



This view shows the rear of the new firehouse which allows trucks to enter and exit without interference from the busy North Wenatchee Avenue traffic.

Wenatchee's newest fire station ready to roll Nov. 1

Story and photos by Gary Bégin

Chief Brian Brett of the Chelan Fire Department District 1 was kind enough to take time from his incredibly busy schedule to answer a few questions about the new fire station on North Wenatchee Avenue.

Here is the Q&A, exclusive to the Wenatchee Business Journal done in late September:

WBJ: Is the new station on schedule?

Chief Brett: The fire station is 1½ years behind schedule because of events beyond the district's control.

WBJ: When will it officially be opened?

Chief Brett: We are confident in operating from the new station on November 1.

WBJ: What is the total expected cost?

Chief Brett: The projected cost to date is \$5,348,000. Original cost was \$5,278,000.

WBJ: Are there many cost overruns (change orders) expected or unexpected?

Chief Brett: Yes, we currently over budget by \$70,000 with another known overages of \$20,000.

We have had 15 Change Orders and 109 Field Orders, with over a thousand corresponding emails regarding the project.

WBJ: Will more personnel be added or just transferred from other stations?

Chief Brett: Currently, the District is unable to hire additional Firefighters.

We are going to reposition personnel around the District to maximize our capabilities with the staffing we currently have.

Our goal is to run a Rescue Vehicle, a Battalion Chief, and a Tiller Ladder Truck from the new station.

The Rescue Vehicle will carry our Water Rescue, Rope Rescue, Confined Space Rescue, Emergency Medical Equipment, and Auto Extrication Equipment.

This vehicle will respond as a single unit on calls warranting only one apparatus, while being the second unit, on multi-unit dispatches.

We are excited for the opportunity to have a more maneuverable vehicle, for a large portion of our responses, while simultaneously minimizing wear on our larger fire apparatus.

SEE NEWEST FIRE STATION PAGE 2



The front of the building doesn't look like the traditional firehouse, but sports modern architectural features.



Leavenworth's Housing Needs Assessment reveals big challenges for Chelan County

Photo by Bill Forhan

A large development is occurring on Pine Street with homes many consider too expensive for local residents. What is not covered in the study is that long term residents may be able to sell their existing home for considerably more than what they originally paid for it. Housing prices have increased by 73 percent in the last ten years. With current mortgage rates at an all time low of 2.75 percent it may be possible for home owners to reinvest their gains from their current home in a newer larger home.

By Bill Forhan

According to the needs assessment, population in Leavenworth has been relatively flat over the last twenty years while jobs in the community have grown by 30 percent.

Job growth generally results in growth in housing units, but in Leavenworth's case this has not occurred. The additional jobs added should have required an addition of 312 new housing units, but in the 17 years of the study only 161 new housing units were built. The result was a shortage of available housing of 151 homes.

This shortage of housing is causing home prices and rental rates to grow, further stressing the ability of local people to be able to afford to live there.

The result is more and more local people are having to commute in to work there.

Mayor Carl Florea campaigned on the issue of creating more affordable housing.

The study shows that in the last 10 years home values have risen by 73 percent, while local median income has risen by only 17 percent.

This report confirms Florea's impression that while incomes have been rising, wages have not kept pace with the increases in local home prices. This is making it increasingly difficult for local people to afford housing in Leavenworth.

The median household income for Leavenworth was \$51,875 in 2018, the most recent year that information is available. Leavenworth's median household income has grown slower than most of other Chelan County communities.

HUD says housing costs should not exceed 30 percent of household

income. This means a household making the median income would qualify for a home in the \$320,000 range at today's record low mortgage rate of 2.75 percent.

The median home price in Leavenworth in 2020 is \$565,233 that is 38 percent higher than the average in Chelan County according to the study.

According to the study the household income necessary to buy the median price of "bottom tier" homes is 111 percent of the county median income thus preventing access to home ownership for many local households.

Rental prices are also the highest in Chelan County.

Average rental costs were \$1,631 per month in 2019. This is 6 to 8 percent higher than other communities in Chelan County.

SEE AFFORDABLE HOUSING, PAGE 16



Avid Hotel on North Wenatchee Avenue is nearing completion

▶▶▶ See Page 16 for the story.

Courtesy graphic

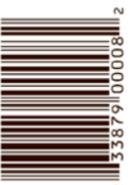
Artists rendition of the new Avid Hotel.

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NEWSSTAND LOCATIONS

Wenatchee

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

East Wenatchee

Safeway, 510 Grant Road

Cashmere

Martin's Market Place
 130 Titchenal Way

Leavenworth

Dan's Food Market
 1329 U.S. Highway 2
 The Leavenworth Echo
 215 14th St.

Chelan

Safeway, 106 W. Manson Rd.

Lake Chelan Mirror
 310 E. Johnson Ave.

Brewster

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

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I once worked for a boss who hated the phrase “wildfire” because he figured all fires were wild in nature. I pointed out that we do “controlled burn” fires all the time. We didn’t like each other much.

Now, all these decades later, I must explain to certain Westcoasters that North Central Washington is full of natural beauty, but please, don’t have open flame campfires when open flames are prohibited.

I almost feel stupid having to say it, but these inconsiderate folks don’t care about burning down your business, orchard, house or investment property. If they cared they wouldn’t do it.

I have attached a photo to

this article. It is a picture I shot the day before the Apple Acres fire burned a bunch



Gary Bégin
 Managing Editor

of Chelan County up in the hills off of Union Valley and Cagle Gulch roads northeast of Lake Chelan.

I emphasize that this campfire did NOT cause the

blaze, but it easily could have.

A bunch of fun-loving younger folks from the West decided it was ok to drink beer (fine by me), but they also had a roaring campfire going, not ok by me or the others who live in the area.

Americans, especially Washingtonians, believe in the rights of an individual to do almost anything as long as it does no harm to others.

Having an open flame during an extreme fire season is not a right.

Are these the same people who allow Seattle to be taken over by armed leftists? Don’t know. Are they the same far left loonies who shoot cops in Portland? Don’t know. One thing I am certain of is this, they are selfish, discourteous,

immature adults and deserve to be caught, fined and maybe even incarcerated.

What they did and what they do has consequences for all of us who love the land and our businesses and homes.

Although NCW businesses love the revenue stream from your visits, please stop doing open flame fires during fire season... and if you can’t stop, then stay home and have your campfires at Pike Place or in front of Governor Inslee’s house or the front lawn of the state capital.

City residents wouldn’t enjoy it if NCW people went to their towns and started blasting squirrels out of park trees or brought our unfettered livestock for a stroll by their homes and churches.

Throwing a cigarette out

the car window is terrible and should be labelled as arson, because any thinking human can control that action. Open campfires are the same. If we charge these idiots with arson, maybe it would make a dent in their cranial cavities.

Visitors to our paradise need to remove their city shoes before treading on the new Persian Carpet we call nature, albeit dry as a bone. Fire education ought to be taught in all city schools. Country “bumpkins” like us already know better than to mess with Mother Nature.

Gary Bégin’s opinions are his alone and do not reflect that of NCW Media ownership. To send “on the record” comments to this column, email: Gary@ncwmedia.net.



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Wenatchee’s newest fire station ready to roll Nov. 1

WBJ: Are state of the art functions now available to Wenatchee firemen?

Chief Brett: The Fire District is very frugal with District finances.

We have the bare essential amenities in the new

station to minimize cost.

We strive to minimize costs in our facilities and invest those savings into our fleet, training, and aviation programs.

The benefits of the new station include the improved

health and safety for our team members.

The area separations and air cleaning systems minimize exhaust and fire scene contaminates that are common to all busy fire stations.

Our gear will be stored out of UV light, to minimize degradation, and decontamination stations for our team, gear and equipment are in the apparatus bay.

WBJ: If I were a front-line fireman, what would my favorite feature be?

Chief Brett: The ability to maintain a clean, sanitary environment is the feature

appreciated the most. Also, not having to block a major thoroughfare to pull out, or back into, the station is a major plus.

The strategic positioning of this station complements our existing stations.

Next, we plan to put a fire station on Stemilt Hill and in the Colockum to maximize our coverage.

WBJ: Anything else you’d like our readers to know?

Chief Brett: We are really grateful for the overwhelming support we receive from our citizens in the Fire District.

At the direction of the Fire Commissioners, we will be convening a Citizens Advisory Group to review where the District has been, where we currently are, and what the vision and expectations of the people are regarding the District’s emergency service capabilities in the future.

Got Questions? We’ve got answers!

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CFAP 2 to include assistance requested by Newhouse for specialty crop producers, livestock and dairy

Newhouse Applauds USDA Announcement of COVID-19 Relief for Central Washington Agriculture

Submitted by Rep. Newhouse

WASHINGTON – Today, Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WA) released the following statement after President Trump and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Sonny Perdue announced the second round of the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP 2) will provide up to an additional \$14 billion for agricultural producers who continue to face disruptions and associated costs due to COVID-19:

“Central Washington’s agriculture producers are resilient, but the COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on our ability to maintain a strong, stable food supply chain,” said Rep. Newhouse. “Over the past few months, I have worked with Secretary Perdue to advocate for our agriculture commodities that were originally left out of the CFAP,

including apples, potatoes, sweet cherries, hops, wine grapes, and wheat; these industries are huge economic drivers for our state, and now they will be included. This assistance will provide desperately-needed relief to our hard-working producers and allow them to continue feeding the world – through this pandemic and into the future. Thank you, Secretary Perdue, for listening to the voices of Central Washington’s farmers and ranchers.”

CFAP 2 will be available for producers of several Central Washington commodities: Grapes and wine grapes, all classes of wheat, apples, potatoes, pears, cherries, blueberries, mint, peppermint, and others. The program will also provide additional support for dairy and livestock.

Upon the creation of CFAP, Rep. Newhouse applauded

Secretary Perdue and President Trump for providing for America’s farmers and ranchers. He has worked closely with USDA to advocate for Central Washington’s agriculture industry. Today, Rep.

Newhouse sent a letter to Secretary Perdue, thanking him for hearing the concerns of Central Washington producers and adjusting the program to deliver relief.

Farmers and ranchers can sign up for CFAP 2 starting September 21 through December 11, 2020. Producers can apply for CFAP 2 at USDA’s Farm Service Agency (FSA) county offices.

This program provides financial assistance that gives producers the ability to absorb increased marketing costs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Producers will be com-

pensated for ongoing market disruptions and assisted with the associated marketing costs. CFAP 2 payments will be made for three categories of commodities – Price Trigger Commodities, Flat-rate Crops and Sales Commodities. Click here for details and additional information.

