation,” said L&I Director Joel Sacks.

“Instead of possibly spending years and taxpayer resources in court to potentially collect fines, this settlement means the company will put significant money where it will help the most: improving health, safety, and quality of life for farmworkers and their families.”

Real, on-the-ground improvements for farmworkers and their families are a fitting way to honor the memories of the Gebbers’ workers who died.”

In her statement Philpott cited a CDC study that showed workers who lived in Gebbers-provided housing were three times less likely to contract COVID than workers living in the community, and the Gebbers workforce had a positive rate of only 0.7 percent.

Gebbers Farms posted copies of the agreement in common areas for employees to read.

Ten days following that action the Board of Industrial and Insurance Appeals will issue an order and the agreement takes effect.

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## Great Ways to Keep Your Mind Sharp as You Age

**(StatePoint)** September, which is World Alzheimer's Month, is an excellent reminder to keep your mind and body healthy through the years.

Experts say that doing so can reduce your risk for cognitive decline. Try taking on these new hobbies to keep your mind sharp as you age:

- **Cooking:** Not only can the development of a new complicated skill such as cooking improve cognitive functions like problem-solving and concentration, but having the ability to create your own nutritious meals at home has the added benefit of being good for brain health. From TikTok tutorials to online classes taught by master chefs, today, there are more avenues for picking up culinary know-how than ever before.

- **Music:** Learning to play a musical instrument has countless benefits for brain health, helping improve memory, hand-eye coordination and more. It's also a mood booster, which is important, as depression is considered a risk factor for dementia. Check out instruments designed to build skills quickly. Whether you're a total novice or taking up the piano after a long hiatus, Casiotone Keyboards, for example, are portable, easy to use and connect to an app that features lessons and more.

- **Exercise:** The mind-body connection is strong. For ultimate brain health, stay physically active; and if you can do so outdoors, all the better. Research suggests that connecting with nature is good for one's mental well-being,

reducing stress, anxiety and depression. Support your journey with tools that track your activity and inspire you to delve further into adventures, whether that be hiking, fishing or rock climbing.

The watches in the Pro Trek line feature Quad Sensor technology to provide you with temperature and barometric pressure so you can keep your eye on the weather conditions while out and about, as well as sunrise and sunset times, an app for anglers and much more.

- **Camaraderie:** Having an active social life can improve brain function. Unfortunately, if you aren't proactive about it, there are not always that many opportunities to make new friends in adulthood. Whether it's a sewing circle or a bowl-



(c) Ivanko\_Brnjakovic / iStock via Getty Images Plus

ing league, consider joining a club or team for camaraderie and fun.

- **Fast fingers:** Did you know that you can use your calculator to keep your mind

engaged when there's downtime or you're on-the-go?

Calculator games can build math skills, improve memory and keep your mind nimble. Just as it is important to main-

tain physical fitness as you age, it's also critical to exercise your mind. Stay mentally active by trying new hobbies, building new skills and seeking out new experiences.

## Are You at Higher Risk for Having a Life-Changing Stroke?

**(StatePoint)** Lead scorer of the University of Pittsburgh women's basketball team, Latia Howard was being recruited by the WNBA and at the top of her game. But that all changed after she suffered a stroke at just 21 years old. Early one morning, Howard began experiencing weakness in her arm and leg. While she decided to skip practice that day, she didn't think too much of it. When her roommate told her trainer why Howard wasn't at practice and what she was experiencing, he called her and noticed she didn't sound right on the phone. He went straight to her apartment, and after realizing something was very wrong, he immediately called 911 and she was rushed to the emergency room. According to the American Stroke Association, African Americans have a higher prevalence of stroke and the highest death

rate from stroke than any other racial group. Among stroke survivors, African Americans are more likely to be disabled and have difficulties doing daily activities. A star athlete before her life-changing stroke, not only was Howard unable to play basketball afterward, she had to relearn how to walk and talk and went through extensive physical therapy, falling into a depression. The stroke forced Howard to re-imagine her goal of being a professional basketball player. She shifted her dream of playing in the WNBA to coaching young, up-and-coming basketball players. "I am grateful I am here and can share my story," says Howard, who, now 43, is an educator and basketball coach. "I encourage my team to always give 100% because at one time in my life, I couldn't give

anything." A testament to the fact that stroke can happen to anyone, of any age, at any time, Howard encourages everyone to know their body, so they can recognize when something feels different or wrong. "When it comes to stroke, every moment counts," she says. "A person could lose everything to stroke, so it's important to call 911 the moment something seems off." The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that almost half of African Americans have at least one risk factor for stroke, including manageable conditions like high blood pressure and diabetes, as well as genetic conditions like sickle cell disease. That is why it's important for everyone to be aware of their risk factors and learn the signs to watch. According to experts, immedi-

ate medical attention is vital when it comes to stroke and relies on everyone learning and being able to recognize the BE FAST signs and symptoms of a stroke in themselves and others and calling 911 immediately. BE FAST stands for Balance, Eyes, Face, Arm, Speech, Time and refers to these signs of stroke: • Balance: Sudden loss of balance • Eyes: Loss of vision in one or both eyes • Face: Face looks uneven or droopy • Arm: Arm or leg is weak or hanging down • Speech: Slurred speech, trouble speaking or seems confused • Time: Immediately call 911

For more information and resources, visit [StrokeAwareness.com](http://StrokeAwareness.com), developed by Genentech Inc, a member of the Roche Group.

"BE FAST" was developed by Intermountain Healthcare, as an adaptation of the FAST model implemented by the American Stroke Association. Reproduced with permission from Intermountain Healthcare. © 2011 Intermountain Healthcare. All rights reserved.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Star basketball player, Latia Howard, suffered a life-changing stroke at 21.

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# Senior Focus Healthy Living

## Why Now is the Time to Schedule That Check-Up or Screening

**(StatePoint)** If you haven't visited your physician since the start of the pandemic, medical experts say that the time is now to book check-ups and screenings for the entire family.

"The pandemic has had wide-scale negative health consequences beyond COVID-19.

Many Americans have delayed important routine health services critical to keeping them healthy, including vital pediatric immunizations and preventive cancer screenings.

"Prevention is the best cure, so it's important to get your health back on track today," says Gerald E. Harmon, M.D., American Medical Association (AMA) president.

With school beginning and the cool weather months ahead, the AMA urges Americans to call their physician's office to learn if they are due for preventive care or screenings.

### SINCE THE PANDEMIC BEGAN...

<p style="color: #0070c0;">Cancer screenings are still lagging:</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: #0070c0;">725K</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">The estimated combined total of missed breast, colon and cervical cancer screenings from March 2020 - March 2021</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: #0070c0;">+10,000</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Projected excess deaths in 2021-2022 due to breast and colorectal cancers alone.</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: #0070c0;">52%</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Adults with mental health conditions who delayed/forewent care since pandemic started.</p>
<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: #0070c0;">41%</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">About 4 in 10 adults with one or more chronic health conditions reported delaying or forgoing health care since pandemic started.</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: #0070c0;">14%</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">The drop in vaccine ordering data in 2020-21 compared to 2019.</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: #0070c0;">20%</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">The drop in Measles vaccine ordering data 2020-21 compared to 2019.</p>

CONTACT YOUR PHYSICIAN'S OFFICE TO SEE IF YOU ARE DUE FOR PREVENTIVE CARE OR SCREENINGS.

Screenings, tests and preventive health measures are designed to keep you healthy and to help your doctor catch certain conditions before they become more serious.

## Lost and Found: Tips for Managing Commonly Misplaced Items

**(StatePoint)** In the haste to break free from your pandemic routine, you may find your new schedule overwhelming and hectic. And with that, comes the inconvenience of misplacing commonly used items. According to a survey conducted by Bluetooth tracking company Pixie, Americans spend an average of 2.5 days out of each calendar year searching for lost items.

The most common reason we keep misplacing our items is absentmindedness. Psychologists have a phrase for this, "If you don't encode, you can't retrieve." This means that if you go through your day without consciously thinking about where you're placing your keys, your brain has no information stored about the item's whereabouts.

Other factors, such as stress levels and overall mental health, can also play a role in how often

you misplace items.

Here are a few tips on how to prevent your precious possessions from going missing:

- 1. Set digital reminders:** If you regularly lose track of specific items, digital reminders might be for you. There are a variety of great productivity apps available on most smartphones to remind you to double check your wallet before leaving the house. Most calendar apps such as Google Calendar and Outlook have remind features that can help you organize your valuables. There are also useful apps like To do list that specialize in creating reminders and daily lists.

**2. Retrace your steps:** "Retracing your steps" after losing an item can be a useful approach when activating your brain's context-dependent memory. With context-dependent memory, your memory is the strongest when you men-

tally or physically place yourself back in the environment in which the item was lost. Reconstructing these events visually can help trigger your memories and be an important step in rediscovering a misplaced item.

**3. Try a Bluetooth tracker for smaller items:** For smaller items like your phone, wallet and keys, Bluetooth trackers can provide much-needed tech relief. Trackers like these are designed for those times you lose an item within close proximity. Instead of wasting precious moments searching for your lost item, you can pull up an app to tell

you where it is.

**4. Use the power of GPS tracking devices for high-value items:** When it comes to highly valuable items like photography equipment, luggage and even pets, you'll need more protection. Products like T-Mobile's SyncUP Tracker uses a combination of GPS technology and T-Mobile's reliable nationwide network to track an item at any moment from anywhere. Other devices that rely on Bluetooth technology often have tracking range limitations and shorter battery life. T-Mobile's SyncUP Tracker includes a rechargeable



battery and virtual boundaries that alert you if an item leaves the designated location, all via your smartphone through an app available on both iOS and Android. Just because you lost an item doesn't mean that you should lose hope or panic. With a few changes to your routine and even some tech upgrades, you'll find it much easier to cope during those forgetful moments.

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## Rep. Goehner Expresses Concern over mandates for critical public service employees

Earlier this month, the governor announced vaccination requirements for most state employees, private health care and long-term care workers.

Last week, he announced further vaccination requirements for employees working in K-12, most child-care and early learning, and higher education, as well as an expansion of the state-wide mask mandate to all individuals, regardless of

vaccination status.

Under his vaccination mandates, most employees in Washington must now be fully vaccinated by Oct. 18 or lose their jobs.

Rep. Mike Steele and I issued a statement to the media over the weekend regarding the governor's announcements.

I have heard from thousands of you, as have my colleagues from across the state, opposed to the gover-

nor's actions. I am frustrated the governor has chosen this course of action.

Mandating vaccines to our educators and health care workers at the expense of their jobs and income is unnecessary and heavy-handed. This is an individual's personal health care choice.

Last year, the governor was praising our health care workers battling this virus on the front lines, and

our educators, tasked with teaching online and then doing what was necessary to allow our students to get back in the classroom for in-person learning.

Now, he has threatened these workers will be terminated from their place of employment unless they are vaccinated.

This is not the way to treat our most essential employees during this pandemic. Forcing vaccinations

upon these workers could drive them out of some of the most important, essential professions needed during the pandemic.

We cannot afford to lose health care workers or educators during this critical time.

Rather than enforce more mandates and requirements, we need to allow school administrators to work with their school boards, consider parental and local input, and put our trust in our local school districts.

I recently signed onto a letter to the governor requesting he reconsider the mask mandate in schools and, at the very least, let school districts make that decision with the input of the parents in their communities.

The mandates go back to one-person control during the pandemic and legislators being left out of the

decision-making process.

I have mentioned emergency powers reform many times. It isn't for a lack of effort.

We introduced many bills to reform the state's emergency powers law, including House Bill 1557.

There was even a Senate bill introduced at the beginning of session, Jan. 12, to protect an individual's right to refuse the vaccine without consequences.

While legislators continue to lean on the governor's vaccine and mask mandates, police reforms, the long-term care tax, the need for a special session and much more, it is critical he hear from you, the citizens of Washington state.

He needs to be aware how many of you are worried, concerned or frustrated with his decisions and how they impact you and your family.



## Law enforcement reform

House and Senate Republicans recently called for a special session to fix some bad police reform bills approved during the 2021 session. Unfortunately, these bills have overshadowed other good, bipartisan policing measures that were also approved.

Two bills in particular are especially problematic: House Bill 1310, regarding the permissible use of force by law enforcement and correctional officers, and House Bill 1054, establishing requirements for tactics and equipment used by peace officers. I voted "no" on both these bills.

Here's why: Each bill contains conflicting, vague language – creating gray areas that put law enforcement and the public at risk.

Unfortunately, we are now seeing the sad results of these policy choices. Two months after the governor signed these bills – embarking on a massive experiment in police reform – discrepancies in how officers may or may not intervene in active crime scenes and mental health crisis incidents continue to cause uncertainty and danger. Take a look:

- Police around Washington scrambling, and struggling, to adapt a massive reform package (The Seattle Times)

- What happens when police don't show up to 911 calls (The Olympian)

- New laws add restrictions to policing, authorities look to adapt (The Wenatchee World)

- Bonney Lake officers say new reform laws kept them from tracking armed suspect (KING TV)

- Man jumps onto cop car, allegedly hits officer who was following police reform rules (KOMO TV)

- They had probable cause after he made threats, but law prevented Bellingham police pursuit

(The Bellingham Herald)

- Lower Columbia SWAT team arrests man after three-hour standoff with nonlethal weapons barred by new state law (The Daily News)

- OPINION: Legislative Democrats' attempts at police reform puts communities at risk (The Seattle Times)

Sheriffs, police chiefs, troopers, patrol officers, and other law enforcement officials have joined with Washingtonians from across the state to express concern about the unintended consequences of these bills. A special legislative session is needed – and soon – to fix these bills and put real, commonsense solutions in place that keep our communities safe and hold law enforcement accountable.

### A new payroll tax – The Long-Term Care Act

A new, and for many, unwelcome payroll deduction begins in 2022. Starting on Jan. 1, wage-earners will pay 58 cents for every \$100 of their earnings to fund the Long-Term Services and Supports Trust Program.

The WA Cares Fund, intended to assist with long-term care-related expenses, was authorized by House Bill 1087 in 2019 – approved on a party-line vote with all

House Republicans voting in opposition.

Here's why I voted no: Acquiring this type of insurance coverage should be a personal choice, not one mandated by the state. Many hard-working Washingtonians simply can't afford to pay more in taxes. Struggling with yet another additional expense – whether it be through the new payroll tax or the cost of private long-term care insurance – will be tough. Further, the costs versus the benefits breakdown for the state-managed plan are abysmal for most working individuals and families.

Here are a few other reasons the program is objectionable:

- If a worker retires or moves out of state, their benefits will be forfeited.

- Workers retiring within three years have no chance to benefit, but are not exempt from the payroll tax.

- Those who live in another state, but work in Washington, will be forced to pay the tax, but will not be eligible to receive benefits from the program.

- The plan costs versus benefits margin is narrow for most working Washingtonians. Some estimates put the state-managed plan projection costs at nearly three times that of private insurance.

- It's likely, in years to come, very real, large tax increases will be needed to keep this program afloat.

Unless they choose a private insurance plan, most Washington workers will be automatically enrolled in the state program, including the payroll tax. For those who do not wish to take part in the program and its payroll

deduction, there is a brief window of opportunity to opt out. Once an eligible private plan is purchased, individuals must apply for an exemption from the program between Oct. 1, 2021, and Dec. 31, 2022.

### Standing against forced vaccine mandates

The governor recently issued a mandate that requires most state workers, as well on-site contractors and volunteers, public and private health care and long-term care workers, to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by Oct 18, or lose their jobs.

This underscores, yet again, the necessity of collaboration between the Legislature and the executive office in times of crisis. State government can and should make recommendations about actions like wearing masks or getting the vaccine – not force personal, individual health care choices. I'm absolutely against this heavy-handed approach.

If the governor wants to get more people vaccinated, he should focus his efforts on continuing to educate and/or incentivizing the public to do so.

*Stay in touch!*

Your input is vital in helping me represent your values in Olympia. Feel free to call or email my office with your comments, concerns, or ideas about state government. My contact information is listed below.

State Representative Mike Steele, 12th Legislative District, 122F Legislative Building | P.O. Box 40600 | Olympia, WA 98504-0600; 360-786-7832 | Toll-free: (800) 562-6000; mike.steele@leg.wa.gov; RepresentativeMikeSteele.com

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## A closer look at state mandates, emergency powers, and special sessions

By Sen. Brad Hawkins

As Washington state and the rest of the world continues to process through the COVID pandemic, governors throughout our nation – Republicans and Democrats – have utilized their offices and authorities in a variety of ways. In Washington state, the Emergency Powers Act (RCW 43.06.220) authorizes the governor to declare emergencies and issue orders in response to those declared emergencies.

The original version of this law was enacted in 1969, at a time when likely no one would have anticipated any emergency lasting multiple years.

On February 29, 2020, utilizing the Emergency Powers Act, Governor Jay Inslee issued Proclamation

20-05 declaring a state of emergency for COVID-19.

This proclamation will likely be in effect until it is terminated by the governor.

Following the emergency proclamation last February, the governor has issued a number of subsequent statewide orders. His appointed cabinet members, such as the secretary of the Washington State Department of Health (DOH), have released additional regulations. These DOH directives include the statewide mask regulations, which are referenced within the governor's emergency orders. DOH's Order 20-03 for statewide masking, issued August 19, 2021, is the most recent requirement. For the COVID vaccine, Governor Inslee has issued two different

mandates: Proclamation 21-14 for state employees and Proclamation 21-14.1 for health-care workers and K-12 school employees.

Both mandates allow for exemptions for medical and religious reasons but not for personal reasons. In accordance with the governor's authority during emergencies, these directives have the same effect as state law, although temporary in nature.

Many people have contacted me to ask if these mandates are legal or constitutional. The short answer is that we are all entitled to our opinions, but final rulings from the judicial branch – in our “checks and balances” governance model – ultimately determine legality and constitutionality.

These rulings include decisions by state and federal courts based on legal challenges, some of which have originated right here in North Central Washington. The federal 9th Circuit Court of Appeals opinion in *Slidewaters v. L&I* affirmed the governor's authority to declare the COVID-19 emergency and state Labor and Industries' power to adopt a rule to enforce the governor's proclamations. Last summer, a Chelan County court denied a bid from challengers to terminate Governor Inslee's State of Emergency. While state laws may differ throughout the nation, courts in other states have largely upheld the COVID mandates issued by their governors.

Washington state has the ability to modernize its



Emergency Powers Act, but enacting a change in law would require approval by the Legislature and Governor Inslee. Last legislative session, I co-sponsored Senate Bill 5039 to expand legislative oversight of the governor's emergency proclamations by setting a 30-day time limit on all orders unless extended by the Legislature. Senate Republicans attempted procedural efforts to bring this bill to a vote last session, but those efforts were blocked by other senators.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 8402 was also adopted during the 2021 regular session. It indefinitely extended many of the governor's emergency proclamations.

Now, most of the governor's mandates are no longer actually reviewable by the Legislature, just extended in date indefinitely. I voted against this resolution, but it was approved by the Senate (28-19) and the House of Representatives (54-44).

Beyond the Legislative process, only a citizens' initiative – if upheld by the state Supreme Court – could limit executive powers.

Many people have also asked about seeking a special session of the Legislature. According to the Washington State Constitution, the Legislature only meets for part of the year in a “regular session,” which begins each January. Article II, Section 12 of the constitution authorizes the Legislature to call itself into special session with a two-

thirds vote. The governor can also call the Legislature into a special session, but he has not done so.

The specific process for gaining a two-thirds vote of the Legislature is set forth in the Legislature's Joint Rule 29. Senate Republicans, including myself, have called for a special session multiple times during the COVID pandemic. Most recently, we have called for a special session to address issues related to police reforms and emergency powers revisions, but we have not attained the two-thirds threshold among members.

The political dynamics in Olympia have shifted greatly in recent years. Of the 49 state senators, there are 29 Democrats and 20 Republicans. There is no way to organize a special session without bipartisan support.

I hope this helps explain more about the complicated topics of state mandates, emergency powers, and special sessions. Judging by the thousands of emails that my office has received in recent days, there is definitely interest and questions about them.

Clearly, the controversy from Governor Inslee's recent mandates will likely keep many issues at the forefront of legislative and legal discussions.

There is no doubt that the governor's emergency powers and statewide vaccine policies will continue to be major topics of debate in the months and years ahead.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

### We are in a State of Emergency, but it is not the one the Governor has described

*tives have called for a special session to review and amend Emergency Powers, but unless legislators from the majority party agree, the discussion will not be had.*

*Paradoxically, Inslee is the only one who can end his emergency powers by ending the state of emergency, which he has no immediate intention of doing. This is too much unchecked power for any branch of the government in a free state. It sets an extremely dangerous precedent, and the outrage ought to be equal no matter your party or political affiliation.*

*If the Governor and his office insist that we are still facing an emergency, is it not reasonable then to argue that the litany of uncontested, unprecedented government imposed solutions have not been effective?*

*The social distancing, the lockdowns, the closures, the masking, the required masking, the vaccinations, the mandatory vaccinations, and all the micro-managing proclamations have not quelled the “emergency”. If anything, they appear to be prolonging it. At what point do we admit that these measures are not effectively solving our problems? At what point do we resume debate, discourse, and local management of local problems? At what point do we resume the checks and balances of the established governing branches?*

*These uncontested overreaches ought to frighten all of us. If you were to tell me three years ago, it's likely*

*a State government will soon have a list of private businesses deemed un-essential and declared un-safe to be open for an entire calendar year, I would laugh it off and go back to my latte. If last year you had told me when a vaccine is ready, it is likely that the Governor will make it mandatory to receive it or be faced with losing your job, I would have said “never in the USA”. If you tell me now that soon you won't be able to cross the state line, be in a public place, or enter into a grocery store without proving you've taken a state sanctioned medical treatment, I'm listening, and I'm deeply troubled.*

*I am in fear because I don't see the same outrage and passion in my peers.*

*I am in fear because of the gross complacency and compliance from men and woman who speak their outrage behind closed doors but play along in public month after month.*

*I am in fear because the local news reports these “Proclamations” without question. Without even so much as acknowledging how unprecedented this type of government power is in the USA. Without so much as a curious question.*

*I am in fear of what the next “Proclamation” will contain; who's shop will be closed, how many masks I'm “required” to wear. What needs to be injected into my body against my will. Where I can travel without disclosing medical records, and what the Science of the day is.*

*I am in fear because of how few people seem to understand how a representative government is designed to work.*

*I am in fear because the slow boil of our representation in this state is nearly steam.*

*I am in fear because writing to my representatives, to the governor's office, and to the local paper seems futile and hopeless.*

*I am in fear for the future of a free state.*

*I am not in fear of getting sick.*

*It is my hope that somehow, some way we can act enmasse to compel the State Legislature to review the Emergency Powers Act, to at the very least include Legislative review of executive orders.*

*I know many of you are as frustrated as I am, probably many of you much more. Please do something about it! Write to your representative, write to the governor's office, call these people. Start, sign and share a petition! Resist, question and speak out about these proclamations and mandates. It may seem insignificant as an individual, but with many of us, it is more powerful than anything.*

*The time for action has passed! This letter is late to the game. These overreaches are outside our front doors. Take action today! Unless we the citizenry do something, it is not just going to magically stop. This government overreach is the real emergency!*

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## Employment news from Washington State Employment Security

### ***Paid Leave: New legislation in effect***

New legislation gives more Washington workers access to Paid Family and Medical Leave benefits. The changes, which are now in effect, expand the definition of family member and the qualifying period for Paid Leave.

- The definition of family member now permanently includes anyone who might expect to rely on your employee for care. In addition to a list of specific family members, they can also take care of their chosen family members. They don't have to live with or be related to the person who needs their care.

- A temporary change to Paid Leave adds new qualifying periods to determine eligibility for people whose work was affected by COVID-19. We can now look at more quarters in a worker's employment history to see if they qualify. The new law applies to leave that starts January 2021 through March 2022, or until funds run out.

### ***Unemployment Insurance: Federal pandemic benefits expire soon***

Federal pandemic unemployment benefits expire on the week ending Sept. 4, 2021. As a result, you might see more benefit charges starting with your third-quarter statement.

Reimbursable employers might see:

- Higher benefit charges. After Sept. 4, the federal government will no longer pay any benefit

charges for former employees receiving regular unemployment benefits or SharedWork benefits. Currently, the federal government is paying 75 percent of regular benefits and 100 percent of SharedWork benefits.

- More former employees listed. As federal pandemic unemployment programs expire, some claimants will transfer to regular unemployment benefits.

### ***Taxable employers might see:***

- More former employees listed. As federal pandemic unemployment programs expire, some claimants will transfer to regular unemployment benefits. These additional benefit charges might affect your future tax rate.

- More benefit charges for SharedWork, if you're enrolled in the program. Benefits paid to your SharedWork employees will again affect your experience rating after the week ending Sept. 4. That's when the federal government will stop funding those benefits.

### ***The unpaid waiting week is coming back***

Claimants will once again have an unpaid waiting week starting with weekly claims filed for the week ending Sept. 11. This change won't affect your benefit charges. Find out more about the waiting week.

Washington is the first state in the nation to make long-term care more affordable for workers. As many of us watch our parents and grandparents age, we start to wonder, "Who will take care



of me when I get older and how will I afford it?" WA Cares Fund gives members access to a lifetime benefit amount they can use on a wide range of long-term services and supports – should they need it.

How WA Cares benefits Washington workers

- It's affordable. The WA Cares Fund is an affordable long-term care insurance program for all working Washingtonians.

- It offers choice. WA Cares empowers us to control how and where we receive long-term care.

- It provides peace of mind. We no longer have to worry about how we will afford long-term care as we age.

### ***The benefit is flexible***

People who have a need for long-term services and supports may begin applying for benefits in January 2025. At that time, vested individuals can use their WA Cares benefits for a range of services and supports, such as:

- Professional personal care in your home, an assisted living facility, an adult family home or a nursing home.

- Adaptive equipment and technology like hearing devices

and medication reminder devices.

- Home safety evaluations.
- Training and support for paid and unpaid family members who provide care.

- Home-delivered meals.
- Care transition coordination.
- Memory care.
- Environmental modifications like wheelchair ramps.

- Personal emergency response system.

- Respite for family caregivers.
- Transportation.

- Dementia support.
- Education and consultation.

We've got your back. There's plenty to know about WA Cares, and we're committed to making your experience as easy as possible by providing the tools and information you need. Take a look:

- Visit [wacaresfund.wa.gov](http://wacaresfund.wa.gov) to learn about the benefit and what to expect. Your workers may look to you when they have questions about WA Cares, and we invite you to share our website as a resource. Our contact info is available if they need assistance.

- Check out our Employer page for helpful program information relating to your business.

You can also find more resources in our Employer Toolkit, including a multi-language flyer that can help workers understand the benefit.

- Read our Learn more page to read our frequently asked questions, including specific questions for employers.

Governor's Committee on Disability Issues & Employment: Submit your nominations for Employer Awards by Sept. 10

The Governor's Committee on Disability Issues & Employment (GCDE) is now seeking nominations for the 2021 Washington State Governor's Employer Awards, recognizing excellence in recruiting, hiring and advancing employees with disabilities.

The GCDE presents these annual awards as part of National Disability Employment Awareness Month. This year's theme is America's Recovery: Powered by Inclusion.

The awards will be presented during a virtual event on Oct. 26 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

We need your help to recognize the best organizations, the best people, and the best leaders who support employees with disabilities! Nominate yourself, other businesses or leaders in the community today. The deadline for nominations has been extended to Sept. 10, 2021.

Please submit your nomination(s) electronically.

If you need the nomination packet in an alternate format or have any questions, please contact GCDE Awards Program staff at [gcdeawards@esd.wa.gov](mailto:gcdeawards@esd.wa.gov).

## Small businesses support tax reforms proposed to offset costs of "human infrastructure" package

Submitted by Lisa Marlow  
Media Relations Manager

Washington, D.C. – As lawmakers in Washington, D.C. continue to debate the proposed budget reconciliation package that will invest in "human infrastructure" and how to pay for these investments, Small Business Majority released a new survey today revealing small business owners overwhelmingly support tax reform policies that will help offset the cost of the plan, while also helping them compete in the current market.



**GUEST  
OPINION**  
Lisa Marlow

For too long, our nation's tax system has unfairly benefited the wealthiest businesses at the expense of small business owners, their employees and independent entrepreneurs. The survey reveals the majority of small business owners (75%) believe their business is harmed when big corporations use loopholes to avoid taxes. Small business owners feel disadvantaged by the current

tax systems and expressed the following views on our nation's tax policies:

- 73% agree that the current tax system favors big business over small businesses

- 69% agree that offshore tax loopholes allow big businesses to avoid paying their fair share

- 76% agree that more tax incentives for small businesses should be provided

Additionally, the respondents showed strong support for several provisions aimed at leveling the playing field through tax reforms, many of which have been proposed to help pay for the human infrastructure package being debated by Congress. This includes the following measures:

- 69% support establishing a 15% minimum tax on profits that the largest corporations report to their investors

- 66% support setting a minimum tax rate of 21% on corporate offshore profits

- 65% support increasing the tax rate on households earning more than \$400,000 per year

To promote a more resilient workforce and economy, small businesses will need

these policies and more to support a level playing field. Small Business Majority sent a letter to congressional leadership this week urging them to champion recommendations that would strengthen provisions needed to ensure small businesses benefit from the human infrastructure package, such as: advancing healthcare affordability, supporting paid family and medical leave, advancing access to quality child care, expanding access to capital, and more.

"America's job creators are calling for bold policies that will help them compete with large corporations and grow their businesses while supporting important investments in healthcare, child care and paid leave," said John Arensmeyer, Founder & CEO of Small Business Majority. "To ensure a successful path forward, we encourage policymakers to do everything in their power to invest in small businesses and in the human infrastructure package. Small businesses are critical to the nation's economic recovery, and these policies are needed to help them create a sustainable, equitable business ecosystem."

The survey reflects the opinions of 469 small business owners and managers of operations of small businesses between July 28, 2021 through July 29, 2021. The sample was taken from an online panel from Momentive (formerly SurveyMonkey). For the full report, visit: <https://smallbusinessmajority.org/sites/default/files/research-reports/Aug-2021-Network-Poll.pdf>

### ***About Small Business Majority***

Small Business Majority is a national small business organization that empowers America's diverse entrepreneurs to build a thriving and equitable economy. We engage our network of more than 85,000 small businesses and 1,000 business and community organizations to advocate for public policy solutions and deliver resources to entrepreneurs that promote equitable small business growth. Our deep connections with the small business community along with our scientific research enable us to educate the public about key issues impacting America's entrepreneurs, with a special focus on advancing the smallest businesses and those facing systemic inequalities.



## Argo Coffee and Biscuits Opens

By Erin Mullins  
Reporter

The owners of Argo Bar, formerly known as Argonaut Espresso Bar, have opened a new location. Argonaut Coffee and Biscuits is located at 220 US-2. The new business is open seven days a week from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. and serves espresso, pastries, and breakfast food.

Breakfast and food options have moved from Argo Bar to Argonaut Coffee and Biscuits. Argo Bar will still serve coffee and cookies. There was not enough space to meet the demand for food items at Argo Bar, said Lindsey Dahlstrom, owner of the two Argonaut locations.

“We’re doing everything out of an 80 square foot box and you’re selling a lot of breakfast items. And we couldn’t keep up with what we were doing so we needed more space,” she said.

Noah Dahlstrom, co-owner of the two Argonaut locations, said that town has been so busy during the last year or two. With downtown being closed to cars that a lot of people didn’t want to go down to Front Street into “the madness.”

With no parking on Front Street, it was harder to get to Argo Bar and the local crowd was missing, said Lindsey Dahlstrom. During the pandemic, she said that the first couple of months were uncertain for Argo Bar, but then the business was busier than ever before. The new location is adjacent to the Department of Transportation parking lot, so there is a lot of available parking.

People were looking for something fast, she said, instead of sitting down for breakfast. Demand at Argo Bar went up and that demand doesn’t seem to be going away anytime soon.

That made the decision to open a second coffee location feel less uncertain. This isn’t the Dahlstroms first time opening a second location.

Noah and Lindsey Dahlstrom used to own Argonaut Kitchen, a sandwich shop with free-range and locally sourced ingredients, but decided to close that location. The shop cooked up sandwiches like the infamous Tokyo Roadhouse, a fried chicken sandwich served on a baguette.

Argonaut Kitchen was profitable and successful, but there was a need for life balance, Noah Dahlstrom said. The sandwich shop was very different from the coffee shop and required a large amount of inventory. So the Dahlstroms just decided to focus on the coffee side of things and reorganize their businesses so they had more time for their family, going outside, and their other priorities.

“At some point I want to make fried chicken again. I don’t know when it will be,” Noah Dahlstrom said.

Even though Argonaut Kitchen is closed permanently, the Dahlstroms are still busy managing two businesses now that Argonaut Coffee and Biscuits has opened. Their employees help to lighten the load, Danielle is managing the two locations, Lindsey Dahlstrom said. Consolidating food operations to one place has also made running two businesses manageable.

Lindsey Dahlstrom said that she loves all of her employees and is excited about the team that she has to start working in the new space. She said that all her employees have a good attitude and work ethic and she is encouraged by the quality of people they have found to work.



Submitted by Argo

The Leavenworth staff at Argo are: Back row from Left: Annie, Noah, Malerie and Perry; Middle Row from left Charlie, Lindsey, Lily, Danielle and Karina, Front row from left, Alaina, Jazmyn, and Liza.

Opening day for Argonaut Coffee and Biscuits was Friday, August 6. Opening day went well, Lindsey Dahlstrom said. “It was really encouraging. A lot of people came out to see and be here for opening day,” she said.

The opening was a soft opening, Noah Dahlstrom said. The Dahlstroms aren’t trying to advertise anywhere because they are working out the little kinks in running their new business as well as finishing up opening touches. The patio is still being built and other parts of the business are being put together.

Argonaut Coffee and Biscuits is in the front of the

Syndicate Smith architecture office building. Noah Dahlstrom said the idea to open a second location at Argonaut Coffee and Biscuits came up in November and December.

Todd Smith, owner of Syndicate Smith architecture, did the basic plans and built a wall between the architecture offices and the to-be coffee shop in the spring.

The finishing work has been done in the past two months, Noah Dahlstrom said.

However, the Dahlstroms knew last year that they couldn’t make as many biscuits and breakfast sandwiches as people wanted at

Argo Bar early last year.

Argo Bar only has one small oven. The staff could only make biscuits that they were going to sell that day, that morning.

Once they were open, Noah Dahlstrom said, they couldn’t make any more biscuits because they needed the oven to heat up food. But at their new location, they can put in more batches into the oven throughout the day as they sell out. The expanded kitchen makes it a lot easier to handle customers’ demands for food.

When asked what motivated him as a business owner to keep growing and expanding, Noah Dahlstrom

said that he and Lindsey just make what they wish existed in the market.

“I think we just make the things that we like, for better or worse”, he said. “I don’t know if that’s a good business model or not but that’s kind of, I think part of that. And then we, you know, we also listen to the community.”