Background:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will use funds being made available from the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) Charter Act and CARES Act to support row crops, livestock, specialty crops, dairy, aquaculture and many additional commodities. USDA has incorporated improvements in CFAP 2 based from stakeholder engagement and public feedback to better meet the needs of impacted farmers and ranchers.



COURTESY PHOTO

Rep. Dan Newhouse, left, chats with Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue during a recent visit.

On April 23, Rep. Newhouse led 126 House colleagues in a bipartisan letter to President Trump urging the elimination of payment limits for livestock, dairy, and produce farmers in the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program.

On June 5, Rep. Newhouse joined Rep. McMorris Rodgers (R-WA) in sending a letter to USDA’s Farm Service Agency urging the inclusion of three classes of wheat produced in Washington for coverage under CFAP.

On June 23, Rep. Newhouse led a bipartisan letter to USDA Secretary Perdue calling for the inclusion of apples in the COVID-19 economic relief efforts. On July 9, USDA announced that

apple producers would be eligible for direct payments.

On July 7, Rep. Newhouse led the Washington state delegation in sending a letter to USDA Secretary Perdue calling for support of Washington’s agriculture industry – specifically specialty crops – in the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program.

On September 3, Rep. Newhouse joined his colleagues in sending a letter to USDA Secretary Perdue requesting support for 2020 wheat crop losses for all class of wheat.

On September 11, Rep. Newhouse led a bipartisan letter to USDA Secretary Perdue requesting COVID-19 relief for American wine grape growers.

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CHELAN COUNTY

Chelan PUD commissioners launch several projects

Submitted by Chelan PUD

- An accelerated schedule to build the fiber network to about 5,800 homes by 2024 – about 1,200 more than planned
- The final construction package with Lydig Construction of Spokane to remodel the Discovery Center and Central Maintenance facilities at Rocky Reach
- A contract to remove more trees and vegetation that threaten power lines, with more frequent inspection in fire-prone areas.

PUD speeds up fiber build-out

The fiber expansion would connect more rural neighborhoods to the PUD's fast broadband network ahead of schedule.

In 2016, the PUD committed \$25 million to reach 85-90 percent of the county by 2026. With commissioners' support Tuesday, the PUD will spend an additional \$2 million in public power benefit funding to bring more homes online by 2024.

An accelerated build-out was one of the top requests from customer-owners during the strategic planning process.

"If we look at the times, we can see that there's more need than ever for these connections, and I certainly am supportive," said Commissioner Steve McKenna.

Rocky Reach facilities remodel

Work begins next week on a two-fold project at Rocky Reach, fulfilling a top strategic priority to invest in assets and people.

The popular Discovery Center will be re-modeled for the first time in 60 years, with new interactive displays and floor-to-ceiling fish windows. The guaranteed maximum price for the next phase of the Discovery Center project is \$4.4 million. Plans are to reopen for year-round operation in late spring 2021.

Commissioners also approved a \$28.5 million package to provide more efficient and safer quarters for maintenance crews, including a new crew building, shop building, warehouse and hydro large parts storage building.

Tree trimming ramps up

Trees in power lines threaten public safety, electrical reliability, and it's one of the leading sources of utility-caused fire ignition. Commissioners approved a contract that would increase the frequency and volume of tree- and shrub-trimming along Chelan PUD's 1,000 miles of power lines.

The PUD plans to implement a 4-2-1 schedule for vegetation management: A 4-year trim cycle, with inspections every two years, and annual inspection for areas with high wildfire risk.

The contract takes a step toward the PUD's goal of becoming a national leader in reliability, while also reducing fire risk.

"The spotlight has been turned on with respect to utilities and the potential for starting fires," said Board President Garry Arseneault. "It makes a great deal

Salmon survival put to the test: PUD moves forward with Rock Island study

Submitted by Chelan PUD

Chelan PUD will aim for at least 93 percent juvenile salmon survival during a study at Rock Island Hydro Project next spring. Chelan PUD commissioners approved a nearly \$955,000 contract Monday with El-lensburg firm Blue Leaf Environmental to complete the study and report the findings by September 2021.

"This is a very important study for us," General Manager Steve Wright said.

"The PUD committed not just to a set of actions to protect salmon and steelhead, but to a biological outcome. This is the second test in a series of 10-year cycles."

Starting in April, crews will tag yearling chinook with a battery-powered tracking device that will show researchers how the fish pass through the hydro project, and how many survive.

In 2010, Chelan PUD achieved the gold standard for survival rates by achieving 96.8 percent survival for steelhead, nearly 94 percent for spring chinook and 93.3 percent for sockeye at Rock Island Hydro Project. Rocky Reach achieved similar survival rates that year.

The survival study is required every 10 years by the habitat conservation plans for Rocky Reach and Rock Island hydro projects. Chelan PUD developed

the plans cooperatively with state and federal fisheries agencies and tribes.

The plans commit the PUD to a 50-year program to ensure that its hydro projects have no net impact on the mid-Columbia salmon and steelhead runs.

To achieve that standard, the PUD has invested in dam passage improvements, off-site hatchery programs, predator control, and habitat restoration work in the mid-Columbia tributary systems.

The Rock Island study was originally scheduled for 2020, but the PUD was granted a one-year deferral due to planned maintenance on the Powerhouse 1 turbines.

In other business, commissioners:

- Heard an update from the Customer Energy Solutions team about several programs, including virtual home energy audits.

- Heard an update about regional water rights from Water/Wastewater Manager Ron Slabaugh.



Submitted Photo

of sense to move forward with [this] proposal."

In other news, commissioners:

- Approved a nearly \$7 million plan to build a higher-capacity substation near Olds Station.

The 56-megawatt substation will replace an aging, 28-megawatt substation and provide better reliability for the growing

needs of industrial customers in that area.

- Heard a manager's report regarding the impacts of wildfires and wind storms to electrical infrastructure.

Chelan PUD records most commission meetings, and a link to the audio is available on the PUD's home page at www.chelanpud.org.

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Beautiful Business for October



The Wendy's at 1919 North Wenatchee Avenue in Wenatchee is hereby in receipt of the first ever Wenatchee Business Journal "Beautiful Business Award" for showing the community its gorgeous landscape. Be sure to see the November WBJ for the next installment of the WBJ "Beautiful Business Award."



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Remember when a business setback was a tray of dishes hitting the floor? Or a delivery truck with a flat tire somewhere between here and Ogden? Ahh, the good old days. Still, the more things change, the more we all need to hold on to what works in good times and, well, whatever you call these times. Like a 5-Star bank that helped thousands of businesses and families find solid ground in 2020. Wheatland Bank. Relationships you can count on. Yes, even now.



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“Our Path Forward” charts ways for community to collaborate, add more diversity

Our Valley Our Future releases regional thinking and inclusion report

Submitted by OVOF

Expanding a regional mindset and adding more diverse voices to decision making tables are essential if Chelan and Douglas counties are to adapt to population growth and changing demographics, an Our Valley Our Future Working Group concludes in a white paper by the nonprofit organization.

Meant to serve as a catalyst for additional conversations and actions, the “Our Path Forward:

Regional Thinking, Inclusion, Collaboration” report takes a look at past and current regional efforts, explains why the approach matters more than ever today, and suggests several new opportunities for the community to consider.

“In their research, Working Group members discovered many examples – a long history, in fact – of people and organizations thinking regionally in Chelan and Douglas counties,” said Steve Maher, Our Valley Our Future (OVOF) coordinator. “They also concluded that transformative changes have been occurring at an increasingly rapid rate and those changes will only accelerate in the future, putting significant pressure on our infrastructure and natural areas. Developing the discipline to consider how the region might function more effectively by collaborating rather than competing is critical to making the

most of public funds, services and resources.”

The 14-member OVOF Working Group spent the better part of a year researching the topic and compiling the 36-page report. OVOF appointed the group in May 2019 to study ways in which our communities might better prepare themselves for the future. Working Group members include (in alphabetical order):

- Teresa Bendito, Parque Padriños neighborhood group
- Bob Bugert, Chelan County Commission
- Shiloh Burgess, Wenatchee Valley Chamber of Commerce
- Bart Clennon, Wenatchee fruit rancher and retired actuary
- Linda Evans Parlette, North Central Accountable Community of Health, former state senator
- Stacy Luckensmeyer, Wenatchee Valley College
- Steve Maher, Our Valley Our Future
- Jessi Mendoza, Numerica Credit Union
- Karen Rutherford, Flywheel Investment Conference and Pinnacles Prep
- Peter Rutherford,

Confluence Health

- Dan Sutton, Douglas County Commission

- Spencer Taylor, Eastmont School District

- Rufus Woods, The Wenatchee World

- Steve Wright, Chelan County PUD

The “Our Path Forward” report does not recommend mergers or consolidations of government entities, although it notes mergers may result as one potential “how”

of regional thinking, inclusion and collaboration, along with such other steps as resource-sharing, partnerships, and planning.

To help bridge cultural divides, the OVOF Working Group recommends the region tap into the energy and ideas from the entire community. The goal of inclusion, the Working Group concluded, should not be to replace someone at the table but rather to make the table bigger.

Those discussions should link, connect and build – and refrain from being transactional.

The state’s population (7.6 million people in 2020) is forecast to increase by another 2 million people by 2040, most of that through immigration to the state.

The Working Group believes Chelan and Douglas counties, while still largely rural, will get a disproportionately large share of those new residents, given this region’s close proximity to the Puget Sound area and quality-of life draws.

Population growth in Chelan and Douglas counties is expected to be fueled by retirees who

are very mobile today and by people who can live anywhere and work remotely.

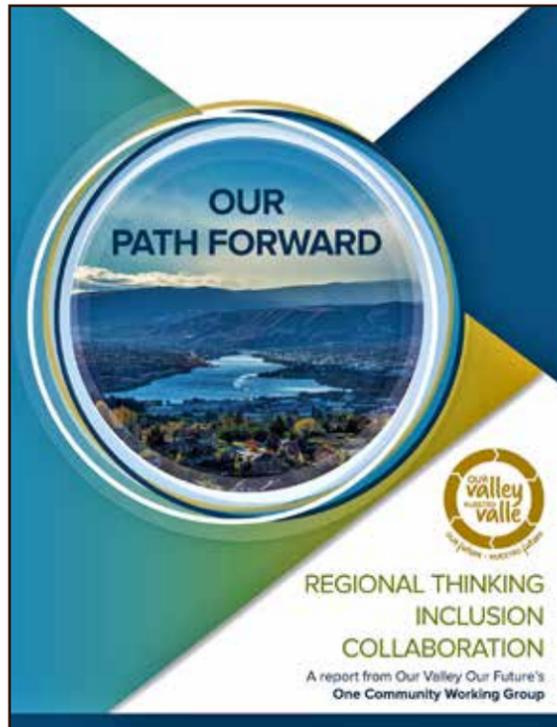
In the report, the OVOF Working Group concludes good planning leads to good infrastructure and more orderly development. As more people move to the community, the need to add and replace infrastructure across jurisdictional boundaries will only increase. Infrastructure will only become more costly if it is delayed. Individual jurisdictions cannot bear the responsibility alone.