When Argo Bar originally opened, it only sold cookies and coffee. Later, they decided to make savory breakfast sandwiches based on feedback from customers.

Now, a second location called Argonaut Coffee and Biscuits seems to be what people want.

## The Taproom by Hellbent Brewing to Open at Pybus Public Market

Submitted by  
Sarah Williamson

Pybus Public Market is pleased to announce our newest addition to the Pybus family.

Hellbent Brewing will be opening The Taproom by Hellbent Brewing, aiming to open late fall 2021 in the former Wenatchee Brew Pub space.

The Taproom by Hellbent Brewing will feature 20 taps of Hellbent beers along with local ciders, a full bar, wine, craft cocktails and an assortment of non-alcoholic beverages to satisfy customers of all ages.

The Gastro-pub type menu

will feature sandwiches, salads, and rice bowls, all showcasing local ingredients. Six-packs and four-packs of Hellbent Beer will be available for takeout.

Hellbent brewing first opened their doors in Lake City, Seattle in 2015. Their masterful brewer and co-owner, Brian Young, creates an array of delicious ales, seasonal lagers and a few Belgian style brews.

“Our goal is to provide a great taproom experience for all ages featuring our beers and other beverages, with a menu that draws some inspiration from my home state, Hawaii. I

am thrilled to open a business in my wife’s hometown.”, said Randy Embernate, co-owner of Hellbent Brewing.

“The Market is delighted to welcome the Taproom by Hellbent Brewing, bringing back the pub experience for our many guests”, said Leslie Freytag, Executive Director, Pybus Public Market.

“The Hellbent team has created a taproom in Seattle that has become a neighborhood favorite. The Market is excited to welcome what is sure to be a new family friendly gathering place,” added Freytag.

For additional information, please contact: Leslie Freytag: [leslie@pybusmarket.org](mailto:leslie@pybusmarket.org) or 509.679.8338

Sarah Williamson: [sarah@pybusmarket.org](mailto:sarah@pybusmarket.org) or 509.264.8052

### About Pybus Public Market

Pybus Public Market is built in the historic Pybus steel warehouse located next to the Columbia River at the foot of Orondo Street in Wenatchee. The property is a year-round marketplace for restaurants, wine, fruit and vegetable vendors, meats and cheeses, baked goods, oils, other foods, flowers, retail sales and local craftspeople. It also serves as

the permanent home for Wenatchee Valley Farmer’s Market. Pybus Market opened May 11, 2013. Pybus Market is governed by a 20-person board of directors of Pybus Market Charitable Foundation, a 501c (3) non-profit.



# La Tortuga Loca Expands to New Location



Newest restaurant on Cottage Avenue in Cashmere.

By Erin Mullins  
Reporter

La Tortuga Loca, a Mexican street food restaurant, has opened a new location in Cashmere at 106 Cottage Ave.

The Cashmere location opened on Saturday, July 31. The Wenatchee La Tortuga Loca location has been open

for 10 years, said Edwin Fonseca, owner of both La Tortuga Loca locations.

Fonseca said that he had gotten feedback from his clientele in his Wenatchee location that he should expand the restaurant. Before the pandemic, Fonseca had already looked into expanding to a second location in

Wenatchee. He found a location for his second shop, went through the permit process, and hired staff.

Then the pandemic hit, and Fonseca said that he was unable to expand to the second Wenatchee location.

A year later, he saw that a business space was available in Cashmere and

decided to try expanding again.

La Tortuga Loca is a family business. Fonseca said that his dad Antonio Fonseca, mother Ana Fonseca and brother Edgar Fonseca help run the restaurants. His little sister Caroline Fonseca, who is 14 years old, helps out with the

restaurant every once in a while but isn't there all the time because she is young.

"We all work as a team, as a family team and it's definitely worked very well for us," Edwin Fonseca said.

Edwin and Antonio Fonseca are at the Cashmere restaurant seven days a week. Ana and Edgar Fonseca are running the Wenatchee location. Each of his family members is doing a three man job, Edwin Fonseca said.

It has been difficult finding supplies and employees for the new La Tortuga Loca location.

However, every restaurant is in the same boat, Edwin Fonseca said. He has had some loyal employees who have stuck with him and he has brought in some new employees.

Items like imported beer, glass bottles of Coke and appliances are hard to come by.

"You just can't get anything. You can't get a griddle, you can't get a juice maker, you can't get a milkshake machine," he said.

The food at La Tortuga Loca is authentic Mexican street food, like the type of food you would find in Mexico City at the markets, Edwin Fonseca said.

At the public markets, people sell vegetables, fruit, art, and prepared food. But unlike the markets, the food is brought to you at your table instead of being sold by a vendor on the street.

La Tortuga Loca serves food like hot Mexican sandwiches, street tacos, fish tacos, ceviche, sopas and nachos, Edwin Fonseca said.

If he were to recommend one item as a highlight of his menu, Fonseca said it would be the hot Mexican sandwiches or street tacos.

"It's different, you know, our menu is completely dif-

ferent from anything, mostly anything in the valley. So I would say we're really, really unique," he said.

When he opened his second location, Edwin Fonseca said that he didn't do any advertising. He didn't want to do a grand opening party since he is short staffed and he wanted the restaurant to grow organically.

The opening of the new location went better than he expected.

"The first day we opened, we had a lot of tourists in here, who didn't even know we were new," he said, "You know, they just walked in the door, thinking this is an established restaurant."

Families from San Diego, Oregon, and Phoenix came to visit on the first day, Edwin Fonseca said.

Word of mouth has spread about the restaurant and the turnout is getting better every day.

"I think the highlight is seeing people leave happy and knowing they've discovered something new. I like how we are bringing something different to the table in Cashmere. And people are loving that," he said.

Another highlight of opening the new location is learning, Edwin Fonseca said. Himself, his family, and his employees are learning a lot and getting out of their comfort zones while expanding the restaurant.

"Come come try us out. You'll love the experience. We have great people. You know, I'm blessed to have awesome employees who give really good service," he said.

Edwin Fonseca said that he is grateful to the community and businesses of Cashmere. Opening a second location can be frightening, he said, but everyone in the community has been so friendly and kind.

## CRUNCH PAK®

Submitted by  
Crunch Pak

CASHMERE – Crunch Pak®, the sliced apples specialist, is reinventing the look of the healthy fresh snacking category and creating a solution

destination for shoppers at the same time.

"We looked at the definition of our brand, what our products are used for and how could we make it easy for the shopper to understand our offer-

ings overall," said Ozgur Koc, senior vice president, new business and product development.

As a result, the company redesigned the packaging for 30 SKUs and divided its product line into four categories: Fun (Dipperz); Quick energy (Medley); Mini-meal replacement (Snacker); and Meal solution (Café).

The packaging and supporting planograms are rolling out to select stores nationwide after which Crunch Pak will measure sales and adjust sets accordingly.

According to IRI data, there was a 79 percent increase in core snacking categories in 2020. While

most food and beverage categories are expected to decline this year from last year, the snack category is expected to grow 3 percent to 4 percent. IRI predicts that suppliers and their retail partners must implement new strategies and tactics to manage these changes and drive growth.

"Our goal is to provide healthy and nutritious – high in protein, fiber and vitamins – occasion-based solutions for shoppers," Koc said. "We want to be the source for back-to-school and beyond."

For more information visit  
[www.crunchpak.com](http://www.crunchpak.com)

### About Crunch Pak

Crunch Pak® is the industry leader in fresh sliced apples. Founded in 2000, Crunch Pak® is committed to providing the highest quality organic and conventional sliced apples in the market. Crunch Pak's family of brands includes Crunch Pak with Disney, Crunch Pak with Nickelodeon, and Crunch Pak® Organics. The primary distribution is via retail channels; annually Crunch Pak creates more than 1 billion apple slices at plants in Cashmere, Wash., and New Jersey.



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# Building! MEMBER MESSENGER

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

SEPTEMBER 2021 ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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## MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

### Renewing Members This Month

Thank You to the following valued renewing members this month. We're extremely grateful to each of you for your continued membership, involvement and support!

- Black Forest Finishing – 3 years
- Draggoo Financial Group – 12 years
- Elysian Lawn & Landscape, LLC – 5 years
- Grette Associates LLC – 12 years
- Habitat for Humanity of the Greater Wenatchee Area – 13 years
- Karen's Kleening, LLC – 7 years
- McDonald Building, LLC – 24 years
- Pine Canyon Woodworking – 1 year
- Poltz Rentals, LLC – 11 years



- Rayfield Bros. Excavating, Inc. – 24 years
- Rock Steel Structures, Inc. – 24 years
- Three Cedars Home Inspection – 5 years

## July Nothing But Networking



### Hosted by Moonlight Stone Works

In July BNCW held our first Nothing but Networking of 2021 at Moonlight Stone Works! Despite the hot temperatures we had a great turn out. All who at-

tended were treated to a Taco Truck provided by Moonlight Stone Works.

A big thank you to all the hard work the staff at Moonlight Stone Works put into making the first NBN of 2021 a great success! Everyone who attended was able to walk through the showroom to see the wonderful products Moonlight has to offer. Each attendee was entered to win a great raffle prize!

Be sure to mark your calendars for the next BNCW NBN on October 21<sup>st</sup> more information to follow.



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*"Driven to Promote and Protect Small Business"*

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## BNCW's:

FROM A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE

### Retail Regression

**"**While July's retail sales numbers (which include almost exclusively purchases of goods) were not stellar, some perspective please. First, the Delta variant necessarily had some impact, and may well have more in August. Second, the fact that online spending and purchases of building materials declined shouldn't be surprising. That activity remains well above trend and should decline, while spending on services like dining out, which is well below trend, rises."

Elliot F. Eisenberg, Ph.D.

GraphsandLaughs LLC, elliot@graphsandlaughs.net  
Cell: 202.306.2731,  
www.econ70.com



## BNCW's Membership Appreciation Event – Sponsored by Zane Bock, Country Financial

On Thursday, August 12th, BNCW hosted our Annual Membership Appreciation event for our members and their families. Many thanks to Zane Bock at Country Financial for sponsoring this very fun and relaxing event. Thank you to Tess with Complete Design and Danielle with the BNCW staff for their face painting.

Parents were able to enjoy tacos, while their kids were entertained with having their face painted. Interim CEO Amy Gustin took a few moments to thank BNCW Members for their continued support and involvement in our great association.

Dinner this year was a FIESTA! We supported our local community and had our event catered by Plaza Wenatchee. Homemade

tortillas, salsas, and chips were a huge hit! After our dinner, there was a handful of give-a-ways for those lucky winners.

Overall, it was a wonderful evening out at Eastmont Community Park and a great opportunity for all of us here at BNCW to show our utmost appreciation for our many member companies and their families. We simply could not do what we do without the commitment and support of our members!

We strive daily to work for you and help your businesses thrive in a better small business environment. We love what we do and who we work for! Thank you for your commitment to BNCW!

Thank you again to Zane Bock-Country Financial for your sponsorship of this year's Fiesta!



## 2021 BNCW CHEFS ON TOUR FEATURES

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## Meet the Builders in the 2021 Banner Bank & BNCW Home Tour & Remodeling Expo!



### D.C. Custom Construction Inc.

Darin & Christina Arnall  
www.dccustomconstruction.net  
(509) 787-2044 Contractor #: DCCUSCC864QD

D.C. Custom Construction began building in Washington in 2000. We moved to Quincy with our two children in 2000 to build a house in Quincy for Christina’s parents. We since have had two more children and built a lot more homes! We build new and renovate existing homes as well as restaurants. In 2013 we entered the concrete countertop market and began creating concrete countertops and shower surrounds and art pieces. This has created a whole new avenue for us!



### KTS Development

Kyle Steinburg  
(509) 393-4975 Contractor #: KTSDEDL808N4

Kyle Steinburg was born and raised in the Wenatchee Valley. After moving away while serving in the Marine Corps Kyle moved back to East Wenatchee and started his first Business, Wenatchee Body and Fender. Having felt that he had accomplished what he sought out to do in that industry Kyle shifted his focus to land development and construction, an industry he had worked in his youth.

Kyle enjoys being involved in all the aspects of the construction process from the development of raw land, the construction of a home and even the final landscaping. Being vertically integrated allows KTS Development to offer amenities many other builders would consider upgrades at more affordable cost. Kyle’s attention to detail and hands on approach lends to much more than just the completion of a house, he prides himself on delivering a home with his seal of approval.

Kyle knows clear communication with his customers a key attribute to delivering a quality product and meeting the customers’ demands. KTS Development prides itself on following through on promises made and staying on schedule.

Building a house can be stressful and KTS works diligently to make the process enjoyable for its customers, all while building something they are proud of and delivering a beautiful home to a happy customer.



### Carlisle Classic Homes

Chris Groby  
www.cchbuilds.com  
(206) 782-7070 Contractor #: CARLICH981RL

Carlisle Classic Homes is an award-winning remodel and custom home builder with 20 years of experience in the greater Seattle, Leavenworth, and Wenatchee area.

With over 1,200 beautiful homes and remodels, we deliver quality craftsmanship and exceptional client experiences. Our projects run on a state-of-the-art software platform that provides anytime, anywhere access to project schedules, costs, photos and more.

Our clients benefit from a building process that is understandable, predictable, and fully transparent. We are also mindful of the environment we live in and offer green building services ranging from simple energy efficient solutions to fully certified passive homes.

At Carlisle, we are in the business of building beautiful homes and long-standing relationships.



### Wessman Construction

Randy Wessman | Christian Wessman  
https://www.houzz.com/pro/wessmanconstruction  
(509) 264-9662 Contractor #: WESSMCL852N1

Randy Wessman and Christian Wessman, father and son, are second and third generation builders and have been building in the Greater Wenatchee Valley since 1999.

Randy started building in 1986 after he graduated from Central Washington University in 1985 and Christian joined the team 7 years ago.

With over 35 years of construction experience as a licensed contractor, Randy truly enjoys all the aspects of the construction industry.

Together Randy and Christian have a passion for the design aspect as well as new construction, repurposing of old materials, recycling and salvaging materials, helping to take unique natural resources and create a one-of-a-kind finished project for every client.

From rustic to craftsman and everything in between, they work with clients to bring their vision to life in every project.

Integrity, quality, and design, is our motto and the core of what Wessman Construction LLC. is built upon. From helping each customer design the perfect home, to personally overseeing every aspect of the construction process.

Randy and Christian’s construction style is “hands on”. They complete several phases of the construction process themselves while at the same time consulting and utilizing local craftsmen to create a unique finished product for every customer.



### Lexar Homes

Shawn Larson  
www.lexarhomes.com  
(509) 663-1722 Contractor #: LEXARHW903QT

Lexar Homes is proud to be in our 12th year of calling the Wenatchee Valley home! Owners Rob & Tyler Eldred have put together a strong, experienced and dependable local team to take care of every detail in your new custom home.

At Lexar Homes we feel that our customers deserve a home that works for them in every way, including size, style, amenities, and maintenance while being cost-effective. Just as important, your home should provide a safe, healthy, comfortable and sustainable environment for your family. We are passionate about having our homeowners involved in designing & building their custom dream home, giving them every opportunity to move into their new Lexar home with thousands of dollars in equity. We’ve also put together packages for those of you with busy schedules, who want to leave the details to our knowledgeable Lexar team.

Visit us on the web at [www.lexarhomes.com](http://www.lexarhomes.com) or stop by and see Shawn Larson or Pedro Pulido at 147 Easy Way Ste.104, Wenatchee. A Lexar Home isn’t just a decision to Choose Right; it’s a choice to Live Right.



### Roberts Constructions

Mike Roberts  
www.robertsconstruction-homes.com  
(509) 669-3435 Contractor #: ROBERCL935JL

Roberts Construction LLC has been a dominant force in the Wenatchee Valley for over 40 years. With Mike at the helm of this three generational operated company he has driven his brand to be recognized as a premier builder within the community.

One of the highly recognized attributes of selecting a Roberts home is seeing Mike involved with every step of the building process. The pride implemented from Mike shines through his attention to detail and quality in his product. One of the cornerstones of Mikes devotion is to implement new creative concepts, ideas & designs with each home he creates.

Roberts Constructions trend-setting styles, client dedication and high product standards has generated a dedicated following & repeat clientele. Mikes creativity and passion throughout his career has culminated into his newest endeavor, Swift Springs. This brand new development that Roberts Construction is supplying the community is conveniently located at the top of Springwater Ave in Wenatchee WA. Here you will see the cohesive and distinct Roberts Construction designs and styles throughout the complete neighborhood.



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Kathy is active in several professional organizations. A few such as the National Association of Health Underwriters, National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors (State President 2010), all local Chambers of Commerce, National Federation of Independent Business and, Office of Insurance Commissioner’s Agent Advisory Committee. Kathy also serves as a member and officer of several organizations. She lends her expertise and energy to professional and public service activities in support of the community, per-

forming arts and the insurance industry. This dedication has made Smithson Insurance Services the source of insurance protection for many members of our community and Washington State.

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## TOOLBOX TALKS

### Working Around Bees and Insects

#### Stinging Wasps, Hornets, Yellow Jackets and Bees

Working outdoors means encountering all kinds of insects. At best, stings can cause pain and irritation, and at worst, an allergic reaction. It is important for everyone to understand how to avoid being stung, know where to locate a **first aid kit**, and help treat fellow workers who have been afflicted by an insect sting.

#### Before working at a site:

- Be aware of your surroundings and look around. Check to see if there are any visible signs of activity or a hive or nest. If you see several insects flying around, check to see if they are entering/exiting from the same hole or place. If so, it is likely a nest or a source of food.
- Do not wear perfumes, colognes, scented soaps, or powders as they contain fragrances that are attractive.
- Power tools such as lawnmowers, weed eaters and chainsaws will aggravate the insects. When using power tools, be aware that the tools may provoke the insects or in some cases, cause the insects to swarm.

#### If you find you are working near stinging insects, here are some tips:

- Most bees and wasps will not sting unless they are startled or attacked.
- Do not swat at them or make fast movements. The best option is to let the insects fly away on their own. If you must, walk away slowly, or gently “blow” them away. **The only exception is** if you have disturbed a nest and hear “wild” buzzing. Protect your face with your hands and run from the area immediately.
- Wear light-colored clothes such as khakis, beige, or blue.
- Avoid brightly colored, patterned, or black clothing.
- Tape your pant legs to your boots/socks, and your sleeves to your gloves.
- You may also wish to wear an extra layer of clothing since wasp stings are only long enough to reach through one layer of clothing.

#### Management of Outdoor Food Sources is Very Important

Some insects, such as the yellow jackets look for different types of food at different times of the year. In the spring, they require more protein for the new larvae and may be more attracted to other insects but also to meats and pet food. **By late summer, they are more interested in high sugar foods such as fruit, candy, and pop (soft drinks).**

- Empty and wash out garbage cans regularly. Fit garbage cans with a tight lid.
- Place trash cans away from the work area
- Serve sweet drinks in containers with lids and straws.

**Wasps will often crawl into pop cans and can be “drunk” accidentally.**

Keep your thumb over the can opening if a container with a lid is not available. Wasps and hornets do not leave their sting in you, and so they can sting repeatedly. Honeybees can sting only once and will leave the sting (and venom sac plus some other parts) stuck in the skin at the sting site. The sting, if present, should be removed right away since the venom can still be injected for up to a minute after the bee detaches from its sting.

The CDC estimates that around 100 people die each year from allergic reactions to bee, wasp, and hornet stings. Workers who know they have these allergies should notify their supervisor and carry an (EpiPen). A medical signifier, such as a bracelet, necklace, or card that contains information about their condition is also recommended. If workers do get stung, best practice is to have someone stay with them to watch for any allergic reactions.

**The area where the sting occurred should be washed with soap and water before attempting to remove the stinger. Do not attempt to remove it with tweezers or by squeezing the wound. Instead, run a clean fingernail or gauze from a first aid kit over the sting to draw the stinger out.**

Ice can be applied to a recent sting to help reduce swelling. Refrain from scratching or picking at a sting so that it doesn't become further irritated or infected.



### BNCW EVENTS

#### BNCW's September Board of Directors Meeting

There will not be a meeting in September at Building North Central Washington 2201 N. Wenatchee Ave, Wenatchee  
**Chairman: Jeff Story**

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.

#### BNCW's September CPR & First Aid Training

**September 23, 2021**  
 from 4:00pm to 6:00pm  
 Held at Building North Central Washington, 2201 N. Wenatchee Avenue, Wenatchee

**Class size is limited to 15 people. (NOTE - there are only 5 spaces left!!)**

\$49/person, includes Continuing Ed credits and is good for new and recertification.

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

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

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

**Pre-registration Required.** Seats are limited to 12 and fill-up quickly, so reserve your spots early!

**You may also register online at BuildingNCW.org.**

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## Ryker to head Endowment Fund Campaign

Icicle Creek Center for the Arts Board of Directors is pleased to announce a new executive position in resource development, and that Executive Director **Rebecca Ryker** has stepped into this new role, effective immediately.

Ryker will focus on a new Endowment Fund campaign, community relations, campus facilities, and arts programming in partnership with the artistic directors and ICCA staff.

"These are exciting times for ICCA," said board Treasurer Dan DeYoung.

"We're kicking off an Endowment Fund campaign, and looking forward to more in-person programming, hopefully, as we come out of Covid restrictions this fall."

The focus of the resource development position aligns with the strategic plan adopted in fall 2020, which includes the goals of establishing the endowment fund, expanding reach through partner-

ships, and diversifying program content and delivery.

Ryker joined ICCA as Event Director in spring 2013 as Snowy Owl Theater came online and was promoted to Executive Director the following year.

Prior to ICCA, she worked in the Seattle area for Oki Golf, the Harbor Clubs, and other premier clubs and hotels.

"I'm so proud of the ICCA staff. This year we've supported local artists, offered arts education online for all ages, and produced outdoor and indoor concerts despite the challenges of

Covid," said Ryker.

"I'm excited to serve ICCA in this new role, explore and develop some new programming, and work with community partners. We're positioned to come out of Covid restrictions strong, and it's a great time for a new ED to assume leadership."



Rebecca Ryker



Wendi Mingo



Stacey Menley



Laura Valencia

## P.E.O. JF Announces Scholarship Winners

Submitted by **Mimi Keller**

P.E.O. Chapter JF-WA is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2021-22 Local Scholarship

This year's recipients are **Wendi Mingo** from Cashmere is currently working at Confluence Health as a certi-

fied nurses' assistant and has been accepted in the nursing program at Wenatchee Valley College.

**Stacey Menley** from Cashmere is currently attending Wenatchee Valley College in the field of Business Computer Technology and plans to become an accountant or

administrative assistant in the field after completion.

**Laura Valencia** from Wenatchee is currently a para-educator in the Wenatchee School District.

She is a junior at Central Washington University studying to become a Bilingual Elementary Teacher.

## Sharese Graham joins SCJ Alliance as Senior NEPA Specialist

WENATCHEE – **Sharese Graham, PMP** has joined SCJ Alliance as a Senior NEPA Specialist. She brings her environmental documentation, permitting and project management expertise, and a background in urban planning and biology to the firm.

Graham has a BA in Marine Biology from the University of California, Santa Cruz. She has 20 years of experience in environmental strategy, impact analyses, permitting, and documentation for a wide variety of State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) projects. Her experience includes transportation, infrastructure, recreation, school, industrial, and residential develop-

ment projects, as well as shoreline, comprehensive and master planning efforts. At SCJ she is already applying her expertise to a significant WSDOT project improving 23 fish passages, a multi-field sports complex, and the SR 3 Freight Corridor Supplemental EA.

SCJ Alliance is a 100% employee-owned firm specializing in civil engineering, transportation planning and design, environmental and urban planning, landscape architecture, and public outreach. With 11 offices across three states, teams anticipate emerging needs and priorities, envision projects that enhance communities, and create designs that bring visions to life.



Sharese Graham

## Stemilt Welcomes Vivian Page as Vice President of Human Capital

WENATCHEE – Stemilt is pleased to announce **Vivian Page** as its new Vice President of Human Capital.

Page joins Stemilt following 23 years at beverage company Talking Rain and brings extensive experience in human resource strategy and management.

In the newly created executive team role, Page will oversee human capital functions across Stemilt's vast operations, with an emphasis on culture, talent development, and advancing the company's purpose of cultivating people and delighting consumers through excellence.

"We are thrilled to have Vivian onboard at Stemilt," said West Mathison, Stemilt president.

"Her experience in building company culture, engagement, and a sustainable and

talented workforce will be a great asset as Stemilt continues on the path towards cultivating people that grow



Vivian Page

World Famous Fruit through excellence."

Page was born and raised in Guatemala. She has a degree in political science from Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala and an executive leadership program certifica-

tion from the University of California-Berkeley.

She was the first member of Talking Rain's human resource department and was instrumental in taking the company from start-up to a beverage leader with its top sparkling water brand, Sparkling Ice.

"I'm excited for this opportunity to take the culture and people that make Stemilt great to a new level," said Page. "Stemilt is well-known for its World Famous Fruit and as a preferred place to work in Wenatchee and surrounding areas.

"I'm grateful for the opportunity to work with the leadership team to build upon this foundation and ensure Stemilt is both a people and product focused fruit company well into the future."

*The Contract*  
Unveiling the healing power of forgiveness  
A novel by local writer William E. Forhan.

Nobel Prize winning author Gabriel Garcia Márquez was quoted as saying, "All human beings have three lives, public, private and secret."

In our modern world of the Internet search engines and DNA testing, keeping our private and secret lives separate is increasingly difficult. Sometimes they can come crashing in on our public lives when we least expect it.

Father Robert McCarthy is a middle-aged priest who is suddenly and unexpectedly confronted with his secret past. How he deals with the revelation of that past with his family, his congregation and the impacts of that secret life is inspirational. How McCarthy discloses the news of his college indiscretion requires him to take everyone involved on a journey of confession. That journey forces him to deal with issues of homosexuality, judgmentalism, divorce and pride.

His pastoring skills and the depth of support from his wife help him bring forgiveness and restoration to many broken relationships.

The bonds of three families are ultimately restored through celebrations of life experiences including fishing, holiday gatherings, the discovery of unknown family connections and a wedding.

Bill's Book is now available online through Amazon.com, BarnesandNoble.com and Apple iBook The paperback is \$16.99 and the ebook is \$8.99. Or you can order the book directly from Bill at The Leavenworth Echo (509-548-5286), the Lake Chelan Mirror (509-682-2213), or by emailing your contact information to Bill.Forhan@gmail.com. Orders placed directly with the author have the added advantage of being signed including a short message if you like. Sales tax applies and if you request mail delivery add \$3.00 for postage. There is no charge if your order is picked up at the Echo or Mirror office.

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## CRUTs: A Practical Path to a Lasting Legacy

By Russ Speidel

Attorney,  
Speidel Bentsen Law Firm

Today we'd like to introduce you to the Charitable Remainder Unitrust, also known as the CRUT.

CRUTs can be a donor's best friend, providing them an income stream for life and allowing them to establish a legacy once they pass.

In 1995, an investment advisor called me for help. He had an elderly retiree-client, a single man who owned about \$1 million of appreciated Alcoa stock. The advisor was looking for a way to sell the stock, to avoid paying capital gains tax, AND increase his client's monthly income.

This was a tall order, but when I inquired and learned that the retiree might have a charitable intent, there was an easy solution: form a Charitable Remainder Unitrust with the Community Foundation. It worked

marvelously. The retiree transferred his Alcoa stock to the Community Foundation, which could sell it tax free. Then, during the remainder of the retiree's lifetime, the CRUT paid to the



Russ Speidel

retiree all of its net income, a sum much greater than the Alcoa dividends.

The retiree, Roy Hill, established a lasting legacy through a Scholarship Fund and a Designated Fund.

To this day, those funds support students and

provide income to his favorite charity every year.

In the 20 years since he passed in 1998, approximately \$1.3 million has been awarded in grants and scholarships and the funds have grown in value with a balance today of over \$1.9 million – allowing his legacy to continue on, forever.

Roy Hill loved music. He cared deeply about ensuring the future of aspiring musicians and also supporting the Wenatchee Valley Symphony, one of his favorite nonprofits.

By establishing a CRUT, Mr. Hill secured a larger income for himself during the remainder of his life, and he left an astonishing gift to the community by creating the Roy W Hill Music Scholarship and a designated fund to benefit the symphony.

CRUTs work particularly well when people have an appreciated asset and

**What is your legacy?**

Provide for your family and future generations. Leave a gift to your community, forever.

www.cfncw.org • (509) 663-7716

Community Foundation of North Central Washington

want to avoid capital gains tax. People who own rental properties – and are tired of being landlords – can gift their rental properties to CFNCW to establish a CRUT. Often the interest income from the CRUT pro-

vides as much if not more income than they would have received from tenants, without all the hassle of maintaining the property.

CRUTs provide tax advantages and provide a charitable deduction for the

donor. And the best part: They will have established a charitable legacy in the process.

To learn more, visit [www.cfncw.org](http://www.cfncw.org) or contact the Community Foundation at (509) 663-7716.



PHOTO BY TIM MCCORD PHOTOGRAPHY

Infinity Band members from left Craig Coleman, Dan Scott, Randy Loran, Joe Cresanti, and Jesse Smith hold ceremonial check for RLS Productions scholarship program.

## RLS Productions' Concerts on the Campus raises \$100,000 for scholarships

Submitted by Rachel Evey  
WVC Foundation executive director

After a successful 2021 concert season, the annual RLS Productions' Concerts on the Campus series has raised a cumulative \$100,000 for the RLS Productions Scholarships since its inception in 2014.

This year's series included the Encore Challenge, which encouraged donors to help meet the \$100,000 goal.

Founded by Robert and Catherine (Rio) Sandidge, the RLS

Productions' Concerts on the Campus is a five-week summer concert series held in Wenatchee.

This was the first year it was held on the Wenatchee Valley College Coopriders Sport Fields Complex near the Student Recreation Center.

"It is amazing how the series and the endowment have built over the years," said WVC President Jim Richardson.

"I appreciate the generosity of Robert and Rio, and all the people who have attended con-

certs. WVC students directly benefit due to their support and involvement."

"The collective impact RLS Productions' Concerts on the Campus is astounding," said WVC Foundation Executive Director Rachel Evey.

"One of the best things about the scholarship is that, as an endowment, it will support future generations of students in perpetuity. The concerts, and everyone involved in them, are an investment in our community's future."

Funding for the RLS Productions Scholarship comes from direct sponsorships, ticket sales and supporters of the concert series.

Robert and Rio Sandidge recognize all the generous sponsors, supporters, volunteers, and concert goers, both past and present.

"Rio and I feel so blessed that the Wenatchee valley believed in this series and how it gives back to the college," said Robert Sandidge.

"We are grateful for the past seven years of support we received from our sponsors, supporters and concert attendees. We know they rely on us to not only promote their businesses and provide an exceptional concert series, but to also give back to our community in the form of scholarships. When Rio and I started this pursuit, we never dreamed we'd reach this level of contributions. We owe it to all these generous individuals, businesses and volunteers."