“The Working Group believes strongly that community leaders and residents should get ahead of and guide those changes as much as possible to ensure we retain the quality of life that makes the region so unique,” Maher said.

For a copy of the “Our Path Forward: Regional Thinking, Inclusion and Collaboration” report:

<http://www.ourvalleyourfuture.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/OVOF-Regional-Thinking-Report-09.09.20-FINAL.pdf>.

Our Valley Our Future, founded in 2015, is a collaborative nonprofit organization that brings together residents and organizations to improve the region’s quality of life. Its guiding document is its Action Plan, which includes projects and programs led by partnering organizations. OVOF serves as convener, facilitator, data-collector, planner and communicator.



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- * **Cancer Care of NCW, Inc. Our House, Wenatchee:** 663-6964 or Email: cancare@nwl.net
- * **Wellness Place, Wenatchee**, 888-9933. Support groups, and other resources.
- * **Confluence Health/ Wenatchee Valley Medical**, 663-8711 x 64100.
- * **Confluence Health, Breast, Cervical and Colon Cancer Health Program**, 664-3415.
- * **EASE Cancer Foundation, Cashmere**, 860-1322 or www.easecancer.org
- * **Lake Chelan Community Hospital**, Chelan, 682-3300
- * **Columbia Valley Community Health**, 662-6000
- * **Three Rivers Hospital, Brewster**, 689-2517
- * **Family Health Center, Brewster**, 509-422-7629, 800-660-2129
- * **Seattle Cancer Alliance**, 800-804-8824, www.seattlecca.org

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- * **American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology**, 703-502-1550, www.astro.org.
- * **American Society of Plastic Surgeons**, 800-514-4340, www.plasticsurgery.org.
- * **AVON Foundation** www.avonfoundation.org
- * **Blood & Marrow Transplant Information Network - Seattle** www.seattlecca.org/bmt_bmtinfoNet
- * **Breast Cancer Network of Strength** -24-hour breast cancer hotline 1-800-222-2141. Networkofstrength.org/
- * **Dr. Susan Love Foundation for Breast Cancer Research** 1-310-828-0060 x 157
- * **Living Beyond Breast Cancer**, 855-807-6386, www.lbbc.org.
- * **National Breast Cancer Foundation**, 1-972-248-9200, NationalBreastCancer.org
- * **National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship** Cancerversary.org
- * **Susan G. Komen For the Cure**, www.komen.org
- * **The Breast Cancer Alliance**, www.breastcanceralliance.org
- * **National Lymphedema Network**, 1-510-809-1660, www.lymphet.org.
- * **SHARE (Breast Cancer Hotline)**), 1-866-830-4576, 844-ASK-SHARE, or www.sharecancersupport.org
- * **Vital Options International**, 1-800-477-7666, www.vitaloptions.org
- * **Zero Breast Cancer:** 1-415-507-1949, www.zerobreastcancer.org
- * **Free Cancer magazine:** print and online: CancerToday, American Association for Cancer Research, 615 Chestnut St. 17th floor, Philadelphia, PA 19106

By Carol L. Forhan, Survivor

Pink Ribbons, Pink Shirts, walks, runs, fundraisers, and now in 2020 because of the COVID-19 we have virtual auctions, benefits, and other events that we hope will help raise more AWARENESS and money in our communities.

What is so special about this month of October?

It is like other months that bring awareness of a special need and every disease or affliction now has a colored ribbon to commemorate their cause, whether it is Heart Month, Diabetes Month, Alzheimer's Month, and so on. October 1-31 is a campaign month intended to educate people about the importance of Early screening and Detection of Breast Cancer. But this month is personal for me. It was my personal fight with breast cancer at a young age that had no actual known cause.

At the age of 43 I had my first mammogram, and I had just learned how to do breast self-exam by watching a TV program on self-exam. I had a close friend at the age of 39 years old diagnosed with breast cancer and she encouraged me to get a mammogram after I felt a lump in my armpit. I am so thankful for her encouragement because I felt she saved my life, as I was then diagnosed with Stage 2B-breast cancer with all of my lymph nodes involved on the same side.

Breast cancer effects 1 in 8 women who will get diagnosed with cancer in her lifetime, but some men

actually can get breast cancer too. Many years of research has been done on this disease, and breast cancer comes in many forms and stages. We know about the BRAC genes, but not all breast cancer is inherited and HER-2. Great strides have been made in research to find the cause and medicines and therapies are developed to kill the cancer cells. Some treatments can make one lose a breast (s), hair, self-esteem and dignity, and unfortunately some die.

We can replace a breast with a prosthesis or with reconstructive surgery or do nothing, our hair will grow back as well as our self-esteem and dignity. Many women work through the process day by day, whether at a job or career and/or keeping up a home, children, spouse, daily chores and just day to day living.

Many kinds of friendships develop, help and encouragement from another survivor, and support groups may become a part of your life for now, (if you choose too.) We move on, some tell others of their survivorship some tell no one. When we do the survivors' page, in our NCW Media newspapers the first week of October, we are happy to show our smiling faces that we are surviving and thriving. If you know of someone that didn't tell then that is a personal choice and is respected.

30 years ago in October while living in Montana, as I mentioned before, I was diagnosed with breast cancer, with no known family history. I survived



Carol L. Forhan

- a 24-hour breast cancer hotline, 1-800-222-2141 and Networkofstrength.org, they have help in all languages.

Breast Cancer was my #1 fighting cause and it still is. I just wanted to give back and help someone else through the process.

Though it is scary, Cancer does not have to be a death sentence, and cancer is not a one person disease, it affects the whole family.

A few things that are very important to remember and you will be reminded especially in October Awareness Month.

Get a mammogram. Know your family history, if a relative like, mom, grandmother, aunt have or had breast cancer, depending on your age, recommended year is 45 or earlier if you have a family history and a consultation with your doctor. Learn to do breast self exam. While living in California, we were invited into the health classes in the schools to teach the young girls about breast cancer and self-exam. Contact your doctor or hospital and the American Cancer Society for free information. 1-800-ACS, or www.cancer.org

When or if you are diagnosed, you have the right to get a second or even a third opinion. Surgery is not always the answer, talk to your team of doctors and nurses, and other caregivers. BE an advocate for yourself, or take someone with you to be an advocate. Ask questions, do your research, but do not just rely on internet information, it can be misleading. There are also some great books and magazines you can read. One of the best books about the breast anatomy and tons of information, is Dr. Susan Love's Breast Book. There are different therapies and opinions out there. 30 years ago I was not expected to live "5" years. and years ago I heard the phrase "I want to see Breast Cancer eradicated in my life time", and it still hasn't been eradicated. I still have Hope and Faith that it will happen before my 4 granddaughters have to deal with it. I thank God everyday that I have another day to enjoy, by continuing my faith career as an ordained deacon in my church. A business owner, a community leader and supporter of many causes. Have Faith my friend, I will support you as well. *Sincerely, Carol Forhan, 30 years, Surviving and Thriving!*

Early Detection is the Best Protection.

Breast Cancer

AWARENESS MONTH

confluencehealth.org



BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

BREAST CANCER FACTS

Compiled by
Carol L. Forhan,
Survivor

The two main risk factors for breast cancer are: Being female and getting older.

Statistics

Breast cancer is the second most common cause of cancer for American women except skin cancer, and the overall cause of cancer death in women between the ages of 20 and 39.

In the United States, one in 8 women will develop breast cancer in her lifetime.

An estimated 276,480 new cases of invasive breast cancer are expected to occur in women in 2020, with an estimated 48,530 additional cases of in-situ (non-invasive) breast cancer.

64% of breast cancer cases are diagnosed at localized stage for which

the 5-year survival is 99%. There are more than 2.4 million women in the United States with a history of breast cancer. 42,170 or 1 in 39 women (3%) will die. But there are 3.8 million survivors in the USA.

In the United States, breast cancer is expected to be newly diagnosed every three minutes, and a woman will die from breast cancer every 13 minutes.

Breast cancer in men

Though rare, 2,620 new cases of invasive breast cancer are expected to be diagnosed, in men in 2020. 520 will die. Black men have the highest breast cancer incidence over all, Hispanic men have the lowest. Median age of diagnosis for men in the U.S. is 68 years old.

Breast cancer in ethnic groups

African American women have a higher

breast cancer death rate than women of any other racial or ethnic population.

American Indian/Alaska Native females have the lowest breast cancer incidence rates.

Breast cancer and age

The risk of breast cancer increases with age: About 18 percent of diagnoses are among women in their 40's and 77 percent of women with breast cancer are older than 50 when they are diagnosed.

White women have a higher incidence of breast cancer than African American women after age 40, while African American women have a slightly higher incidence rate before age 40.

Risk and recurrence of breast cancer

Postmenopausal women with early breast cancer are at their greatest risk of disease recurrence during

the first five years after diagnosis.

The absolute number and percentage of recurrences in the first five years after surgery is much highest than the following five to 10 years.

Treatment received during these first five years is paramount in combating the disease.

Early Detection

One of the earliest signs of breast cancer can be an abnormality that shows up on a mammogram before it can be felt. The most common signs of breast cancer are a lump in the breast, abnormal thickening of the breast, or a change in the shape or color of the breast. Finding a lump or change in your breast does not necessarily mean you have breast cancer. Additional changes that may also be signs of breast cancer include:

- Any new, hard lump or

thickening in any part of the breast/and armpit.

- Change in size or shape.
- Dimpling or puckering of the skin.

- Swelling, redness or warmth that does not go away.

- Pain in one spot that does not vary with your monthly cycle.

- Pulling in of the nipple, nipple discharge that starts suddenly and appears only in one breast.

- An itchy, sore or scaling area on one nipple.

It is important for women

to practice the elements of good breast health. It is suggested women obtain regular mammography screening starting at the age of 45, or earlier if you have a family history.

Obtain annual clinical breast exams, perform monthly breast-self exams and obtain a risk assessment from a physician.

This information was acquired from the American Cancer Society, 1-800-ACS-2345. Or www.cancer.org. and The Susan G. Komen organization.

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We Support Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

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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!