# REAL ESTATE

## TOP PROPERTIES – JULY 2021

Buyer	Seller	Sale Price	Street	City	Legal acreage	Living area	Year Built	Bed-rooms	Bath-rooms	Pool	Fire-place
CHELAN RESOURCES LLC	WEYERHAEUSER COMPANY	\$17,817,820	UNASSIGNED	PESHASTIN	640.0000	0	0			N	N
DM PARK VENTURES LLC	MLMT 2005-MCP1 WASHINGTON OFFICE PROPERTIES LLC	\$5,257,206	805 S MISSION ST	WENATCHEE	2.2800	28000	1988			N	N
CHELAN-DOUGLAS LAND TRUST	SCOFIELD CORP	\$3,000,000	UNASSIGNED	CHELAN	40.0000	0	0			N	N
CHELAN-DOUGLAS LAND TRUST	BEAR MOUNTAIN RANCH INC	\$3,000,000	UNASSIGNED	CHELAN	40.0000	0	0			N	N
SHIMADA COURTNEY & JENNY	BUCKLEY WILLIAM	\$2,900,000	2800 S LAKESHORE RD	CHELAN	0.3000	1732	2017	4	3	N	N
WADE DAVID M & KAREN A	CLENNON BARTON H & SHEILA E	\$2,605,000	2350 MAPLE ST	WENATCHEE	2.8100	7658	1997	4		N	Y
HOOPER THOMAS M & VIRGINIA A	ADAMS TRI-CITIES ENTERPRISES INC	\$2,000,000	1386 S LAKESHORE RD	CHELAN	0.2100	1420	1983	3	1.75	N	N
CHEN BO & TAN LI SANG	MC CANNON JEFFREY & STACY	\$1,925,000	140 MIRABELLA DR	CHELAN	0.7500	1846	2008	3	4	Y	Y
HOLM MARCUS J & LAUREN T	PLOUFF DARRELL E	\$1,915,000	17027 N SHORE DR	LAKE WENATCHEE	0.2500	1225	2019	3	3	N	Y
DIE GUILD LLC	MK & S PROPERTIES LLC	\$1,800,000	645 FRONT ST	LEAVENWORTH	0.0600	1800	1908			N	N
THE LITTLE RIVER CABIN LLC	GASZYNSKI BILL & PAMELA	\$1,750,000	12432 SHORE ST	LEAVENWORTH	0.8200	1360	1978	2	1.5	N	Y
MANCHESTER TUSCANY LLC	LAFFERTY JOHN C ETAL	\$1,700,000	25 CHELAN BUTTE RD	CHELAN	23.4800	1206	1981	2	2	N	Y
WILKINSON SUSAN A & LARSEN JEFFERY	TERRY STEVEN	\$1,645,000	327 HIGHPOINT PL	CHELAN	2.9100	2974	1991	3	2.25	Y	Y
YEH KUANLING & SOMMERS BENJAMIN J	MC CALLUM FRANCIS J & KIMBERLY A	\$1,520,000	100 GOLDFINCH LN	CHELAN	0.0900	1698	2019	4	3.5	N	Y
SMITH KYLE ETAL	DIJ LIVING TRT	\$1,510,000	UNASSIGNED	MANSON	15.2800	0	0			N	N
CROSSETT MICHAEL & SIGNE	SCHOCK BRAD	\$1,495,000	1926 BROADVIEW	WENATCHEE	0.6400	3458	2006	4	4.5	N	N
GGW EXCHANGE FACILITATOR LLC	MALOOF STEVEN S & TRUDY N	\$1,322,500	259 HELIOS HILLS LN	MANSON	0.4900	1042	1994	3	2.5	N	N
KSBMLB INVESTMENT LLC ETAL	CAMPBELL DANNY L ETAL	\$1,230,000	UNASSIGNED	MANSON	0.3200	0	0			N	N
WILLIAMS MATTHEW J & LANA K	GANN DENISE A & JACOB A	\$1,200,000	866 AUTUMN CREST DR	WENATCHEE	0.7500	1991	2019	4	3.5	N	Y
BUCKLEY WILLIAM K & O CONNOR TAMMY L	MAYER RUDY LLC	\$1,200,000	3780 US HWY 97A	CHELAN	0.7500	1368	1972			N	N
TERRY STEVEN W & PATRICIA F	CARR GEORGE C & ANNE T	\$1,175,000	3315 OHME RD	WENATCHEE	1.2400	3172	2016	4	2.5	N	N
COURTNEY CRAGG D & ROBERTA H	TOMLINSON KATE & MANDI M DAWSON	\$1,156,425	204 E WAPATO AVE	CHELAN	0.1900	5301	1954			N	N
BLANK BRIAN J & WENDY L	OLSON KEITH R & JODI T	\$1,142,000	4630 MANSON BLVD	MANSON	2.3400	1711	2011	2	2	Y	Y
HOOVER JASON & ANDRIA	PUGET SOUND QUALITY CONSTRUCTION INC	\$1,100,000	104 RUDY CIR	CHELAN	0.2600	3190	2021	4	4.5	N	Y
ONSTOT KEITH W & MERO JACQUELINE A	THOMAS DONALD S & CYNTHIA T	\$1,000,000	439 MACKINAW LN	CHELAN	0.0800	1746	2019	3	2.5	N	Y
MTNS LLC	GBS LAKE HILLS LLC	\$975,000	889 LONG DR	CHELAN	0.3400	0	0			N	N
KEKO LAND LLC	WEYERHAEUSER COMPANY	\$954,000	UNASSIGNED	PESHASTIN	80.2100	0	0			N	N
SCHONBERG TUCKER ETAL	HESLOP LAURA M P & BRENT G	\$950,000	16896 BROWN RD	LAKE WENATCHEE	1.0000	4357	1972	4	2.5	N	Y
CHUDNOFSKY JASON & STEPHANIE	HAUSMANN MATTHEW	\$950,000	447 W ROLLING HILLS LN	WENATCHEE	0.5700	2049	2007	4	4	N	Y
ZAPALOWSKI BRAD D & MEGAN	SCANLON LORRAINE T	\$910,000	575 CASCADE ST	LEAVENWORTH	0.2400	2632	2016	4		N	N
KOLESAR CHARLES B	MAHARRY STEPHEN J	\$907,500	21103 LARIAT RD	PLAIN	0.2400	1120	2009			N	N
BYRD MICHAEL G L & MISTY N	WRIGHT DANIEL D & SIMPSON JOAN M	\$850,000	179 IDYLL SPURS LN	CHELAN	20.0000	2640	2012	3	2	N	Y
GRAIKA GWYNN M & DONALD J	ROBERTS SCOT J & TERESA L	\$832,000	859 AUTUMN CREST DR	WENATCHEE	0.5000	2366	2018	3	2.5	Y	Y
HAYES ADAM J & CATHY J	POTTER MILES & JUDITH	\$825,000	1877 BEAR MOUNTAIN RD	CHELAN	21.4300	1860	2014	3	2.75	N	Y
SITKA LIVING TRUST ETAL	FREEMAN MARK A & LAURA D	\$800,000	329 E SAYLES ST	CHELAN	0.2200	3493	2010			N	N
CAMPBELL TRACY & MARCI	FREELS DAVID	\$800,000	111 RIVIERA PL	CHELAN	0.5200	1508	1977		2	N	Y
BARNIER JONATHAN & HEATHER	HARDIN SETH & CASEY J ETAL	\$800,000	1438 BIGHORN WAY	CHELAN	0.0400	1056	2020	2	3	N	N
PROKOFYEV AUDREY & IRINA	BECKER HOMES LLC	\$775,000	202 PINEGRASS ST	LEAVENWORTH	0.1700	0	0			N	N
JUHASZ ZACHARY & KERN SHANNON	PISTORESI JOHN L	\$774,900	90 TIP TOP RD	PESHASTIN	20.0000	1560	2009	3	1.5	N	Y
WATTS ADAM C & YOKOI GARNET M	SPRINGWATER HOMES LLC	\$763,000	3782 BUCK HAVEN LN	WENATCHEE	1.0100	2833	2021	3	2.5	N	Y
SMITH S LINCOLN & PROISE SHELLEY C	BEALL CAROL	\$760,000	4811 YAKSUM CANYON RD	CASHMERE	2.5300	2108	1962	4	2	Y	Y
KAY KEVIN M & WARD STEPHANIE D	SULLIVAN KEVIN	\$759,000	322 PINEGRASS ST	LEAVENWORTH	0.1400	0	0			N	N
QUALEY SUSAN	GRIFFIN RICHARD B	\$750,000	3875 CAMAS CREEK RD	PESHASTIN	1.4700	1860	1998	2	2	N	Y
GARDENIA INVESTMENTS LTD	WALLIG DANIEL & MONICA HOFFER TRUST	\$749,000	15471 CEDAR BRAE RD	LAKE WENATCHEE	0.4600	1440	2001	4	2.25	N	Y
SINGH BALJIT ETAL	ROE RAYMOND & KARALEIGH	\$740,000	913 S WILSON ST	WENATCHEE	0.3500	4464	1995			N	N
MANEY ROGER & KELSIE	NEFF JONATHAN N & SUSAN N	\$740,000	3520 DIANNA WAY	WENATCHEE	0.2900	2700	2016	3	2	N	Y
ROE CHRISTOPHER A & MELISSA K	CLIFTON LEAVENWORTH LLC	\$737,000	11681 RIVER BEND DR	LEAVENWORTH	0.3400	2312	1977	3	1	N	N
COOK JAMES & LEAH	PARKER ZACHARY	\$730,000	1710 WARM SPRINGS DR	WENATCHEE	0.4100	2024	2005	4	4	N	Y

## TOP PROPERTIES – July 2021 – continued from page 17

Buyer	Seller	Sale Price	Street	City	Legal acreage	Living area	Year Built	Bed-rooms	Bath-rooms	Pool	Fire-place
COUTS BRADLEY R & MITCHELL MCKENZIE S	U REN DEAN & CINDY	\$728,500	6661 FOREST RIDGE DR	WENATCHEE	0.5000	1563	2006	3	2	N	N
WEBER KRISI L & JEFFREY	BELL RANDOLPH S & SUSAN B	\$725,000	364 SR 150	CHELAN	0.3400	0	0			N	N
MADSON KELLY D & SHARON L	SALSTROM AARON R & BELEN M	\$725,000	60 S LAKESHORE RD	CHELAN	1.7600	850	0			N	N
EVANGELISTA FRANCIS & MICHELLE L	HARVEY DEVELOPMENT LLC	\$720,000	54 WARD LN	MANSON	0.3300	0	0			N	N
TROMP KEVEN M & HEATHER M	SULLIVAN KELSEY & WATTS MATTHEW	\$710,000	316 PINEGRASS ST	LEAVENWORTH	0.1400	0	0			N	N
OH GABRIEL Y & RENEE E	RANEY ELIZABETH ANN	\$705,000	305 BUTTE RD	CHELAN	0.2000	1662	1994	4	3	N	N
WOLF JEFFREY D & MICHELLE D	MURDOCK CORY L & MICHELE R	\$700,000	1055 PITCHER CANYON RD	WENATCHEE	1.2600	2588	1993	3	2.5	N	Y
TEIGEN MONS P & BUCKLEY TEIGEN LISA C	BRITSON JOSHUA	\$700,000	11752 D ANJOU LN	LEAVENWORTH	0.5600	1702	2003	3	2.5	N	Y
JENNINGS CLARK W & MARILYN J	PERKINS TODD J & JESSICA L	\$700,000	26325 WHITE RIVER RD	LAKE WENATCHEE	1.3800	1664	2021	3	2	N	N
HARRINGTON GABRIEL & LARGENT JULIAUNA	LAWS WENDY J & JOHN M	\$692,500	7053 COLOCKUM RD	MALAGA	45.0000	1236	1984	2	1.5	N	Y
MONTGOMERY BRANDON M & WHITNEY H	MC NALLEN ANDREW L & PARTICIA	\$690,000	5721 MOUNTAIN LANE RD	PESHASTIN	4.6100	1252	1979	3	2	N	Y
DANCS THOMAS & BRIDGET	SAENGER CHRISTIAN L & TERESA A	\$690,000	UNASSIGNED	PLAIN	1.0000	0	0			N	N
IGIC PETAR & PENZOTTI JENNIFER	ENGLAND DAVE & KIMBERLY A	\$685,000	188 S HARRIS AVE	MANSON	0.2100	1280	1921	3	1.75	N	N
DOBBS SAMUEL R & CAM NGON TRAN	BELL RANDOLPH S & SUSAN B	\$685,000	100 LAKE CHELAN SHORES DR	CHELAN	0.0000	975	0			N	N
WILLIAMS RAYMOND F & TINA R	WALTERS DAVID V & BARBARA G	\$680,000	1239 MALAGA ALCOA HWY	MALAGA	1.0100	2672	1995	5	3.75	N	N
HEIMENDINGER SCOTT M & DORFMAN ELIZABETH H	PARIS DALE E & PATRICIA A	\$675,000	128 MOUNTAINEER CREEK LN	LEAVENWORTH	6.3000	0	0			N	N
6S ORLY CHELAN WA LLC	NAUMES INC	\$670,103	100 N APPLE BLOSSOM DR	CHELAN	1.6500	0	0			N	N
RAGSDALE DAVID W & MOLLI B	RHODES RANDE & YVONNE	\$670,000	15290 MARTIN CHRISTENSEN DR	LEAVENWORTH	7.7500	1960	1994	3	3	N	Y
MAYO STEPHEN & MAYO NORIKO	WINTER MARY J	\$665,000	1421 APPLERIDGE ST	WENATCHEE	0.2800	2231	2005	4	2	N	Y
GALBRAITH ANTHONY	SCHMIDT D PAUL	\$665,000	609 SAGE HILLS DR	WENATCHEE	1.1400	1569	1979	6	2.5	N	Y
SELASCO KATHERINE & MARTIN	SCHMIDT JEFFERY A	\$650,000	505 RINGSRUD LN	CASHMERE	1.4100	1932	1993	3	2.5	N	Y
MC ALLISTER SHANNA & PFISTER KARIN M	REINHART RYAN A ETAL	\$650,000	208 WEST ST	LEAVENWORTH	0.1600	1664	1978			Y	Y
DUFFY ALEX W	PETERS DIANA	\$635,500	121 DOWNIE CANYON RD	CHELAN	11.7000	2416	1940	2	2	N	Y
MPV INVESTMENTS LLC	KPSDAVIDSGRANDVIEW LLC	\$620,000	322 W WOODIN AVE	CHELAN	0.0000	902	0			N	N
GILBERT LEVI & IRENE	FASCHING MICHAEL J & JENNY A	\$614,000	3680 W MALAGA RD	MALAGA	2.7500	898	1986	2	2	Y	N
RASTEGAR SABA S & ROWE PRISER ASHLIE R	SHUTT LARRY R & KATHLEEN M	\$600,000	765 HIGHLAND HAVEN LN	CHELAN	40.0000	2603	2001	4	2.75	N	N
LORD DAVID N & NORMA J	KILBOURN TOBY L & TANA D	\$600,000	548 CHRISAND LN	WENATCHEE	0.2800	2112	2004	4	2	Y	N
HARVILL ANDREW & SARAH	TORRES LOPEZ MARIA D	\$600,000	1506 WASHINGTON ST	WENATCHEE	0.3800	1533	1963	4	3	N	N
KOSKELA JADE T & LIN NAN	CAMPBELL TROY T	\$590,000	213 W COMMERCIAL ST	LEAVENWORTH	0.1800	1408	1973	3	1.5	N	N
SIVINSKI GREG A & SANDRA A	ANDERSON DONALD E	\$565,000	1804 ASPEN PL	WENATCHEE	0.2600	1958	1994	3	2	N	N
CAMPBELL TROY	HEFFERNAN EDWARD L & REBECCA A	\$565,000	7330 OLALLA CANYON RD	CASHMERE	4.6600	1914	1978	5	2	N	Y
MC INTIRE ANDREW AND BOYNN	HARRINGTON GABRIEL JOHN	\$560,000	708 SAGE HILLS DR	WENATCHEE	1.3500	1134	1973	3	2.5	Y	N
TORRES JUSTIN & SABRINA	HUNSTOCK ELEANOUR & SHAWN D	\$550,000	5316 BIG SPRINGS RANCH RD	MALAGA	4.9000	1620	1997			N	N
RYF JESSICA C	MOXLEY MARGARET M	\$550,000	404 S FRANKLIN AVE	WENATCHEE	0.1800	1769	1929	5	2.5	N	Y

## Building Association seeks pause of costly new energy code requirements to ease rising home prices



Submitted by  
Janelle Guthrie

OLYMPIA – In response to the supply chain disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, which are contributing to the dramatic increase in new home prices in Washington, the Building Industry Association of Washington has asked the Governor to suspend implementation of the costly new Energy Code to April 2022.

Since its implementation in February, homebuilders have seen an average of \$15,000 to \$20,000 in increased construction costs, all of which add to the price families pay for new homes. Aside from the added costs from the new energy code requirements,

builders are now experiencing the massive product supply issues confronting other industries, delaying construction projects and increasing the costs even further.

Builders are reporting substantial delays in products like HVAC components, such as furnaces and heat pumps, energy-efficient windows and insulation. Builders are also struggling to source the 400-amp service panels now required due to all the additional electrical components required and delivery times are no longer even being provided by manufacturers.

BIAW President Tracy Doriot of Doriot Construction added that insulators

are also running behind, which delays projects even further.

“While we recognize the challenges the Governor has faced during these tumultuous times, we are asking him to take a serious look at supply chain disruptions and housing costs and provide much needed relief,” said BIAW President Tracy Doriot of Doriot Construction. “Homes are more important than ever. Providing relief from these changes will help stabilize the supply chain and save current homebuyer tens of thousands of dollars.”

Installing a compliant heat pump is particularly difficult as suppliers struggle to keep up with demand. Lead times have increased

from 30 days to 90 days, and costs for those systems have increased up to \$6,900, according to one residential contractor.

That same contractor shared that windows compliant with the new code are taking up to 30 weeks for delivery, as there is only one NW manufacturer producing them. Windows compliant with the previous code are available in just eight weeks.

Prices for the new code-compliant windows are also 40-50 percent higher. The average new home price in Washington is over \$522,000 – meaning roughly three-quarters of families are priced out. For every \$1,000 increase 2,500 families are priced out of new home own-

ership opportunities.

“Pausing implementation until April will benefit local governments that are facing strained revenue and staffing shortages, businesses related to the supply chain of residential home building, and the burgeoning affordable housing deficit,” said Greg Lane, Executive Vice President of the Building Industry Association of Washington.

“Granting this pause allows builders and industry leaders to make the necessary adjustments to their operations without hasty decision-making and less than thorough implementation, saving time and money.”

Washington’s building codes went into effect for most residential contrac-

tors on Feb. 1, 2021, with the exception of those in the City of Seattle where the codes were delayed until March 15, 2021.

The Washington State Building Code Council in January voted to delay code implementation until July 1, 2021, but the Governor repealed the extension shortly thereafter.

The Building Industry Association of Washington is the voice of the housing industry as the state’s largest trade association with nearly 8,000 member companies. The association is dedicated to ensuring and enhancing the vitality of the building industry so more Washington families can enjoy the American Dream of owning a home. Learn more at: [www.biaw.com](http://www.biaw.com)

# Chelan-Douglas Community Action Council meets strong need with Rent Assistance program

Submitted by Alan Walker

Wenatchee – The Chelan-Douglas Community Action Council began managing the Treasury Rent Assistance Program (T-RAP) in May, 2021. This rent assistance program is available to qualifying individuals and households in Chelan and Douglas county. The program offers financial assistance for a combination of rent and utility arrears, current rent and utility payments, future rent payments, and other housing costs related directly or indirectly to COVID-19.

To date Chelan-Douglas Community Action Council has provided support to 511 qualifying households and reports 342 applications in process, with a waitlist of 1,046 households. This process requires staff and renters to work with landlords.

To meet this demand, Chelan-Douglas Community Action Council has added staff. “Clearly, there is a strong need in our region and our staff is working tirelessly to meet

the need and support as many individuals and families as possible,” explained Chelan Douglas Community Action Council Executive Director Alan Walker.

The purpose of the eligibility screening criteria is to target those most likely to become homeless but for this assistance. Households must meet all three of the initial screening criteria:

1. Income at or below 80% of Area Median Income (AMI). This is defined like in the table.
2. Experiencing a financial hardship directly or indirectly due to the COVID-19 outbreak that threatens the household’s ability to pay the costs of the rental property when due.
3. At risk of experiencing homelessness or currently experiencing housing instability.

The following households are a priority:

1. Income at or below 50% Area Median Income (AMI).
2. Households with one or more individuals who are unemployed and have been unemployed for 90 days before application date.

United States citizenship is NOT an eligibility requirement of this program.

### Allowable Types of Assistance

Households can receive up to 12 months of financial assistance. Financial assistance can include a combination of rent and utility arrears, current rent and utility payments, future rent payments, and other housing costs related directly or indirectly to COVID-19.

80% AMIs		
Household Size	Annual Income Limit	Monthly Income Limit
1	\$38,850	\$3,237
2	\$44,408	\$3,700
3	\$49,950	\$4,162
4	\$55,500	\$4,625
5	\$59,950	\$4,995
6	\$64,400	\$5,366
7	\$68,850	\$5,737
8	\$73,300	\$6,108

### Rent

Rent arrears are when any rent payment is missed or past due, including when the current month’s rent is past due. Assistance cannot be provided for arrears that were accrued before March 13, 2020.

Future rent is the rent after the current month and can be made up to three months at a time.

1. Households can receive assistance with future rent only, if the household does not have rental arrears and/or the provider has already assisted the household with rental arrears.

An additional three months of rent assistance can be provided if the household reappplies and is still experiencing housing instability, and has not already received the maximum amount of assistance (15 months).