- Columbia River Steel – 9 years
 - Country Financial – Zane Bock – 2 years
 - CW Painting LLC – 2 years
 - G.W.A.T.A. – 4 years
 - Guild Mortgage Company – 6 years
 - Homesley Construction – 7 years
 - J & K Earthworks, LLC – 14 years
 - JLW Custom Concrete, Inc. – 19 years
 - Les Schwab Tire Center – 16 years
 - Love Leavenworth Vacation Rentals – 1 year
 - NCW Economic Development District – 5 years
 - Riverway Contractors, LLC – 23 years
 - Sadler Construction, Inc. – 23 years
 - Trinity Inflatables – 11 years
 - Two Rivers Sand & Gravel, Inc. – 9 years
 - Windermere Real Estate/NCW – 4 years
 - WV Chamber of Commerce – 14 years
- Anytime Restoration LLC – 5 years
 - Berkshire Hathaway Home Services – Jessup Real Estate – 4 years
 - Christine Douglas, Broker, Realtor @ Laura Mounter Real Estate & Co. – 2 years



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



LOCATED AT:
2201 N. Wenatchee Ave.
Wenatchee, WA 98801

PHONE: (509) 293-5840

FAX: (509) 665-6669

Email us for more information:
Info@BuildingNCW.org

Visit us online at:
www.BuildingNCW.org

BNCW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



First Choice Collision Center has been owned and operated by the dynamic, husband and wife combo, Allen and Kim Tangeman since November of 2000. This marks their 20th year of serving North Central Washington.

As a family-owned and operated collision repair facility, they are capable of repairing most vehicles and trucks with highly trained and skilled technicians combined with state-of-the-art equipment needed for proper and safe repairs.

In their 20 years of business, they have serviced over 5,671 customers.

They are leaders in the industry, providing professional staff, computerized estimates, frame, body and mechanical repairs, refinishing, detailing, quality control and delivery.

Allen works closely with I-CAR to be sure that their technicians are all up to speed with the latest industry trends and technology available.

First Choice Collision Center makes sure their technicians attend several educational classes throughout the year to be sure they can provide the top-quality service their customers need.

Their mission is to provide customer safety, peace of mind and complete satisfaction.

With their dedication to this mission, Allen and Kim have developed an outstanding reputation in North Central Washington and maintain the commitment to you through a seamless and easy service process.

Be sure to visit them online at www.firstchoiceecc.com or give them a call at 509.663.7008. They are located at 601 N. Wenatchee Ave, Wenatchee, WA 98801.



MEMBER MESSENGER

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BNCW's:

FROM A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE

Millennial Migration

“In 7/20, 52% or 26.6 million adults ages 18-29 lived with at least one parent, up from 47% or 24 million in 2/20. This is the highest percentage since at least 1940 when it was 48%. This percentage bottomed at 29% in 1960 and has steadily risen since. Importantly, unmarried college students living in college dorms are treated as living at home, thus early college closures were not the cause.”



Hyperbolic Hurricanes

“For the first time since 2005 and the second time ever, the Atlantic hurricane season has exceeded 21 named storms. As such, the weather service has run out of Latin alphabet storm names (Q, U, X, Y and Z are not used). So, we move to the Greek alphabet. In 2005 we got as far as Zeta, the sixth letter in the Greek alphabet.”

Elliot F. Eisenberg, Ph.D.

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



LAND-USE UPDATE

By Dan Beardslee,
BNCW Government Affairs Director

As usual, there are plenty of things in the land-use arena going on in our area. Some things are really good, and the jury is still out on others.

On the good side, Douglas County continues to excel with their policies and implementation.

Mark Botello has been on the job as Land Services Director since May or so, and has been working with the County Commissioners to make needed revisions to the County code, but more importantly continues to change the culture in his department to one that is responsive to citizens and really finds ways to get things done, rather than get in the way of commerce as is so often the case in local planning agencies.

Commissioner Steinburg and Commissioner Sutton are not being challenged this election cycle, and they, along with Marc Straub (who is just finishing up his first two years) will continue to work on making Douglas

County “open for business” as they are wont to say.

There are some major things going on in Chelan County. The short-term rental initiative continues to consume a lot of time and money, and while we have actively been engaged, the outcome is still uncertain.

Jim Brown, the new Community Development Director (with a lot of help from Deanna Walter) has restructured the department and engaged BNCW in that process. They have hired a new Assistant Director, which was much needed and we’re hoping she will get up to speed real soon. That was a key position to fill. Unfortunately, a couple of key employees are leaving, so they continue to be understaffed.

We’re keeping an eye on the new water code proposal that is under consideration. That code will essentially form a local “water bank” where new construction in the Wenatchee River and Entiat River drainages will have to purchase water for new construction.

There are a lot of details yet to be

worked out and we will continue to engage in that process.

Also under review in Chelan County is an update to the critical areas ordinance that has some worrisome provisions. We’ll stay engaged in that effort as well.

The lead-arsenic issue (legacy pesticides) is still out there, but that’s being handled by the Department of Ecology. They have formed a working group (with BNCW representation), but we haven’t seen anything new.

If anyone is planning on developing or building on lands that were in orchard prior to somewhere around 1950, this could be a huge issue. We’ll have to wait and see.

Also, be aware that the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife is getting pretty aggressive with regard to Mule Deer habitat in the shrub-steppe habitat in the area. They have caused some properties to be very comprised for development.

As usual, we stay engaged where we think we can have some impact.

TOOLBOX TALKS



Safety all day

APPROACH management services

The goal of safety is to begin the day and end the day safely. During these challenging times with the presence of COVID-19 safety must occur from the start to the end of a job.

Safety on the job must encompass every aspect of preparation for the day’s work and extend beyond completion of the job into our personal lives.

Safety must be your first thought as you drive to work to begin the day’s work, and on your mind as you leave and drive home at the end of the day.

To think safety first, last, and in-between, here are some suggestions:

- **What is my best,** safest route to work or the jobsite? Is my vehicle properly maintained and safe to drive?
- **What is my best,** safest route to work or the jobsite? Is my vehicle properly maintained and safe to drive?
- **Do I have** all the equipment I will need to do the job safely?
- **What methods** will be used at the jobsite today to complete the work safely?
- **What personal protective equipment** or clothing will be necessary to accomplish the work safely? Be sure to inspect all PPE and clothing for defects prior to use, including face coverings and masks.
- **What tools** are necessary to complete the day’s task? Is the right tool for the work on the jobsite and available. Are the personnel properly trained (or certified if necessary), on tools and

equipment to do the work safely?

- **Be sure to** inspect all tools

and equipment prior to use. If defects are found have them repaired or replaced prior to use.

- **Inspect** the jobsite or work area prior to beginning work. Look for any changes or hazards prior to beginning work. Determine what needs to be done to minimize or eliminate those hazards.
- **Practice good housekeeping** throughout the day. A clean site is a safer site.
- **Stay alert** throughout the day. Be aware at all times of what is happening around you, and around your co-workers.
- **Upon completion** of the day’s work be sure to properly clean and store all tools and equipment in a dry, secure place for future use.

- **Make sure all** barricades or guards required are in place before leaving the jobsite.
- **Ensure that** all equipment is properly parked and secured for the night.
- **Will I need** any special tools or equipment to accomplish the work safely tomorrow?
- **What is my best, safest route home?** Would it be wiser to wait a short time for traffic to diminish before heading home?

Think safety first, last, and every moment in-between. Planning and attention to details pay off in a safer, more efficient job.

Accidents are usually a result of lack of attention or lack of planning and are preventable 90% of the time.





MEMBER MESSENGER

“Driven to Promote and Protect Small Business”

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Your Vote is Crucial!

The 2020 general election is an extremely important one not only nationally but locally! Make sure your voice is heard by voting!

BNCW members, please be certain to complete your due diligence by taking a little bit of time to learn more

about each of the candidates. *We strongly encourage our members to consider supporting the BNCW-endorsed candidates noted below*, as well as asking that your friends, family and others within your circles do the same!

Remember, the General Election is November 3. Ballots should be in mailboxes around mid-October! Keep an eye on your mailbox and be sure to mail it back or drop it in a drop-box before Election Day!



BNCW ENDORSED 2020 General Election



The **Washington Small Business Council** (WSBC) serves as **Building North Central Washington's** Political Action Committee (PAC). As such, one of the WSBC's more important purposes is to evaluate and understand the philosophies and records of elected office holders and candidates for such offices, for the purposes of advancing endorsements of those candidates and initiatives believed to best promote the beliefs, ideals and interests of not only the building industry, but small business in general—including a commitment to the free enterprise system; the protection of private property rights and a strong belief in government regulatory accountability.

The WSBC / BNCW Endorsed Candidates for the 2020 General Election are:

**12th District State Representative
Position 1**

Keith Goehner

**12th District State Representative
Position 2**

Mike Steele

**7th District State Representative
Position 1**

Jacquelin Maycumber

**7th District State Representative
Position 2**

Joel Kretz

**Okanogan County Commissioner
District 1**

Shauna Beeman

**Okanogan County Commissioner
District 2**

Andy Hover

**Chelan County Commissioner
District 1**

Kevin Overbay

**Chelan County Commissioner
District 3**

Tiffany Gering

**Douglas County Commissioner
District 1**

Dan Sutton

**Douglas County Commissioner
District 2**

Kyle Steinburg



MEMBER MESSENGER

“Driven to Promote and Protect Small Business”

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LADDER SAFETY

Falls from ladders make up nearly a third of falls from elevation deaths nationally.

Extension and Stepladders are commonly used in the construction or general industry, but they require understanding of proper use.

Using an Extension Ladder:

1. Do not set your ladder in a walkway or door opening.
2. Keep the area at the top and bottom of the ladder clear of cords, tools, and garbage.
3. Always set the ladder on solid footing.
4. Use a twenty-five percent (25%) angle on the slope of the ladder.
5. When using extension ladders, the three (3) top rungs must extend beyond the landing platform. (Or the top of an extension ladder must be

36" (3 feet) above the landing.

6. Do not lean to the side when on a ladder or you may tip over.

7. Do not carry tools or materials on a ladder. If it is necessary to move material or tools up a ladder first climb up, then pull up the work with a hand line.

8. Always use 3 points of contact when climbing a ladder.

9. Only one person on a ladder at a time (unless the ladder is double-crested).

10. Always secure the top of the ladder to prevent it from sliding.

11. Always face the ladder when climbing or working.

Using a Stepladder Safely

1. Ensure stepladders are positioned on level ground

and used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

2. Do not use makeshift or home-made ladders or make repairs to a damaged ladder.

3. Make sure all four feet of the stepladder are on a firm, dry, level surface.

4. Be sure to clear the ground area around the ladder before climbing.

5. Check the ladder carefully for any cracks or loose pieces.

6. Only use stepladders in a fully open position. Lock the side braces and cross braces before climbing.

7. Do not use a stepladder as a straight ladder in a folded and leaning position.

8. Always wear proper footwear with good tread when climbing.



9. Do not stand on the top two steps of the ladder unless they are designed for standing.

10. Keep your body centered on the middle of the ladder.

11. Do not lean to reach items while standing on the ladder.

12. Avoid lifting or carrying any heavy items while climbing up or down the ladder.

13. Use a ladder made of non-conductive material for electrical work.

14. Do not use stepladders to support work platforms.

BNCW EVENTS

BNCW's October Board of Directors Meeting

■ Wednesday, October 21, 2020
7:00am to 9:00am
Building North Central Washington
2201 N. Wenatchee Ave, Wenatchee
Chairman: Greg White

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 October CPR & First Aid Training

■ October 15, 2020
from 4:00pm to 6:00pm
Held at Building North Central Washington,
2201 N. Wenatchee Avenue, Wenatchee

Due to COVID19, class size is limited to 5 people.
\$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 15 and fill-up quickly, so reserve your spots early!
You may also register online at BuildingNCW.org.