2. After 12 months of assistance has been provided, households can receive an additional three months of financial assistance, totaling 15 months, if necessary, to ensure housing stability.

### Utilities

Utilities and home energy costs are separately stated charges related to the occupancy of rental property. They can include electricity, gas, water and sewer, trash removal and energy costs, such as fuel oil. Utilities that are covered by the landlord within rent will be treated as rent. Utility only payments are allowable. Future utility

payments are not allowable. All payments for utilities and home energy costs should be supported by a bill, invoice, or evidence of payment to the provider of the utility or home energy service.

To qualify, applicants must provide verification of address, income, a current rent agreement, and an explanation as to how the household has been negatively impacted by COVID-19. The property owner must also verify accuracy for rent assistance, and the appropriate utility company must verify if financial support for utilities is requested and accept payment.

Several regional non-profit organizations are again supporting the effort, including Hand In Hand Immigration Services, Community for the Advancement of Family Education (CAFE), and Children’s Home Society of Washington.

To apply, contact the Chelan-Douglas Community Action Council office at (509) 662-6156 to schedule an appointment and ask for “Rent Assistance.”

This project was supported by a grant awarded by US Department of the Treasury. Points of view do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the US Department of the Treasury. Grant funds are administered by the local government Coronavirus Relief Fund through the Washington State Department of Commerce.

For more information, please contact: Alan Walker, (509) 662-6156 or alanw@cdcac.org

## Three Legacy Innovator Award Honorees Announced

By Jenny Rojanasthien  
Executive Director NCW Tech Alliance

NCW Tech Alliance announced three Legacy Innovator Award honorees in celebration of their upcoming 20th Annual Innovator Awards Luncheon on Wednesday, September 29. The three recipients include Stemilt Growers, Andrew Metcalfe, and Doug Merrill.

The three Legacy Innovator Award recipients were selected by the NCW Tech Board of Directors who reviewed all past Innovator Award winners for their exemplary innovation in technology, entrepreneurship, and STEM education respectively. Over 70 individuals, businesses have received innovator awards since the event’s inception in 2001.

Doug Merrill, STEM Engineering teacher at Wenatchee High School, will be honored for his accomplishments in STEM education. Merrill had previously been awarded Innovative Use of Technology in the Classroom in 2013, and in the years since has continued to cultivate and champion STEM education through his teaching.

Andrew Metcalfe was awarded Entrepreneur of the Year in 2006. He was selected to receive a Legacy Innovator Award for his accomplishments as a serial entrepreneur. Metcalfe is currently the CEO of Native Network, whose mission is to deliver broadband and telecom services into rural and underserved markets.

Stemilt Growers will be honored with a

Legacy Innovator Award in technology for their continuous innovation and adoption of technology in business. The company was awarded Innovative Use of Technology in 2016. Stemilt Growers continues to be a leader in adopting technology across all areas of their organization.

During this year’s Innovator Awards Luncheon, NCW Tech will honor the three Legacy Innovator Award recipients. In addition, NCW Tech Alliance will be welcoming a new group of Innovator Award winners across five different categories. The five awards are:

- Entrepreneur of the Year
- Newcomer In Technology
- STEM Champion of the Year (Educator)
- STEM College Student Innovator of the Year (College Student)
- Future Technology Leader of the Year (K-12 Student)

NCW Tech Alliance is currently reviewing all nominations for the five annual awards. In the upcoming weeks, all nominees will be carefully reviewed by a panel of community judges and announced. Nominees will also be promoted through media and showcased at the luncheon in September. The top three finalists in each category will be announced in the weeks leading up to the luncheon, with the winners announced live at the event.

The Innovator Awards Luncheon is made possible through sponsors including Microsoft, Ogden Murphy Wallace, Peoples Bank, Equilus Capital Partners, Native Network, and LocalTel.

### About NCW Tech Alliance

Since 1999, NCW Tech Alliance (formerly known as GWATA) 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 people and technology resources together to create a thriving community.



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# Wellness Place Moves 8th Annual Auction To Online

Submitted by  
Julie Lindholm

Wellness Place Board of Directors has decided to move their 8th Annual "Celebrate Under the Stars" in-person Gala to an online auction event, beginning Friday, September 10, 2021.

Out of an abundance of caution, and with respect to our dedicated health-care professionals, it is important to us to keep our community safe due to the increased COVID positive cases in our region.

We are so grateful for the businesses and individuals who donated items and experiences to our auction, so we created two different online auction opportuni-

ties, both with a variety of items and values.

## #1 "Shooting Star" Online Auction Packages

Opens 8:00am Friday 9/10/21 - Closes 9:00pm Friday 9/17/21

These fun packages are open for bidding for a full 7 days, and filled with spa and pamper baskets, picnic and foodie sets, winery and brewery gift certificates, back to school items, restaurant gift cards, and more.

## #2 "Supernova" Online Auction Packages

Opens 8:00am Friday 9/17/21 - Closes 9:00pm Sunday 9/19/21



This is a stellar explosion of unique and star-worthy packages, and open just for 3 days!

Get ready to bid on sky-diving, outdoor adventures, intimate dinner experiences, golfing trips, Lake Chelan sailing excursion, a trip on the Kentucky Bourbon Trail, and more!

"Almost 4 people per day in North Central Washington will hear the words: 'You have cancer'.

This is our biggest fundraiser of the year, and by supporting Wellness Place it enables our nonprofit organization to give freely to those journeying through a cancer diagnosis," said Lindholm.

"We believe, no one fights alone."

To register for the online auction or to give a tax-deductible gift, please visit [www.wellnessplace-wenatchee.org](http://www.wellnessplace-wenatchee.org) or mail to

Wellness Place, PO Box 1802, Wenatchee, WA 98807.

Many thanks to our supportive sponsors!

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Wellness Place is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and our mission is to give compassionate support and FREE resources to individuals, their families and caregivers through their cancer journey, from diagnosis to survivorship, for all residents in Chelan, Douglas, Grant and Okanogan counties, regardless of age or income. No One Fights Alone. For more information visit [www.wellnessplacewenatchee.org](http://www.wellnessplacewenatchee.org).



## A personal reflection

By Bill Forhan

You probably saw the story on page 4 about star basketball player Latia Howard whose professional basketball career was ended by a life changing stroke at age 21.

I am far past the youthful age of 21, having celebrated my 74th birthday last spring. I have always been a very active individual with no plans to retire soon. I love what I do and what I do is far less physical than what a young basketball player would experience.

Still, with the help of my wife of nearly 54 years, I publish 5 newspapers. I just published my first novel and am working on my second. I love to write. I love to play music when my wife conducts the services at our church in Cashmere, and I love to play bridge. All that was threatened on Saturday, August 7th.

It was a beautiful day. We were enjoying the afternoon with some friends up the Chumstick.

We were making some cider, watching a chainsaw

artist carving a bear, chatting and having some barbeque.

About 3 p.m. I noticed my right hand was falling asleep, like when you sleep on it too long. A little while later I noticed I was slurring my words, although no one else seemed to notice it. We hadn't been drinking. I had a small taste of some wine I brought but it wasn't very good so after a couple of tastes I'd thrown it away – **warning number 1**.

I got up from the table and headed for the car and noticed my right leg seemed heavy and weak. That is when I should have asked for help. I should have taken notice that all of this was on the right side of my body, but I didn't.

I drove home. We watched a little TV and I went to bed early. About 4 a.m. Sunday morning I got up with some leg cramps and decided to walk them off. I walked down the hall feeling a little dizzy and when I got to our front entry way – I fell down. I had great difficulty getting up – **warning number 2**.

I finally was able to get to my feet and I went into the living room and slept in a chair for the night. We both got up at 6:30 and went to church.

No one noticed anything wrong although I was still feeling weak on me right side. We went to the office and finished editing the first proof of the Wednesday paper.

About 4 p.m. I was feeling increasing weak and was growing concerned that my problems were all emanating from the right side of my body. I finally decided to go to the emergency room at Cascade Medical Center. They ran all the

tests including a scan of my brain. They sent me home.

The next morning, my wife and I went to the office to finish the papers that had to go to the printer by noon. Then I had to go to the bank. Getting in the car resulted in fall number 2 – **warning number 3**.

We went to the bank, then straight to the hospital again. They ran all of the tests again then by 5 p.m. decided to send me to Confluence Hospital for a complete stroke evaluation.

After another brain scan, and an MRI the doctors concluded I had experienced an Ischemic stroke in my brain stem. A small clot had lodged inside a tiny vein and cutoff the flow of blood to that part of the brain causing that part of the brain to die from a lack of oxygen.

Sounds bad I know. Let's just say it ain't good. That part of my brain will not recover.

The right side of my body is compromised. My right leg will not support the weight of my body so I have to use a walker to get around. My right hand, my dominant hand, is weak so

my typing and coordination is slow and fraught with misspelling and typos.

The good news is the doctors and therapists tell me that with physical therapy I can retrain my brain to replace the dead parts of my brain. It will take time and dedication.

The lessons to be learned here is that while we all know the warning signs of a stroke, they are not always pronounced.

Friends may not immediately recognize them and they may hesitate to ask about things like slurred speech. I did not have any recognizable face drooping. It appeared that I was walking just fine. No one but me could tell my legs felt heavy and weak.

When I walked into the ER on Sunday it was without benefit of a walker. I passed all of the standard Stroke tests.

The ER team at Cascade took me seriously and ran several diagnostic tests including a brain scan and Xray. They sent me home.

When I returned on Monday afternoon following my second fall, they ran the tests again.

At 5 p.m. they decided to send me to Confluence Hospital for a complete Stroke workup. I spent the next day and a half in the

hospital.

Confluence Hospital did not find the Stroke until they did an MRI Monday evening. That was more than 48 hours after I began to recognize the symptoms.

It is my own fault for not recognizing the symptoms on Saturday and taking quicker action.

Like most men when someone asks "how are you doing," I just think of it as making small talk. I don't think they really want to know.

Imagine the surprise if someone had asked me on Saturday and I responded "well, I feel a little dizzy, my right hand seems to be asleep, and my right leg feels like it weighs 500 pounds."

I can imagine the response – "someone call 911, the party's over!" Who wants to be responsible for that?

I was fortunate. My stroke was a mild one. I am back to writing and I play bridge once a week. I can walk with the aid of a walker and my physical therapist says I should trade it in for a cane. I am still worried about my music.

It's no laughing matter. If you are feeling the symptoms of a Stroke. Let somebody know – immediately.

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# Okanogan County Labor Area Summary – June 2021

## 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 (June 2020 and June 2021) and average annual data (between 2019 and 2020) in the labor market.

## Unemployment rates

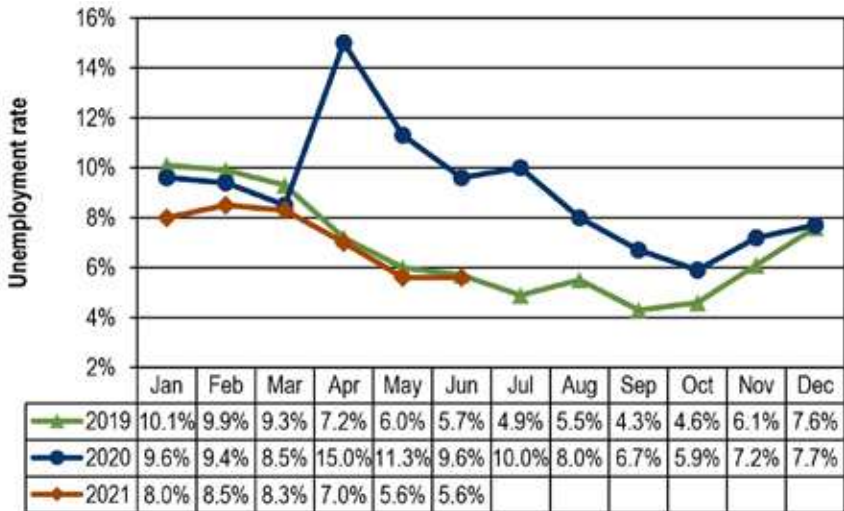
Civilian Labor Force (CLF) data show that Washington's not seasonally adjusted average annual unemployment rate jumped from 4.1 percent in 2019 to 8.4 percent in

2020. Between June 2020 and June 2021, the rate declined from 10.8 to 5.3 percent, a five and five-tenths percentage points downturn.

In Okanogan County, the not seasonally adjusted average annual unemployment rate increased two and four-tenths percentage points between 2019 and 2020, from 6.7 to 9.1 percent.

On a monthly basis, COVID-19-related layoffs pushed unemployment rates upwards, year over year, from April through December 2020; but rates have declined in each of the past six months.

**Okanogan County unemployment rates, not seasonally adjusted Washington state, January 2019 through June 2021. Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; Current Employment Statistics (CES)**



Okanogan County's unemployment rate dropped by four percentage points between June 2020 and June 2021.

## Total nonfarm employment

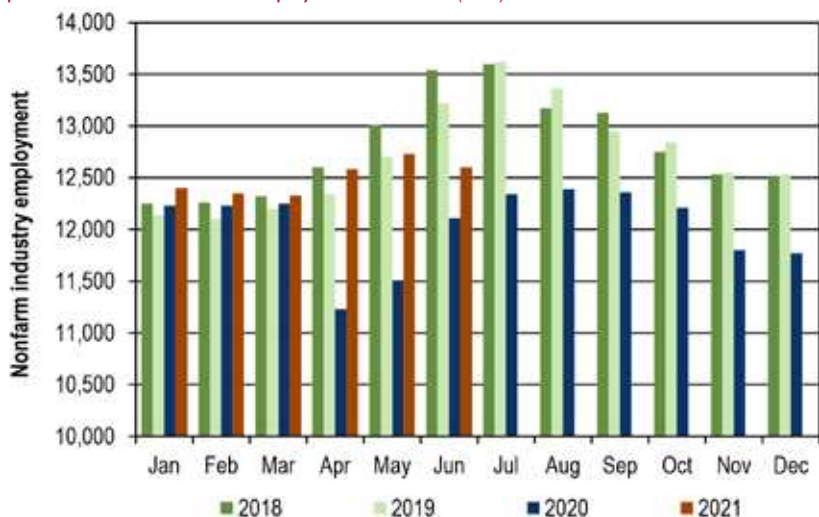
Between 2019 and 2020, estimates indicate that Washington's labor market provided 184,400 fewer nonfarm jobs, an average annual decrease of -5.3 percent. Year over year, Washington's nonfarm market contracted from April 2020 through March 2021 prior to expanding in April, May, and June 2021. This June, business and government organizations statewide tallied 3,403,100 jobs (not seasonally adjusted) compared with 3,206,100 in June 2020, a gain of 197,000 jobs and a 6.1 percent upturn.

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 another 670 jobs (-5.3 percent); primarily caused by COVID-19-related layoffs, which drove average annual nonfarm employment to 12,040 – the lowest point in the past 13 years (2008 through 2020, inclusive).

Fortunately, starting in January 2021, nonfarm employment in the County began expanding year over year. This uptrend has continued through June 2021 as the number of nonfarm jobs rose by 490 jobs (up 4.0 percent) and employment advanced from 12,110 jobs in June 2020 to 12,600 in June 2021.

**Okanogan County nonfarm industry employment, not seasonally adjusted, in thousands Washington state, January 2018 through June 2021. Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; Current Employment Statistics (CES)**



In June 2021, nonfarm employment increased to 12,600, a 490 job advance from the 12,110 jobs tallied in June 2020.

## Employment and unemployment

Washington's Civilian Labor Force (CLF) edged upwards by 5,550 residents (a marginal 0.1 percent upturn) from 2019 to 2020. Most of this expansion occurred in the first half of 2020. Statewide, the labor force retrenched

from November 2020 through May 2021 before growing by 1.1 percent, from 3,855,501 residents in June 2020 to 3,930,058 this June. Okanogan County's CLF declined by -5.2 percent between 2019 (20,388 residents) and 2020 (19,338 residents). Year over year



**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>

**Okanogan County labor force and industry employment, not seasonally adjusted Washington state, June 2021. Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), Current Employment Statistics (CES)**

Okanogan County	Preliminary Jun-21	Revised May-21	Revised Jun-20	Change		Percent change
				May-21 Jun-21	Jun-20 Jun-21	Jun-20 Jun-21
<b>Labor force and unemployment</b>						
Civilian labor force	19,360	19,296	19,473	64	-113	-0.6%
Resident employment	18,273	18,216	17,603	57	670	3.8%
Unemployment	1,087	1,080	1,870	7	-783	-41.9%
Unemployment rate	5.6	5.6	9.6	0.0	-4.0	
<b>Industry employment</b>						
Total nonfarm <sup>1</sup>	12,600	12,730	12,110	-130	490	4.0%
Total private	7,680	7,700	7,200	-20	480	6.7%
Goods producing	830	890	850	-60	-20	-2.4%
Mining, logging and construction	570	620	570	-50	0	0.0%
Manufacturing	260	270	280	-10	-20	-7.1%
Service providing	11,770	11,840	11,260	-70	510	4.5%
Trade, transportation and utilities	2,410	2,350	2,510	60	-100	-4.0%
Wholesale trade	210	180	200	30	10	5.0%
Retail trade	1,730	1,790	1,830	-60	-100	-5.5%
Information and financial activities	410	410	410	0	0	0.0%
Professional and business services	470	470	420	0	50	11.9%
Education and health services	1,700	1,700	1,640	0	60	3.7%
Leisure and hospitality	1,600	1,580	1,130	20	470	41.6%
Government	4,920	5,030	4,910	-110	10	0.2%
Federal government	450	450	480	0	-30	-6.3%
State and local government	4,470	4,580	4,430	-110	40	0.9%
State and local government education	1,690	1,690	1,590	0	100	6.3%
Workers in labor/management disputes	0	0	0	0	0	

<sup>1</sup> 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.