Protecting Workers from Wildfire Smoke Exposure

As we know, in the past couple of weeks the Northwest has been badly affected with wildfires. The smoke from the fires contain many chemicals that are hazardous. It can affect the lungs, worsening conditions like asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), bronchitis and pneumonia. Wildfire smoke can also affect the heart and increase the risk of heart attack.

Protecting outdoor workers

When outdoor air quality is unhealthy, a basic approach to minimize the health risks is to reduce contact time with wildfire smoke. *Here are some recommendations for protecting outdoor workers:*

- Relocate work to less smoky areas
- Reschedule work until air quality improves
- Reduce the level or duration of physical exertion
- Where feasible, provide enclosed structures for employees to work in, where the air is filtered.
- Where feasible, provide enclosed vehicles. During times of poor air quality, op-

erate the air conditioning in "recirculate" mode and keep vents and windows closed.

Protecting indoor workers

Windborne wildfire smoke can be a hazard for workers in office and other commercial buildings. The following steps can improve indoor air quality.

Here are some recommendations for protecting indoor workers:

- Ensure the heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) system is working

properly, and that air filters are clean and properly seated.

- Work with an HVAC technician to determine the highest filtration rating your HVAC system will support and use the highest rating possible when smoke is present. Filters with high filtration ratings require more frequent change-outs, but these steps can improve indoor air quality.

- Consult with a qualified HVAC technician or ventilation engineer before reducing building air intake to ensure

air pressure remains slightly positive. If the air pressure becomes negative compared to the outdoors, pollution will infiltrate the building through the exhaust system and other openings.

- Portable high efficiency HEPA air cleaners can improve air quality in small, defined spaces by removing fine particulates. Do not use ozone generators, personal air purifiers or electrostatic precipitators and ionizers that produce ozone.

WELCOME NEW BNCW MEMBERS!

To view each of our valued member company's complete profile, we invite you to visit BNCW's website at www.BuildingNCW.org and click on the membership directory tab. Thank you!

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Lince Family Construction Aaron Lince 509-699-0953 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Alpha Sales Technologies, LLC Ken Mattson 509-679-9659 ■ Gann Construction, LLC Jake Gann 509-630-5262
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

For more information about becoming a BNCW member, please contact Membership Coordinator Rachel Beardslee at (509) 293-5840. We look forward to sharing with you the benefits of membership!

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What's really going on with property taxes?



By Deanna Walter
Chelan County Assessor

As I surf the different county websites, newspapers and my personal favorite for up to the minute credible journalism – Facebook (in jest), I note the panic statewide about property tax increases. I have been asked from several sources to give some insight as to what is happening in Chelan County.

I want to preface this article by saying that my intent is to disseminate accurate information.

This puts me in a precarious position with the timing of the levy certification and knowing that there are numerous School Districts and a Fire District with ballot measures for this special election.

Information is knowledge and I don't want the fear from the alarming increases on the west side to overshadow the specifics of what's happening here at home.

You will see west side news articles stating that property taxes have increased by 32%! Don't drink the Kool-Aid.

The dynamics here are totally different than those on the west side, yet it's the west side that drives our news.

There are other factors in play. For 2020 property taxes we will see an increase in both the State School and the State School 2 tax. This was due to legislation that only gave us a 1 year reprieve for the State School 2 tax last year, lowering it by approximately 30 cents.

We knew it would go back up this year and I have been shouting it from mountaintops for the last 2 years. Remember, the legislature enacted the State School 2 tax in 2017 session for 2018 taxes.

The Washington Supreme Court ruled in 2012 that the state was not properly funding public education (commonly known as the McCleary decision).

In 2018 (for 2019 taxes), local school M&O levies were capped at \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed property value (AV), but the total state school tax (1 & 2) increased to \$2.70 (from \$2.40) per \$1,000 of AV to compensate for lost funding to local districts due to the M&O cap.

You will note that we are above the \$2.70 because there is an "equalization" component that the state uses for each of

the 39 counties based on their calculated ratio. That is another article, for another edition.

Last year in areas where voters had previously approved M&O levies above \$1.50 per \$1,000 of AV, there was a drop in the 2019 property tax rates.

The changes negatively impacted more than 100 school districts statewide, so during the 2019 legislative session, lawmakers raised the cap on the local school M&O rates to \$2.50 per \$1,000 of AV or \$2,500 per student, whichever is less.

Local school districts that had previously approved M&O levies above \$1.50 were permitted to raise their M&O for 2020 taxes up to \$2.50, but not to exceed the rates noted on the ballot measure when approved.

Only one Chelan County school district opted to raise their levy by 23 cents, but it still leaves the total combined local and state levy within that district at a rate approximately 45 cents LESS than it was 2017.

Property owners will see changes in their tax bill again this year. It is unavoidable under the current property tax structure.

If the real estate market was totally flat, noting no change in the market from last year, AND no taxing district took more than their allowed 1% increase (anything above 1% requires a vote of the taxpayers within that district), you could predictably count on a tax bill increase of that same 1%.

However, that is not the market or environment we live in. Property taxes are complicated because there are so many moving parts.

You have a very active and volatile real estate market; you have certain areas with values rising in double digits, while other areas may see only slight variations in value; you have taxing districts that are allowed to collect banked capacity (that is where they didn't collect to their full capacity last year so they are taking it this year); you

have a big year for new construction value which is essentially a free add-on to the taxing district budget; you have improvements to properties outside of new construction permits that are only picked up during the 4 year physical inspection; you have ballot measures for lid lifts, new bonds, new capital projects, M&O renewals; you have new exemptions being approved; and you have bonds expiring. I can't predict from year to year what the levy rates will do because approved ballot measures in November are included in our calculations in December.

That cuts it pretty close to the deadline for calculating levies.

Our real estate market is very active and prices/values continue to climb in most areas.

Taxing districts have been very good about sticking to their 1% increase and we really

every dollar of any increase to AV as additional tax, while a budget-based system limits the amount that can be collected to their budget. I then calculate their rate based on the total AV of their district.

In a budget-based system, as the AV rises, the rate goes down. In a rate-based system, if the values rise, so does their collection amount because the rate stays the same.

Look at the state school charts above. You will note that the combined state school levy had a 25.4% increase in dollars collected, but the rate only went up by 14.3%. That is a perfect example of the difference between a rate-based and a budget-based levy.

The rate only went up a little, but it netted significantly more dollars.

I'm getting too far into the weeds. Basically, due to all of the moving parts, just because your value stayed the same as last year, doesn't mean your taxes won't go up.

In the same vein, just because your values went up last year, doesn't mean you will have a big increase in taxes. Of the 34 taxing districts (with a total of 52 separate levies) in Chelan County, only 6 levies had an increase in their rates, 2 of which were the State School levies.

However, that increase was enough to offset the other levy reductions in some of the tax areas.

In Chelan County:

- 63% of the overall increase in tax dollars collected for 2020 is attributable to the combined State School levies
- Between 50-70% of the property taxes go to education, depending on your school district
- 20-30% goes to City/County services, depending on your location
- 4-13% goes to your fire district, depending on your location, the rest gets distributed to the remaining junior taxing districts.

"Property owners will see changes in their tax bill again this year. It is unavoidable under the current property tax structure..."

haven't seen that many lid lifts (when they ask for their regular levy to exceed the 1% increase) on the ballot.

The state however, is NOT bound to the 1% cap and can be increased by the legislature without a vote of the people.

The State School 2 levy was also established as a rate-based levy for 4 years (basically a lid lift), meaning that any increase in AV generates more money for the state school levy, which is supposed to be distributed proportionately (or based on an algorithm) back to the local districts.

Here is the difference between a rate-based levy and a budget-based levy: Rate-based means the district sets the rate and collects based on that rate.

A rate-based system captures

• 40-45% of your tax bill is voter approved

• The average increase in assessed value across the county is 6.4%, meaning some areas were higher and some were lower (Lake Wenatchee 15.4%, Cashmere 13.1%, Wenatchee 10%, Chelan 9.4%, Entiat 7.3%).

Values that were flat or slightly reduced were most likely due to a lack of sales in the area to justify any movement, and were primarily outside of incorporated areas.

Any time an Exemption is granted (Senior, Farm & Ag, Designated Forest Land, PBRS, new Multi-family construction and historical {City}, Non-profit and Low Income Housing through Dept. of Revenue, Single Family Remodel, etc.), it creates a tax shift.

This means that the taxes these properties are no longer paying are just redistributed to everybody else. EXEMPTION = TAX SHIFT.

I wish there was a simple answer when I get a taxpayer calling and asking if their taxes are going up. With all of the moving parts, it is near impossible to say.

You may see slight drops here and there, but the reality is that the cost of services is not getting cheaper, and with the legislature's love affair with the idea of granting more exemptions, that just means one thing – tax shift. We are all paying more. With that being said, we are not seeing the 30% increases in taxes that the west side is seeing.

A few may see significant increases in value and their taxes, but we need to look at the reason why. Was it because there were new voted in levies? Were there improvements to the property that significantly increased the value (with or without a permit)? Were the sales in the area climbing at such a rate that warranted big increases in value?

There are many moving parts in calculating property taxes and every step along the way is safeguarded for consistency.

In addition, we are regularly audited by the Dept. of Revenue for process and procedure (sales analysis, setting values and levy calculation).

The levy rates are available. If you look on our website, you will find your current assessed value and the tax code area.

You can find your levy rate by tax code area on the levy sheet on the front Assessor web page.

The formula is: Your assessed value/1,000 X levy rate = property taxes Your irrigation, weed, pest, storm water, and conservancy assessments are added to the property tax bill after that calculation.



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Leavenworth's Housing Needs Assessment reveals big challenges for Chelan County

The city has been taking steps to address the need for additional housing by examining building codes and lot set-backs. Building permits are up substantially. Last year the total building permits issued were 26, up 30 percent from the previous year. This year

permits are on pace to exceed last year by 60 percent.