Between June 2020 and June 2021, the Okanogan County nonfarm labor market gained 490 jobs, a 4.0 percent upturn.

the Okanogan County labor force expanded by 0.2 percent in May 2021 and contracted by -0.6 percent in June 2021. Although the number of residents in the CLF dipped by 113, from 19,473 in June 2020 to 19,360 in June 2021, the number of unemployed plunged by 41.9 percent as 783 fewer Okanogan County residents were out of work this June than in June 2020. The modest, year-over-year shrinkage in the labor force (bad news) was more than offset by this dramatic decline in

the number of residents unemployed in June 2021 (extremely good news). The result: the county's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped from 9.6 percent in June 2020 to 5.6 percent in June 2021. In fact, the Okanogan County unemployment rate of 5.6 percent this June was one-tenth of a percentage point lower than the 5.7 percent reading in June 2019 (two years ago) – an indication that the local economy is slowly returning to some level of "normalcy."

## Nonfarm industry employment

Not seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment in Okanogan County increased by 4.0 percent (up 490 jobs) in June 2021, as employment rose to 12,600 from the 12,110 jobs tallied in June one year ago, during the heyday of COVID-19-related layoffs.

The following paragraphs highlight job changes in three local industries (retail trade, leisure and hospitality, and state and local government education) between June 2020 and June 2021:

In calendar year 2018 employment in Okanogan County's retail trade sector netted 50 new jobs, an increase of 2.7 percent. But in the past two years employment in the County's retail trade businesses has declined; down by 60 jobs and -3.2 percent in 2019, and down by 40 jobs and -2.2 percent in 2020. Hence, even before COVID-19 related layoffs hit the local economy in 2020, the local retail trade sector was struggling. Recently, retail trade employment grew by 6.6 percent in April 2021 and by

3.5 percent in May 2021 before dipping by -5.5 percent between the Junes of 2020 and 2021. Specifically, employment waned from 1,830 jobs countywide in June 2020 to 1,730 jobs in June 2021, a 100 job and -5.5 percent downturn. Conversely, Washington's retail trade employment picture looks a little brighter. Year over year, retail trade employment has been expanding statewide for the past 10 months (September 2020 through June 2021). Most recently, Washington state's retail sector advanced from 374,900 jobs in June 2020 to 405,900 in June 2021 (up by 31,000 jobs and 8.3 percent). Of all major retail trade subsectors statewide (i.e., motor vehicle and parts dealers, furniture and home furnishing stores, building material and garden supply stores, food and beverage stores, health and personal care stores, clothing and clothing accessories stores, general merchandise stores, and other retail trade stores) one subsector accounted

SEE GRANT COUNTY, PAGE 22

**Okanogan County and Washington total nonfarm employment changes Washington state, July 2019 through June 2021. Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; Current Employment Statistics (CES)**



Year over year, nonfarm employment in Okanogan County has expanded from January through June 2021. Washington's nonfarm market contracted from April 2020 through March 2021 prior to expanding in April, May, and June 2021.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

## Okanogan County Labor Area Summary – June 2021

for 61.6 percent, or 19,100 of the 31,000 retail jobs added between June 2020 and June 2021. This subsector is “other retail trade” and it is comprised primarily of internet shopping businesses.

◆ Although leisure and hospitality employment in Okanogan County lost jobs for 23 consecutive months (February 2019 through December 2020) estimates indicate year over year job growth from January through June

2021. Between June 2020 and June 2021, leisure and hospitality (primarily hotels, eating and drinking places, and amusement and recreation services) added 470 jobs across Okanogan County, a sharp 41.6 percent upturn as employment rose from 1,130 jobs to 1,600. Hence, the lion’s share of the 490 nonfarm jobs added countywide between June 2020 and June 2021, were in the leisure and hospitality industry. Employment in Washington’s leisure and hospitality industry retrenched for 13 months (March 2020 through March 2021) before posting job gains since January 2021.

◆ State and local government education employment rose, year over year, in Okanogan County in May and June 2021 following 13 months of job losses (April 2020 through April 2021). Between June 2020 and

June 2021, state and local education organizations added 100 jobs countywide, a 6.3 percent upturn (3) as employment rose from 1,590 jobs to 1,690. Across Washington,

### Agricultural employment

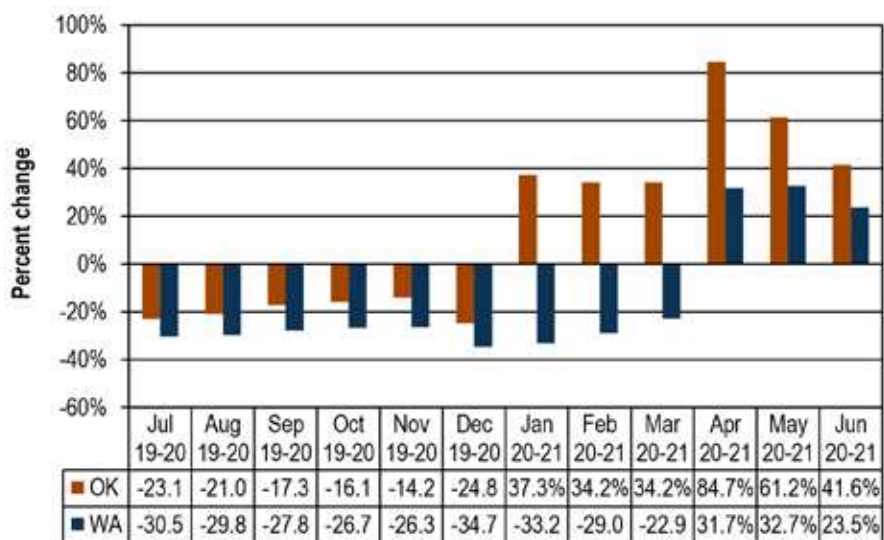
The Bureau of Labor Statistics’ Quarterly Census of Employment and Wage (QCEW) program, conducted by the Washington State Employment Security Department, provides agricultural and nonagricultural employment and wages for firms, organizations and individuals whose employees are covered by the Washington State Employment Security Act. Frequently termed “covered” or “QCEW” data, this information provides a reliable data set for comparing employment and wage trends in major industries at the county level. In July 2021, preliminary average annual QCEW data for calendar year 2020 became available. An analysis of employment changes from 2010 through 2020 shows that in Okanogan County:

◆ Total covered employment decreased from 17,329 in 2010 to 15,913 in 2020, a 1,416-job and -8.2 percent downturn, with annualized employment growth between 2010 and 2020 of minus-0.8 percent. The number of agricultural jobs (a subset of total covered employment) decreased from 5,560 in 2010 to 4,185 in 2020, a 1,375 job and -24.7 percent downtrend, with annualized employment growth between 2010 and 2020 of -2.8 percent. In 2010, Okanogan County’s agricultural industry accounted for 32.1 percent of total covered employment. In 2020, agricultural employment accounted for just 26.3 percent of total covered employment countywide. Hence, the share of agricultural employment dropped by 5.8 percentage points (from 32.1 to 26.3 percent) in Okanogan County during this most recent ten-year period.

state and local government education also posted job gains in May and June 2021 following 13 months of job losses (April 2020 through April 2021).

◆ Total covered wages rose from \$439.5 million (in 2010) to \$625.4 million (in 2020), a \$185.9 million and 42.3 percent upturn, with annualized wage growth between 2010 and 2020 of 3.6 percent. The agricultural payroll (a subset of total covered wages) advanced from \$82.3 million in 2010 to \$115.9 million in 2020, an \$33.5 million and 40.7 percent uptrend, with annualized wage growth between 2010 and 2020 at 3.5 percent. In 2010, Okanogan County’s agricultural industry accounted for 18.7 percent of total covered wages. In 2020, agricultural wages accounted for 18.5 percent of total covered payroll countywide. Hence, the share of agricultural wages (compared with total covered payroll) virtually stabilized at 18.7 percent in 2010 versus 18.5 percent in 2020 whereas agricultural employment trends showed that the agricultural industry has become less influential in Okanogan County’s economy (when comparing the agriculture/total covered employment ratios in 2010 and in 2020). Certainly, agriculture is still a seasonal industry in Okanogan County, but anecdotal evidence indicates that more agricultural workers are being hired into full-time year-round positions (with relatively fewer hires into part-time/seasonal positions); plus, automation in the picking, packing, and sorting of fresh fruit and vegetables appears to have reduced the need for labor. These are two apparent reasons why the agricultural share of total covered employment receded during this most recent ten-year period (see previous paragraph) while the agricultural share of total covered wages/payroll remained virtually unchanged.

Okanogan County and Washington leisure and hospitality employment changes Washington state, July 2019 through June 2021. Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; Current Employment Statistics (CES)



Although leisure and hospitality employment in Okanogan County lost jobs for 23 consecutive months (February 2019 through December 2020) estimates indicate year over year job growth from January through June 2021. Employment in Washington’s leisure and hospitality industry retrenched for 13 months (March 2020 through March 2021) before posting job gains since January 2021.

## Wenatchee MSA (Chelan and Douglas Counties) Labor Area Summary – June 2021

### Overview

This report provides an update on the Wenatchee Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) economy incorporating not seasonally adjusted, nonfarm employment and civilian labor force data. Analysis focuses on year over year (June 2020 and June 2021) and average annual data changes (between 2019 and 2020).

### Unemployment rates

Civilian Labor Force (CLF) data show that Washington’s not seasonally adjusted average annual unemployment rate jumped from 4.1 percent in 2019 to 8.4 percent in 2020. Between June 2020 and June 2021, the rate declined from 10.8 to 5.3 percent, a five and five-tenths percentage points downturn.

In the Wenatchee MSA, the average annual unemployment rate rose from 5.1 percent to 8.4 percent between 2019 and 2020. COVID-19-related layoffs pushed monthly unemployment rates upwards, year over year, from April 2020 through March 2021.

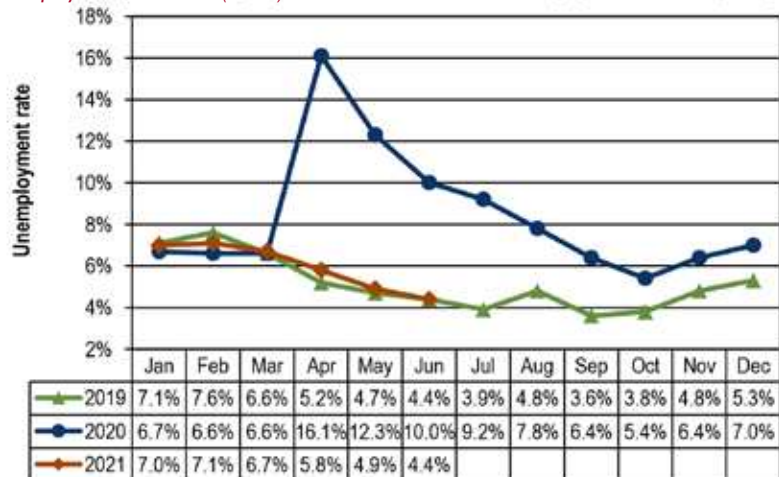
However, rates declined year over year in April, May, and June 2021 – steps in the right direction for the local economy.

### Total nonfarm employment

Between 2019 and 2020, estimates indicate that Washington’s labor market provided 184,400 fewer nonfarm jobs, an average annual decrease of -5.3 percent. Year over year, Washington’s nonfarm market contracted from April 2020 through March 2021 prior to expanding in April, May, and June 2021. This June, business and government organizations statewide tallied 3,403,100 jobs (not seasonally adjusted) compared with 3,206,100 in June 2020, a gain of 197,000 jobs and a 6.1 percent upturn.

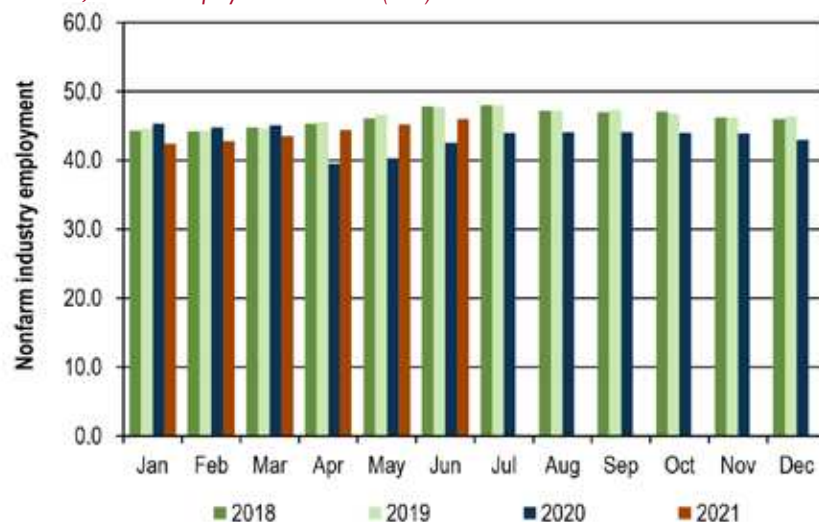
The Wenatchee MSA’s economy lost 2,900 jobs during 2020, a -6.2 percent downturn, higher than Washington’s -5.3 percent loss rate during 2020. Year over year, the Wenatchee MSA’s nonfarm market contracted for 12 months (April 2020 through March

Wenatchee MSA unemployment rates, not seasonally adjusted Washington state, January 2019 through June 2021. Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)



The Wenatchee MSA’s unemployment rate fell by five and six-tenths percentage points between June 2020 and June 2021.

Wenatchee MSA nonfarm industry employment, not seasonally adjusted, in thousands Washington state, January 2018 through June 2021. Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; Current Employment Statistics (CES)



Nonfarm employment in the Wenatchee MSA increased by 8.0 percent between June 2020 and June 2021.

2021) prior to employment increases during each of the past three months (April through June 2021). This June, nonfarm employment rose 3,500 jobs over the June 2020 job level of 42,600. The downside: the local economy has still not recovered all jobs lost since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Two years ago, in June 2019, total nonfarm employment across the two-county MSA provided 47,700 jobs, 1,700 more than the 46,000 jobs tallied in June 2021. Hence nonfarm employment across the MSA is still down -3.6 percent from the 47,700 jobs registered in June 2019.

### Employment and unemployment

Washington’s Civilian Labor Force (CLF) edged upwards by 5,550 residents (a marginal 0.1 percent upturn) from 2019 to 2020. Most of this expansion occurred in the first half of 2020. Statewide, the labor force retrenched from November 2020 through May 2021 before growing by 1.1 percent, from 3,855,501 residents in June 2020 to 3,930,058 this June.

The Wenatchee MSA’s CLF shrank from 66,981 residents in 2019 to 65,471 in 2020, a -2.3 percent downturn. Year over year the Wenatchee MSA’s labor force contracted

for 12 months (May 2020 through May 2021) before expanding by 2.6 percent in June 2021. This recent 1,782 resident and 2.6 percent increase in the local CLF between June 2020 (67,307 residents) and June 2021 (69,089 residents) is an encouraging indicator. Why? June 2021 was the first month in the past 14 during which the local labor force expanded. Also, the number of unemployed residents in the Wenatchee MSA (Chelan and Douglas counties) plummeted from 6,752 in June of last year to 3,071 in June 2021, a dramatic -54.5 percent decrease. Hence, the modest growth in the labor force combined with this large drop in the number of residents out of work between June 2020 and June 2021, caused the Wenatchee MSA’s unemployment rate to fall from 10.0 percent to 4.4 percent.

### Nonfarm industry employment

Between June 2020 and June 2021, total nonfarm employment in Chelan and Douglas counties (the Wenatchee MSA) increased from 42,600 to 46,000 jobs, a 3,400 job and 8.0 percent upturn. Year over year, the Wenatchee MSA’s nonfarm market contracted

**Wenatchee MSA labor force and industry employment, not seasonally adjusted Washington state, June 2021. Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), Current Employment Statistics (CES)**

Wenatchee MSA	Preliminary Jun-21	Revised May-21	Revised Jun-20	Change		Percent change Jun-20 Jun-21
				May-21 Jun-21	Jun-20 Jun-21	
<b>Labor force and unemployment</b>						
Civilian labor force	69,089	63,858	67,307	5,231	1,782	2.6%
Resident employment	66,018	60,725	60,555	5,293	5,463	9.0%
Unemployment	3,071	3,133	6,752	-62	-3,681	-54.5%
Unemployment rate	4.4	4.9	10.0	-0.5	-5.6	
<b>Industry employment (numbers are in thousands)</b>						
Total nonfarm <sup>1</sup>	46.0	45.2	42.6	0.8	3.4	8.0%
Total private	36.8	36.0	33.6	0.8	3.2	9.5%
Goods producing	5.7	5.6	5.3	0.1	0.4	7.5%
Mining, logging and construction	3.2	3.2	3.0	0.0	0.2	6.7%
Manufacturing	2.5	2.4	2.3	0.1	0.2	8.7%
Service providing	40.3	39.6	37.3	0.7	3.0	8.0%
Private services providing	31.1	30.4	28.3	0.7	2.8	9.9%
Trade, transportation, warehousing and utilities	10.3	9.9	9.5	0.4	0.8	8.4%
Retail trade	6.5	6.4	6.1	0.1	0.4	6.6%
Education and health services	8.0	8.0	7.5	0.0	0.5	6.7%
Leisure and hospitality	6.5	6.2	4.7	0.3	1.8	38.3%
Government	9.2	9.2	9.0	0.0	0.2	2.2%
Federal government	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.0	-0.1	-10.0%
State government	1.0	1.1	1.2	-0.1	-0.2	-16.7%
Local government	7.3	7.2	6.8	0.1	0.5	7.4%
Workers in labor/management disputes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	

<sup>1</sup> 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 46,000 jobs in June 2021, a gain of 3,400 jobs since June 2020.

ed for 12 months (April 2020 through March 2021) prior to employment increases during each of the past three months (April through June 2021). Hence, these year-over-year employment increases in April, May and June 2021 are the first upturns since the start of COVID-19-related layoffs back in April 2020 – welcome news for the local economy.