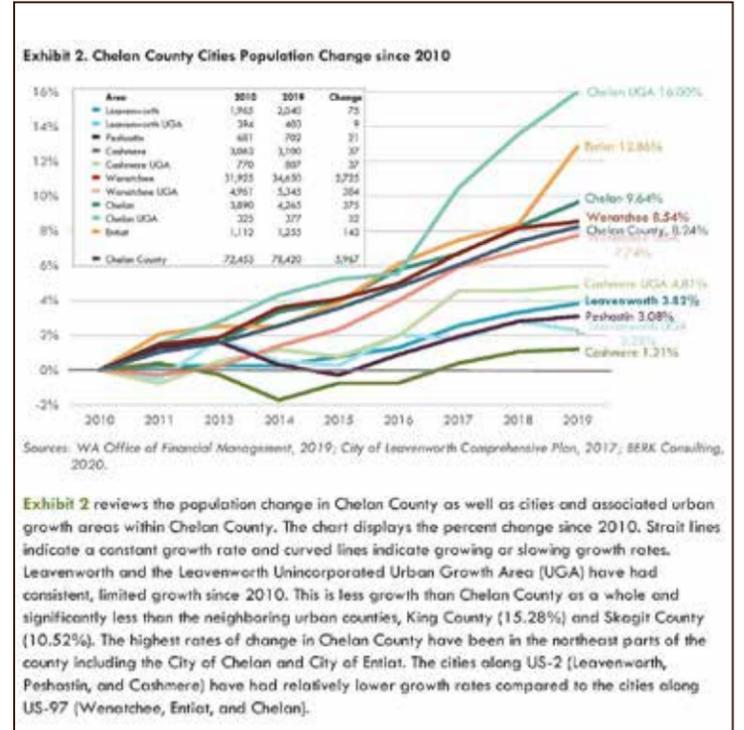
The community has been experiencing a boom in home construction over the last year. Behind Safeway 200 new apartment homes are being constructed and are expected to be available in

2021. Leavenworth Haus, as the new development is named, has been advertising some units will be available as early as March of 2021. Along Pine Street a current development is being completed that may ultimately begin to put some downward pressure on prices.

Another interesting fact comes out of the study. Leavenworth households tend to be older, often empty nesters, with fewer children than Washington state. This means fewer children attending local schools.

Mayor Florea is concerned about Leavenworth's growing need to import its workforce from other local communities. The report confirms his concerns as it concludes 30 percent of the housing in Leavenworth is "vacant." That does not mean the homes are available for sale. Many of the vacant homes are second homes and homes that are held specifically as short-term vacation rentals.

To address his concern Florea is pushing for a measure introduced in the state legislature in January to create a new tax on lodging.



Household median income is lower than Chelan County as a whole and more urban counties to the West.

Exhibit 10. Household Median Income, 2010 and 2018 (YOES)

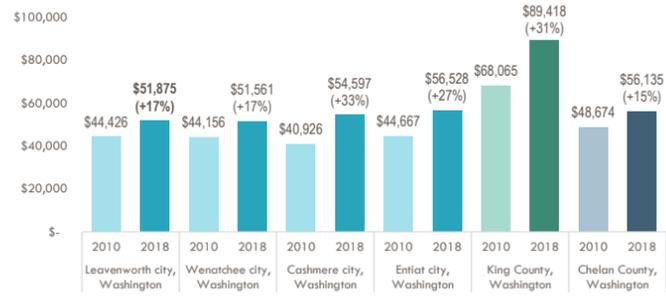


Exhibit 10 presents the household median income in Leavenworth, other Chelan County cities, Chelan County, and King County in 2010 and 2018. In 2018, Leavenworth and Wenatchee had comparable median household incomes, slightly trailing Cashmere, Entiat and Chelan County. Household income grew in each city and county over the 9-year period. Median household income increased by 17% between 2010 and 2018 in both Leavenworth and Wenatchee, a slightly higher increase than Chelan County as a whole (15% increase). Both Cashmere and Entiat had larger increases in household income over the same period (33% and 27%, respectively). Relevant to Leavenworth given its status as a popular tourist destination and second-home market, urban centers to the West saw larger increases in Median Household Income than nearby cities. King County's median household income grew by 31% between 2010 and 2018 driven by larger proportional increases at the very top of the income ranges (\$150,000 or more).

Senate Bill 6446 would create a new lodging tax in any community where the vacant home rate exceeds 30 percent, to levy a tax not to exceed 5 percent on lodging. The monies raised could be used to support affordable housing programs with at least 50 percent of the money targeted to households earning less than 8 percent of the area median income.

Florea believes this could bring in about \$2,000,000 per year to address housing subsidies for

local residents. With the vacant home rate currently at 30 percent it is unknown if this will actually work as intended or how it will actually be used by the city to support workforce housing.

How such a program might impact current home owners property values is not considered by the study.

The Housing Action Plan is scheduled to be considered at the Planning Commission meeting on Nov. 4.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Avid Hotel on North Wenatchee Avenue is nearing completion



Photos by Gary Bégin/WBJ

The Avid Hotel will be next to the Red Apple Center on North Wenatchee Avenue.

Avid Hotels is IHG's newest brand. We are championing everyday travel at a fair price, meeting the needs of the guests who all too often have to pay more for things they don't need, or compromise on the quality they expect. We're here to offer the type of hospitality they value most – the essentials done exceptionally well. Experiences that feel just right, every time," states the IHG website. The company also owns and operates many other brands including Holiday Inn Express, Crowne Plaza and Intercontinental to name a few.



Town Toyota Center sponsors parade to honor recent Eagle Scouts

The Eagle Scout achievement is the highest rank available in the Scouting program and takes tremendous dedication, leadership, and time to earn.

A number of Scouts in our region recently completed their rank of Eagle Scout this year.

Unfortunately, the Covid-19 health crisis restricted the ability of Scout Troops, family, and friends to celebrate and honor the outstanding achievement of these hardworking individuals.

In collaboration with the Town Toyota Center and the Scouts BSA Grand



Columbia Council, a community parade to celebrate recent Eagle Scouts is planned for Saturday, October 10, 2:30 p.m.

Eagle Scouts and their families will be stationed along the parade route in the Town Toyota Center parking lot in Wenatchee.

Community members are welcome to drive thru the lot starting at the main entrance off of Walla Walla Avenue and share their congratulations with these amazing young people.

If you have any additional ideas on how to make this parade a truly special occasion or are a recent Eagle Scout that would like to be honored, please contact event organizer Jennifer Talbot at eaglescoutparade@gmail.com.

Recognize and celebrate Concie Luna!

Submitted by WVDRC

Concie has been practicing mediation for over 34 years. Concie started her journey in conflict resolution in the late 1980s when she and fellow middle school counselor, Jan Clary, put together a conflict mediation program for their students. In 1986, she took her first class in mediation, then followed up in 1991 with a mediation class from Washington state OSPI (Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction). In 1998, Concie completed the 40 hour Basic Mediation Training course with the Dispute Resolution Center of Snohomish, Island & Skagit Counties. She has mediated for Dispute Resolution Center of Tri-Cities and was involved in developing and implementing their Basic Mediation Training program.

She became involved with Wenatchee Valley Dispute Resolution Center (WVDRC) when it was established in 2006. She was on the mediator committee that certified Lynn Yialelis, the founding director of WVDRC. Concie shares her considerable experience and professionalism in providing mediation services, training, and mentorship to fellow mediators and mediators-in-training. Her desire to help and support each client and colleague is consistently noted and appreciated by clients, fellow mediators, staff, and community members.

Concie has been a foundational part of the growth and development of WVDRC

over the past 14 years. Her steadfast and enthusiastic devotion to quality and consistent conflict resolution, training, and community service is admirable.

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Concie teaching during a Basic Mediation Training course at WVDRC.

Concie's service as a mentor mediator and on the certification committee has been a tremendous asset to WVDRC. She was involved in developing and implementing WVDRC's Basic Mediation Training. These are some of the things her fellow mediators have to say about Concie:

- I always look forward to co-mediating with her as I am certain that I will learn something new, be challenged, and experience a satisfying team partnership.
- She has a way to give constructive feedback in such a way that you don't realize that she is pointing out something that you should have done differently. She has such a wealth of experience that she readily shares with all of us.
- I am trying to emulate her compassion and forthrightness in my dealing with clients. She has taught me some pointed questioning techniques that help the process move forward. She

has shown me how humor, interjected at just the moment, works wonders in lightening everyone's mood. Concie's contribution of time and mediation skills to the WVDRC is priceless. I have seen her work wonders with those in conflict. And I will, personally, be a much better mediator from her mentoring.

• Concie offers a lot of experience and willingness to share good information to the interns and mediators.

• I am proud to know her and learn from her. What a thoughtful, generous lady.

Concie is a lifelong learner and constantly seeks out ways to improve her skills. This trait has planted the seeds for sowing her desire and ability to establish a safe and productive environment for mediation and training future mediators. People feel at ease and valued when around Concie. This is what clients, fellow mediators, and staff have to say about Concie:

- Concie is a warm and compassionate mediator with an infectious sense of humor. She has the ability to approach discussion from a unique and unexpected perspective seeing many layers and options in a situation. She cares deeply about the disputants, remains fair and neutral, and works hard to move the mediation in a positive direction.
- Concie is one of those people who can make a person feel welcomed, valued and as if you are her



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Concie teaching during a Basic Mediation Training course at WVDRC.

best friend. This trait is especially well received by the clients we work with.

• Concie has a great sense of humor and can use this to deflate difficult situations and put people at ease. She uses questioning very effectively to clarify situations. Concie has vast life experiences that help her relate to clients in mediation.

• She is a delight; friendly, outgoing, and has a marvelous way of putting those around her at ease. She has a "gift of gab" and enjoys conversing with everyone she meets. I have watched her help nervous, uncertain mediation clients relax as she cheerfully and expertly explains the mediation

process. Clients have described Concie as open and fair minded and as displaying genuine concern.

Concie is a champion for mediation as a best practice for resolving conflict and supporting each other in a compassionate and understanding manner. Her generosity in and dedication to sharing her skills and experience with others is invaluable and highly admired by all. THANK YOU and HAPPY BIRTHDAY, Concie!

Concie on her last day of serving as a volunteer mediator as she is "retiring". Concie is pictured here with fellow mediator, Marge, at Chelan County Small Claims Court in August 2020.

Peoples Bank Welcomes Yaneth Preciado as a Mortgage Loan Representative at the Wenatchee Real Estate Loan Center



Yaneth Preciado

Peoples Bank announced the appointment of Yaneth Preciado as a Mortgage Loan Representative at the Wenatchee Real Estate Loan Center.

Yaneth has been in the financial services industry for seven years serving in numerous roles, including relationship banker and mortgage loan assistant.

"Working with customers from beginning to the end of

a project and having them come back to work with me again is very gratifying," said Yaneth.

"I want all my customers to have a great experience, and to know I will be there to guide them every step of the way."

Born in Tlaltenango in the Mexican state of Zacatecas, Yaneth moved to Wenatchee when she was four years old.

Active in the community, Yaneth is a member of the North Central Washington Association Of Realtors and has volunteered at numerous nonprofit organizations, including The Women's Service League of North Central Washington, Hand in Hand Immigration Services, and Chelan-Douglas CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates for abused and neglected children).

relationships, Peoples Bank was awarded a superior five-star rating from BauerFinancial, a leading independent bank rating firm. Learn more about Peoples Bank at <https://www.peoplesbank-wa.com/>.



About Peoples Bank

Peoples Bank is a locally owned and operated, independent full-service community bank with \$2 billion in assets. Headquartered in Bellingham, Washington, the Bank was founded in 1921 and operates 23 branches located throughout Washington.

Reflecting its strong financial management practices, dedicated employees, and long-standing customer

Wenatchee's Starr Ranch Growers grows Yakima sales force

Starr Ranch Growers has consolidated sales offices in Yakima and hired Shawn Loudon to its sales team there.

"Prior to consolidation, we had sales staff located independently at each one of our packing plants," Dan Davis, director of business development stated.

Starr Ranch Growers announced this spring it would be marketing apples, cherries and pears from Stadelman Fruit in Zillah.

"With the addition of Stadelman, we were becoming too spread out and felt consolidating our 12 staff in the Yakima area into one office would benefit everyone."

The Starr Ranch's office in Yakima will house the sales team, director of business development



Shawn Loudon

and quality assurance field inspectors.

"As we grow, we see the need for a central office in Yakima that will benefit our business overall," CEO Brett Reasor said. "With the centralized office, it will provide a collaborative work environment for our employees along with great service to all of our retailers and packinghouses. As we look to continue to expand our core retail business, Shawn will be a great asset to the team," said Reasor.

What's so great about a Donor Advised Fund?

By **Kristine Loomis**
CPA, CVA, Managing Principal,
Cordell Neher & Company

In a recent meeting, I suggested a client consider opening a Donor Advised Fund and they asked, "what's so great about them?"

I mentioned they were a great option for charitable giving flexibility in tax planning, and we moved on.

But as I consider the overall grandness of the Donor Advised Fund, it is important to know that they offer something for nearly every giver.

As a result of the most recent tax reform, the standard deduction was increased to \$24,000 for married couples and \$12,000 for singles.

At those levels, many of us are unable to itemize our deductions and our charitable contributions no longer help us for tax purposes.

While none of us are charitable purely because we get a tax deduction, the tax deduction is an incentive for us to give consistently, or perhaps just

a little bit more. Using a Donor Advised Fund to "stack your donations" is an effective charitable giving opportunity which allows you to make mul-



Kristine Loomis

multiple years' worth of annual donations in one tax year.

When taking advantage of this tax option, you deduct the donation in the year of the gift on your tax return.

You then have flexibility to have the invested money sent to the charity(s) of your choice, in the year of your choice.

For example, you could

donate \$24,000 to a donor advised fund in 2019 and then send \$8,000 per year for the next three years to the charity(s) of your choice.

The tax deduction would be taken in 2019 for the donation made to the donor advised fund plus any other itemized deductions (property taxes, sales tax, and mortgage interest) and the charity(s) would receive a donation over the next three-year period according to your specific instructions.

This tax planning technique can be particularly beneficial in a year in with significant tax events, such as a large IRA distribution, ROTH conversion, sale of an appreciated asset, or a large bonus.

Not only do you get the benefit of the tax deduction, you get the deduction at a higher tax rate.

In addition to charitable donation stacking, your donor advised fund (which grows over time) allows for purposeful giving as a family and allows you to pass along a legacy of charitable giving



to your children.

By investing in their donor advised fund, you will benefit from the tax deduction and have the option to donate to any qualified charitable organization on your own schedule.

Using the Community Foundation of NCW's Donor

Advised Fund gives you the opportunity to maximize the benefits of charitable giving.

It's easy, effective, and controlled giving with tax benefits. You can even make your donation anonymous if that's your preference.

I encourage you to speak with your CPA, lawyer, or fi-

ancial planner about these charitable giving options and how they can benefit you and those causes you care about!

For more information about any of the programs above, or the work of the Community Foundation, visit www.cfncw.org.

New Leadership takes office for District 9 Toastmasters during time of COVID19 challenges

The 62 Toastmasters clubs of District 9 (Inland Northwest USA) have new leadership to guide them through the challenges of COVID19 during the next year.

The new District 9 Director is Debra Kroon, DTM (Distinguished Toastmaster) of Yakima, Washington.

She is assisted by the new Program Quality Director, Victoria Chadderton, DTM, of Wenatchee, Washington, and the new Club Growth Director, Karen A. Mobley, DTM, of Kennewick, Washington.

These three top officer

comprise what is known as the "District Trio" in Toastmasters International. Their terms will run through June, 2021.

Kroon, a retired employee of the State of Washington Department of Ecology, has been a member of Toastmasters for 20 years.

Currently, she is a member of three Toastmasters clubs: Cascade Club #993 in Yakima, Washington, as well as District 9 advanced clubs "Audible Experience" and "The Faculty Club." She is a past member of Apple

Valley Communicators and the Greater Yakima Chamber Toastmasters.

Kroon is also proud to have been chosen as the 2019 Master Gardener of the Year for Yakima County, a program she has been involved with since 2003.

As District Director, Kroon will serve as chief executive officer over Toastmasters District 9 and its current 62 clubs. She is responsible for the daily administration of the District, including finances, human resources and operations.

Kroon has previously served as Program Quality Director, Club Growth Director, a Division Director, an Area Director, and 2 years as District Secretary.

Chadderton, a well-known trainer, author, and public speaker, is a 30-year resident of Wenatchee, Washington. She has been a member of Toastmasters since 2008.

Currently she is a member of four clubs: Cascade Speakeasy and Electric Toasters (both in Wenatchee), as well as the District 9 advanced clubs of "Audible Experience" and "The Faculty Club."

As Program Quality Director, Chadderton will be responsible for overseeing the leadership training and communication education programs for all District 9



Debra Kroon

Toastmasters clubs, as well as the speech contests to be conducted in the spring, 2021.

Chadderton has previously served as District 9 Administrative Manager, as well as a Division Director and Area Director. She is also currently serving as the president of the Women's Service League in Wenatchee.

Mobley is the senior accountant with Amentum at the Waste Treatment Plant being built at Hanford.

A resident of Kennewick since 1981, she has been a member of Toastmasters since 2011. Currently she belongs to Sun Country Toastmasters as well as the advanced Faculty Club.

Mobley is also a long-time member of the Institute of Management Accountants where she has previously served as chapter president.

As Club Growth Director, Mobley is responsible

for all aspects of new club building and club retention within District 9, as well as marketing the Toastmasters' trademarked Communication and Leadership Training Program throughout the Inland Northwest.

Mobley served District 9 as its Administrative Manager for one year, its Finance Manager for three years, and was its Audit Committee chair last year.

According to Mobley, the Covid-19 pandemic has presented new and additional challenges on Toastmasters members, clubs, and the international headquarters in Englewood, Colorado.

Social distancing and financial disruptions among current and potential members require creative new methods of increasing membership along with new clubs during the pandemic period.

These are challenges currently confronting all membership organizations across the country.

At the same time, the pandemic has created new opportunities for Toastmasters, declares District Director Kroon. "As members of the world's oldest and largest communication organization, our members quickly pivoted from in-person meetings to online meetings..."

says Kroon, "...some more easily than others. It has been a learning experience for all of us!"

"I had never thought of myself as a leader," says Chadderton. "Toastmasters gave me the confidence to see the leader within me."

The goal of leadership development doesn't change just because of the temporary health crisis, asserts Chadderton.

She will be working to help all members in District 9 achieve their goals even during this period of social distancing.

Moreover, "now is a great time for non-Toastmasters who are interested in leadership development to learn about the organization through its online meetings," Chadderton says.

Founded in 1924, Toastmasters International has over 16,800 clubs with 358,000 members in 143 countries worldwide. Over 2 million people have been trained in the Toastmasters communication and leadership training program during the past 96 years.

Persons interested in learning more about Toastmasters or the location of a local club close to them can find that information on the international website at www.toastmasters.org.

For more information about District 9 Toastmasters, consult its website at www.d9.toastmastersdistricts.org.



VETERAN-OWNED & OPERATED BUSINESS

Whiskey Foxtrot Tango – Its Not Always About You

By Heather Hill
Veterans Counseling Services
of Central Washington

Have you ever noticed a human's innate ability to be self-centered? You do not have to tell a baby how to get its needs met. It will cry and fuss to ensure that its needs are met. Have you ever had to teach 2-year-olds how to say mine? Or no? Nope. That is a part of their factory settings.

Humans are innately self-centered, and it takes effort, life experience, and intention to learn how to be empathetic. There are several reasons I'd like to bring this to your attention.

Currently we are all experiencing a tremendous amount of stress, anxiety, and in some cases fear. This, however, does not justify individuals projecting their meanings on interactions. Let me give you an example.

I was at Safeway grocery shopping for my hoard at home, when I came across two young women, likely in their late teens perhaps early 20's.

They were dressed on the edge of appropriate with midribs bare and their short shorts, but were attractive young women regardless. They were visibly upset and were carrying on with each other



Heather Hill

about an older lady who they had just passed going down the aisle of the supermarket. They were angry because she had shaken her head at them, and they assumed it was the result of what they were wearing. As I keyed into their angst, I looked ahead to see the woman walking in the other direction with her head shaking.

I could see a noticeable shake, but I did not assume that she was still shaking her head at these young women, but guessed she likely struggled with a tremor related to an underlying medical condition.

I encountered her head moments later, and sure enough, she was still shaking her head, and it was clearly a tremor. I reflected on this and thought about how it was unfortunate

that those young girls ASSUMED that she was condemning them rather than looking at the situation with another perspective.

They clearly had been emotionally activated and upset – FOR NOTHING.

The older woman had carried on with her shopping with no clue that she had upset anyone.

How many times have we done this to ourselves? How many times have we misinterpreted smiles/smirks, what someone has said, or a "look?" It has been my experience that much of the time when we make assumptions about interactions with others, we are generally wrong.

I am not saying that there are not times when a direct conversation occurs, and another individual is direct in his/her communication and is clearly not happy with the other person. That absolutely occurs.

We often make mistakes when it is indirect communication with body language, eye contact, and facial expressions.