Washington’s nonfarm market also contracted from April 2020 through March 2021 and it also posted year over year employment upturns this April, May and June. But, Washington’s year over year nonfarm job-growth rates have not been quite as robust as these 12.4 percent, 12.2 percent, and 8.0 percent accelerations in employment in the Wenatchee MSA in April 2021, May 2021, and June 2021.

Summaries of employment changes between June 2020 and June 2021 for three local industries (construction, education and health services, and leisure and hospitality) are provided as follows:

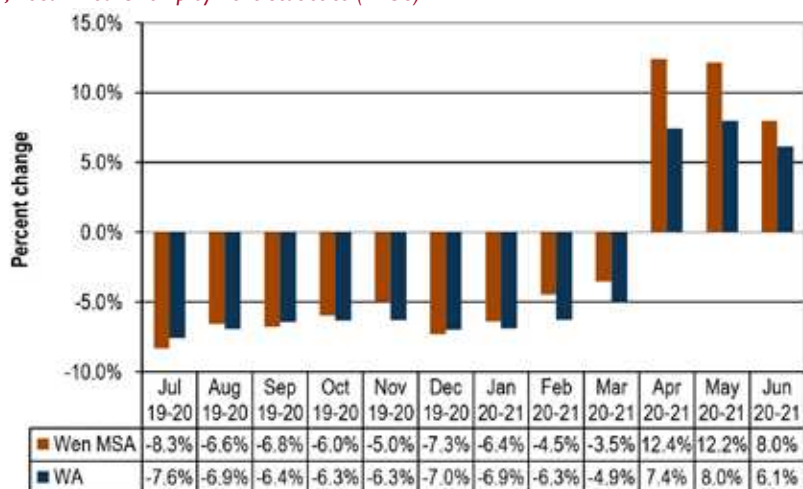
- ◆ In the mining, logging and construction category, most jobs are in “construction.” The Wenatchee MSA’s construction industry lost jobs year over year from April through October 2020, stabilized in November and December 2020 and expanded from January through June 2021. This June, construction provided approximately 3,200 jobs in the MSA, a 200 job and 6.7 percent upturn from the 3,000 tallied in June 2020. A glimpse at the number of closed sales in June 2020 versus June 2021 in the Wenatchee market (i.e., in Wenatchee, Malaga, East Wenatchee, Orondo and Rock Island, WA), from the June 2021 Real Estate Snapshot newsletter published by Pacific Appraisal Associates, shows

that the number of single-family homes or condominiums sold in the Wenatchee market year to date (YTD) rose by 6.6 percent. Specifically, from January through June 2020, there were 437 closed sales in the Wenatchee market. This elevated to 466 closed sales in the first six months of 2021, up by 29 sales and 6.6 percent. The number of active listings however, plummeted during this timeframe, from 115 listings in June 2020 to only 30 in June 2021 (down by 85 listings and -73.9 percent). This reduction in active listings is likely occurring simply because homes/condos are selling so quickly. One indicator of this “hot” residential market is rising home prices. The newsletter stated that the median sales price of homes/condos sold in the Wenatchee market soared from approximately \$350,400 YTD in June 2020 to \$425,050 YTD in June 2021, a rise of 21.3 percent.

- ◆ Year over year, employment in the Wenatchee MSA’s private education and health services industry (which consists primarily of health services employers) stabilized in the 4th Quarter of 2020 and expanded in the 1st and 2nd Quarters of 2021. Between June 2020 and June 2021 private education and health services rose from 7,500 to 8,000 jobs (up 6.7 percent). Statewide this industry lost jobs from April 2020 through February 2021 before netting year over year gains from March through June 2021.

- ◆ 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

**Wenatchee MSA and Washington state total nonfarm employment changes Washington state, state, June 2019 through June 2021. Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)**

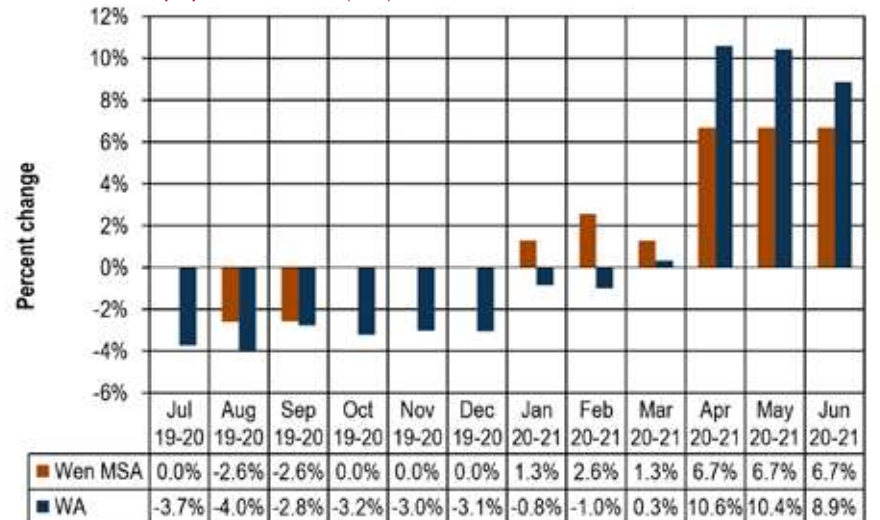


Year over year, the Wenatchee MSA’s nonfarm market contracted for 12 months (April 2020 through March 2021) prior to employment increases during each of the past three months (April through June 2021). Washington’s nonfarm market contracted from April 2020 through March 2021 prior to expanding in April, May, and June 2021.

sector. However, between June 2020 and June 2021, leisure and hospitality (primarily hotels, eating and drinking places, and amusement and recreation services) added 1,800 jobs across the MSA, a sharp 38.3 percent upturn, as employment jumped from 4,700 jobs to 6,500. In fact, between June 2020 and June 2021 leisure and hospitality added more jobs to the Wenatchee MSA nonfarm economy than any other major industry, accounting

for over half (52.9 percent) of total nonfarm growth during this timeframe. Nevertheless, leisure and hospitality employment in June 2021 (6,500 jobs) was still down 900 jobs and -12.2 percent from the 7,400 jobs provided in June 2019. Employment in Washington state’s leisure and hospitality industry re-trenched for 13 months (March 2020 through March 2021) before expanding for the past three months (April, May and June 2021).

**Wenatchee MSA and Washington state leisure and hospitality employment changes Washington state, July 2019 through June 2021. Source: Employment Security Department/LMEA; Current Employment Statistics (CES)**



Year over year, employment in the Wenatchee MSA’s education and health services industry stabilized in the 4th Quarter of 2020 and expanded in the 1st and 2nd Quarters of 2021. Statewide this industry lost jobs from April 2020 through February 2021 before netting year over year gains from March through June 2021.

**Agricultural employment**

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 July 2021, preliminary average annual QCEW data for calendar year 2020 became available. An analysis of industry employment changes from 2010 through 2020 shows that in Chelan County:

- ◆ Total covered employment rose from 38,179 in 2010 to 40,905 in 2020, a 2,726 job and 7.1 percent upturn with an annualized growth rate of 0.7 percent. However, agricultural employment (a subset of total covered employment) decreased from 8,983 jobs in 2009 to 8,749 in 2020, a 234 job and -2.6 percent downtrend with an annualized loss rate of -0.3 percent. In 2010, Chelan County’s agricultural industry accounted for 23.5 percent of total covered employment; but ten years later in 2020, this industry provided only 21.4 percent of total covered employment countywide. Hence, the agricultural share of total covered employment fell by two and one-tenth percentage points (from 23.5 to 21.4 percent) in Chelan County during this ten-year period.

- ◆ Total covered wages (not adjusted for inflation) rose from \$1.23 billion (in 2010) to \$1.88 billion (in 2020), a \$650.5 million and 52.7 percent upturn with an annualized growth rate of 4.3 percent. The agricultural payroll (a subset of total covered wages) advanced from \$171.8 million in 2010 to \$280.2 million in 2020, an \$108.4 million and 63.1 percent uptrend with an annualized growth rate of 5.0 percent. In 2010, Chelan County’s agricultural industry accounted for 13.9 percent of total covered wages, and by 2020, agricultural wages tallied 14.9 percent of total covered payroll; meaning that the agricultural share of total nonfarm payroll advanced a modest one percentage point (from 13.9 to 14.9 percent) during this timeframe. Hence, the agricultural share of wages (versus total covered payroll) showed

a modest upturn, whereas agricultural employment trends showed that the agricultural industry has become less influential in Chelan County’s economy (when comparing the agriculture/total covered employment ratios in 2010 and in 2020). Certainly, agriculture is still a seasonal industry in Chelan County, but anecdotal evidence indicates that more agricultural workers are being hired into full-time year-round positions (with relatively fewer hires into part-time/seasonal positions); plus, automation in the picking, packing, and sorting of fresh fruit and vegetables appears to have reduced the need for labor. These are two apparent reasons why the agricultural share of total covered employment receded during this most recent ten-year period (see previous paragraph) while the agricultural share of total covered wages/payroll edged upwards.

For Douglas County, an analysis of industry employment changes from 2010 through 2020 shows that:

- ◆ Total covered employment rose from 10,823 in 2010 to 11,907 in 2020, a 1,084 job and 10.0 percent upturn with an annualized growth rate of 1.0 percent. The number of agricultural jobs (a subset of total covered employment) decreased from 3,038 in 2010 to 2,728 in 2020, a 310 job and -10.2 percent downturn with an annualized loss rate of -1.1 percent. In 2010, Douglas County’s agricultural industry accounted for 28.1 percent of total covered employment. In 2020, agricultural employment accounted for only 22.9 percent of total covered employment countywide. Hence, the agricultural share of employment contracted by five and two-tenths percentage points (from 28.1 to 22.9 percent) in Douglas County during this ten-year period.

- ◆ Total covered wages (not adjusted for inflation) rose from \$312.9 million in 2010 to \$502.7 million in 2020, a \$189.8 million and 60.7 percent upturn with an annualized growth rate of 4.9 percent. The agricultural payroll (a subset of total covered wages) advanced from \$51.7 million in 2010 to \$81.0 million in 2020, a \$29.3 million and 56.7 percent uptrend with an annualized growth rate of 4.6 percent.

**Web link to Monthly Employment Report (MER) for Washington state**

<https://esd.wa.gov/labormarketinfo/monthly-employment-report>



# Welcome to the Chelan County Fair



Daybreak Canyon Blue Grass: The Gordon Family, from Chelan, brings all the elements of bluegrass: guitar, banjo, fiddle, mandolin, dobro, upright bass and family harmony.



Photos Courtesy Chelan County Fair

Mutton Busting is a family fun event at any rodeo.

## Chelan County Fair - Thursday-Sunday, Sept. 9-12

5700 Wescott Drive • Chelan County Expo Center • Cashmere • 509-782-3232 • [www.chelancountyfair.com](http://www.chelancountyfair.com)

### Admission and Carnival

Admission and Carnival Prices Includes Free Parking. A convenience fee will apply for the use of credit/debit cards.

Some attractions have height & open-toe shoe restrictions and safety rules. Lost or Missing passes, tickets, or armbands will be replaced at owner's expense.

#### Season Tickets

Adult (18-61)	\$25.00
Senior (62 and over)	\$18.00
Student (6-17) or (18 w/High School)	
A.S.B. Card)	\$18.00

#### Daily Tickets

Family (2 adults & 3 Students)	\$30.00
Adult (18-61)	\$10.00
Senior (62 and over)	\$8.00
Student (6-17) (18 w/High School)	

A.S.B. Card) \$8.00

All children under 5 years admitted free when accompanied by an adult.

#### Carnival Ticket

<b>Thursday, September 9</b>	
Armband	\$30.00 2:00-11:00 p.m.
<b>Friday, September 10</b>	
Armband	\$30.00 2:00-11:00 p.m.
<b>Saturday, September 11</b>	
Armband	\$35.00 11:00 a.m.-12:00 a.m.
<b>Sunday, September 12</b>	
Armband	\$28.88
Second One	\$14.00 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

#### Sunday is Buddy Day:

Buy 1 armband, get second 1 for \$14.00  
Armbands stop selling 1 1/2 hour before shut-off time. ARMBANDS ARE NON-TRANSFERABLE & NON-REFUNDABLE

### Senior Citizen Day

**Thursday, September 9** - (62 and over)  
Seniors **FREE** 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### Agrigation Day

**Friday, September 10**, Kids Free  
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (must come as a group- Limit 1 adult for every 5 children)  
Groups of five youth may admit one adult for free. Groups must enter the fair together as a group. Additional adults accompanying a

group must pay the adult ticket price.

### Exhibitor Tickets

Adults/Senior (18 and over)	\$12.00
Student (6-17) or (18 w/High School ASB Card)	\$7.00

### Uniformed Military, Police, & Firemen

A complete uniform must be worn to be admitted at no charge. Firefighters must be wearing a Fire/Rescue/EMS shirt and present their helmet passport with photo ID at the gate.

### Fair Hours

#### Barns Open

Wednesday - intake	
Thursday, September 9	
Friday, September 10	
Saturday, September 11	

#### Ticket Booths Open

September 8	9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
September 9	9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
September 10	9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
September 11	9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

#### Carnival Opens

September 8	9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.	No Carnival
September 9	9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.	2:00 to 11:00 p.m.
September 10	9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.	2:00 to 11:00 p.m.
September 11	9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

### Entertainment Schedule

#### Thursday, September 9

11:00 a.m.	Jeremiah Johnson	Main Stage
12:15 p.m.	Carley Klein Schoening	Main Stage
1:30 p.m.	Freddie Perez	Perez Stage
1:00 p.m.	David DaVinci	Main Stage
1:30 p.m.	Mutton Busting	Mutton Corral
2:00 p.m.	Carley Klein Schoening	Main Stage
3:00 p.m.	David DaVinci	Main Stage
3:00 p.m.	Mutton Busting	Mutton Corral
4:00 p.m.	Jeremiah Johnson	Main Stage
4:30 p.m.	Freddie Perez	Perez Stage
5:00 p.m.	Carley Klein Schoening	Main Stage
6:00 p.m.	David DaVinci	Main Stage
6:30 p.m.	Freddie Perez	Perez Stage
7:00 p.m.	Jeremiah Johnson	Main Stage

#### Friday, September 10

11:30 a.m.	Freddie Perez	Perez Stage
12:00 p.m.	Jeremiah Johnson	Main Stage
12:30 p.m.	Mutton Busting	Mutton Corral
1:00 p.m.	David DaVinci	Main Stage
3:00 p.m.	David DaVinci	Main Stage
3:30 p.m.	Mutton Busting	Mutton Corral
4:00 p.m.	Jeremiah Johnson	Main Stage
4:30 p.m.	Mutton Busting	Mutton Corral
5:00 p.m.	Freddie Perez	Perez Stage
6:00 p.m.	David DaVinci	Main Stage
6:30 p.m.	Freddie Perez	Perez Stage
7:30 p.m.	Jeremiah Johnson	Main Stage
7:30 p.m.	Jerrold Niemann Concert	Grandstands
9:00 p.m.	The Prefunc	Beer Garden
9:00 p.m.	Radio 80's Band	Main Stage

#### Saturday, September 11

10:30 a.m.	Freddie Perez	Perez Stage
11:00 a.m.	Daybreak Canyon Bluegrass	Main Stage
12:00 a.m.	David DaVinci	Main Stage
12:00 p.m.	Mutton Busting	Mutton Corral
12:30 p.m.	Freddie Perez	Perez Stage
1:00 p.m.	Daybreak Canyon Bluegrass	Main Stage
1:30 p.m.	Mutton Busting	Mutton Corral
2:00 p.m.	Jeremiah Johnson	Main Stage
2:30 p.m.	Freddie Perez	Perez Stage
3:00 p.m.	David DaVinci	Main Stage
3:30 p.m.	Mutton Busting	Mutton Corral
4:00 p.m.	Jeremiah Johnson	Main Stage
5:00 p.m.	David DaVinci	Main Stage
6:00 p.m.	Freddie Perez	Perez Stage
6:00 p.m.	Mutton Busting	Mutton Corral
7:00 p.m.	PRCA Rodeo	Rodeo Arena
7:30 p.m.	Jeremiah Johnson	Main Stage
9:00 p.m.	Jokers Wild Band	Main Stage

#### Sunday, September 12

11:00 a.m.	David DaVinci	Main Stage
12:00 p.m.	Jeremiah Johnson	Main Stage
12:30 p.m.	Freddie Perez	Perez Stage
12:30 p.m.	Mutton Busting	Mutton Corral
1:00 p.m.	David DaVinci	Main Stage
2:00 p.m.	Mutton Busting	Mutton Corral
2:30 p.m.	Freddie Perez	Perez Stage
3:00 p.m.	Jeremiah Johnson	Main Stage
4:00 p.m.	Mutton Busting	Mutton Corral
4:00 p.m.	David DaVinci	Main Stage
4:30 p.m.	Freddie Perez	Perez Stage

Enjoy the shows!



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Jessup Real Estate  
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Internationally Known



Kimberly Andrew



Roberta Schwantes



Sharmon Evenhus-Huber



Brittne Golden



Mary Shaefer



Jessica Kearny



Peggy Lord