Why do I feel the need to bring this to your attention? Our baseline emotional state currently is elevated for all of us. Let's normalize this a little. Veteran or not, our current



View From the Hill

situation in our country/culture is upsetting regardless of which political party you align yourself with.

Our lives have changed, and we are all experiencing a prolonged adjustment period that is highlighted with additional unexpected stressors – impenetrable smoke, online schooling for children, unemployment, difficulties accessing the health care system, etc.

We are all going through our week wondering what will happen next.

Murder hornets were a disappointment – perhaps there is another infestation lurking? Has anyone else wondered why there seems to be so many asteroids coming close to earth? Is there a hurricane whose name starts with a "Z" yet?

It seems like we have worked our way almost through the whole alphabet this year. Seriously – we are in unprecedented times. These unprecedented times have also increased the amount of anxiety we all experience.

Anxiety can look like many things: uncontrollable worry, restlessness, pes-

simism, feelings of dread. At this point, I doubt there are many people in the United States that could not be diagnosed with a type of anxiety disorder.

Anxiety can increase impulsivity as well. This is important to note with combat Veterans as their reactivity is typically more sensitive than most.

Combine the symptoms of anxiety as they relate to PTSD and our world's/country's current state – its an emotional time bomb.

Paranoia is also at an all-time high – especially with combat Veterans whose baseline paranoia/skepticism is generally elevated from the general population. With all of this in mind – DO NOT ASSUME. You know what assuming does? - Right.

If you are concerned about a person's reaction or interaction. Ask clarifying questions such as – Is something upsetting you? Why are you smiling – am I missing something? Etcetera. Do NOT allow yourself to emotionally spiral out of control due assuming someone's inten-

tions. Do NOT assume that everything done or spoken is about you.

Do not assume that businesses are attempting to infringe on your constitutional rights by asking you to wear a mask – they are more likely terrified they will be put out of business (especially small businesses or practices).

Do NOT assume the checker at the cash register is a (insert unflattering name here). Empathize with the stress they must be going through by having to interact with the public all day long and enforce rules that were imposed on them to enforce.

Do NOT assume that a smirk/smile is in judgment – perhaps it is from an authentic place of happiness and hope.

We must get outside of ourselves and be empathetic to others. It is not always about you.

Veteran Crisis Hotline
Dial 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1 to talk to someone.
Send a text message to 838255 to connect with a VA responder. Heather Hill is a veteran of the U.S. Army.



USMC COURTESY PHOTO

Pictured above is the author during a live fire exercise at 29 Palms Combined Arms Training Base in the Mojave Desert, California, 1981.

By Gary Bégin SSgt,
USMC, DAV, 1978-1984,
photojournalist/editor

The Social Security Administration for North Central Washington headquartered in Wenatchee, is and has been hostile to Veterans in Okanogan, Chelan, Grant and Douglas counties. Even those employed by the SSA face constant

Vets endure hostility of Wenatchee Social Security Administration

discrimination, harassment, violation of HIPAA laws and illegal disciplinary "ambushes" perpetrated by – ironically – minority supervisors.

Management has created this hostile work environment and is rarely challenged by other employees who feel their own careers may be threatened if they try to defend the Disabled Vet.

Here is an irony fit for the hypocrites running the Federal Government: When a call for job applicants goes out to the public, Federal Agencies are supposed to hire qualified Veterans and Disabled Veterans before anyone else.

When they do so, they immediately start harassing the employee for calling in sick, needing time off due to extended medical issues due to their disabilities, or requesting "reasonable accommodation" in the work-

place due to specific disabilities.

Management cares about illegal immigrants more than Disabled Veterans as evidenced by the ruthless way these Vets are attacked when employed at the agency and ignored when a client of the agency.

It is even worse if the Vet is homeless or, as an employee, "pushes back" against unreasonable management mandates.

Since this is a Federal Agency, I would hope the local Veteran community can call, or send a letter to Rep. Dan Newhouse, Rep. Kim Schrier and other Congressional members expressing outrage and demanding change. Although well meaning, the Congressional staffs involved will likely ask you to fill out a form with specific information.

Don't bother, just complain. Forms are just another

bureaucratic method of blocking entrance to true justice. Showing interest "Trumps" rubber stamping complaints, which get deep sixed anyway.

The gatekeepers will not help you. Their jobs are to winnow out any real issues and provide sweetness and light so the member they represent can make a show of helping.

Send a letter to your local editors, notify your local Veteran organization chapters and posts. Send an email to the White House and the VA.

Congressman Dan Newhouse:
402 E. Yakima Ave, Suite #1000,
Yakima, WA 98901, (509) 452-3243.

Rep. Kim Schrier: 301 Yakima Street, Ste 329, Wenatchee, WA 98801 (509)-850-5340.



'Concrete Patriots'

Just south of East Wenatchee along route 28 going towards Rock Island was a very unique sight. 3 concrete pumper trucks were lined up above the roadway, all adorned with American Flags flying in the wind. Beautiful. Time to investigate this patriotic display. Who went out of their way to do that? The "culprits" were two brothers who own Riverway Contactors on Rock Island Road on the hill overlooking Highway 28. The American Legion and VFW again joined forces to recognize this incredible effort by the brothers.

L to R: Brad Pieratt - Commander of VFW Post 3617, Dan and Dave Smith - Business Owners, Dick Winn - Commander Legion Post 10.

In a very informal ceremony, the extremely patriotic Smith brothers were presented with these two certificates and challenge coins, officially thanking them for what they did. They were VERY appreciative, to say the least.

St. Joseph Catholic School: Bailout money for staff nurse, etc.

By Gary Bégin

St. Joseph Catholic School in Wenatchee, the only Catholic school in the Chelan-Douglas area, used its \$5,000 COVID-19 bailout money from the CARES Act for things like hiring a school nurse for the summer, according to a school spokesperson.

Marketing was also taken care of in the form of billboard, signs and print ads as well as the school website.

The school nurse on hand for the summer was able to help parents, teachers and students with COVID-19 education and hygiene for which the spokesperson said, the school was grateful for.

PPE (personal protective equipment) was another item needed, bought and paid for by the school.

Schoolwide significant accomplishments

According to the Western Catholic Education Association Report of Findings

- Catholic Identity is infused throughout all aspects of the school, including curricular and co-curricular offerings

- Enriching prayer, service, and worship opportunities are provided to students and staff throughout the school day and Liturgical seasons to grow in their Catholic faith

- Creation, implementation, and assessment of the new Schoolwide Learning Expectations are embraced by the school community

- Focused efforts on helping the poor through school-wide service projects

- Dedicated, supportive, and collaborative staff and administration focused on school improvement and increased student learning

- Assessment of student growth is used to make curricular changes, modify teaching and learning, and provide additional academic support as needed through intervention programs

- Reading and language usage test score averages



are at or above state and national norms

“St. Joseph Catholic School is a collaborative community committed to school improvement and student growth. The administration, faculty, parish, and parents clearly support the faith, excellence, and spirit of service for all students. The school has a clear grasp on both the strengths and areas of growth as a diocesan school and will work creatively to continue to provide a unique and quality Catholic education for their students. St. Joseph Catholic School is a place where Catholic Identity permeates every corner of the classroom and across all curriculum areas. The community of Wenatchee is blessed to have this ministry in their midst that brings solid and long lasting traditions to their youth.”

– WCEA Report of Findings

Top 10 reasons parents send children to a catholic school

1. Catholic tradition and academic excellence in a community grounded in a common faith.
2. Balanced curriculum that includes art, music, and fitness.
3. Emphasis on moral development, service to others, and leadership skills.
4. High standards for student achievement with the support to succeed.
5. Strong preparation for further education.
6. Safe and disciplined environment.
7. Exceptional faculty who help students reach their highest potential.
8. Family involvement in the faith formation and education of their children.
9. Individual attention in a caring, fun community.
10. Good stewardship of resources.

Academics

St. Joseph Catholic School offers a complete curriculum that meets Washington State Common Core Standards and Grade Level Expectations.

We also offer enrichment, including Accelerated Reading, S.T.R.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics), Computers, Math is Cool, Music, Honor Choir, Physical Education, Jumping Joes, and Art Smart.

St. Joseph graduates continue to excel in the local public system. Nearly all families contacted in graduate surveys report that their children are maintaining honor role status.

Middle school teachers routinely report that they can tell who St. Joseph school students are by their exemplary behavior, discipline, and academic performance.

Religious Formation

Our students are taught religion from the perspective of their current developmental learning stage.

Religious instruction integrates the child’s experience of the world and his or her developing relationship with Jesus Christ.

Each grade has a specific theme that meets USCCB religion standards and diocesan religion standards. The school uses the Loyola Press curriculum called “Finding God.”

Along with religious instruction, students participate in weekly school Masses and religious celebrations during the year.

We provide the children with opportunities for Christian fellowship through social functions such as school retreats, sledding parties, ice-skating, and picnics.



Service Projects

Empty Bowls – Empty bowls is a year-long service project. In the fall, the children put together soup jar kits.

The kits are sold during the winter time. In the spring, each child paints a soup bowl and volunteer parents help set up and bake each bowl. The children also complete empty bowls’ lessons, presented by a volunteer parent.

The children learn why our community needs a Food Bank. When the bowls are ready, our school children put on an Empty Bowls Soup Dinner. Each class par-

ticipates in a different way.

Some children help with decorations, while other children serve at the dinner.

With the help of local donors, the school raises money to give to the St. Joseph Food Bank.

At the end of the year, the children and volunteers present a check to the parents who run and operate the Food Bank.

Parent Involvement

Parental involvement is the strength of the school and an essential element of the success of St. Joseph Catholic School.

By helping the staff and

administration maintain the school, parents and families develop a sense of ownership and care for the school.

Each family is required to assist with fund raisers, classroom activities, school cleanup, and a variety of other activities.

Community Involvement

Many community-wide programs are available to St. Joseph students, including Christian Spelling Bee, All-City Track Meet, Christian Schools Track Meet, the Apple Blossom Youth Parade, and the Food Bank, to name a few.

BUSINESS QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“Someone’s sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago.”

— Warren Buffet

Need Signs? We can help!

We make it easy for you to advertise your business, event or occasion. Whether you need posters, banners, brochures or signage, we can help with it all!

Yard Signs

Laminated Plastic signs include free lamination and stakes. Reflective signs available for an additional charge.

\$6 per sq. ft.

Custom Magnetic Sign

Place on vehicle or any magnetic surface. Removes easily.

\$11.25 per sq. ft.

Custom Flags

Comes in many different shapes and sizes. Call for a quote.

Sandwich Board Signs

Includes 2 custom graphics. Add \$15 for dry erase lamination. Add \$40 for reflective lamination.

\$119

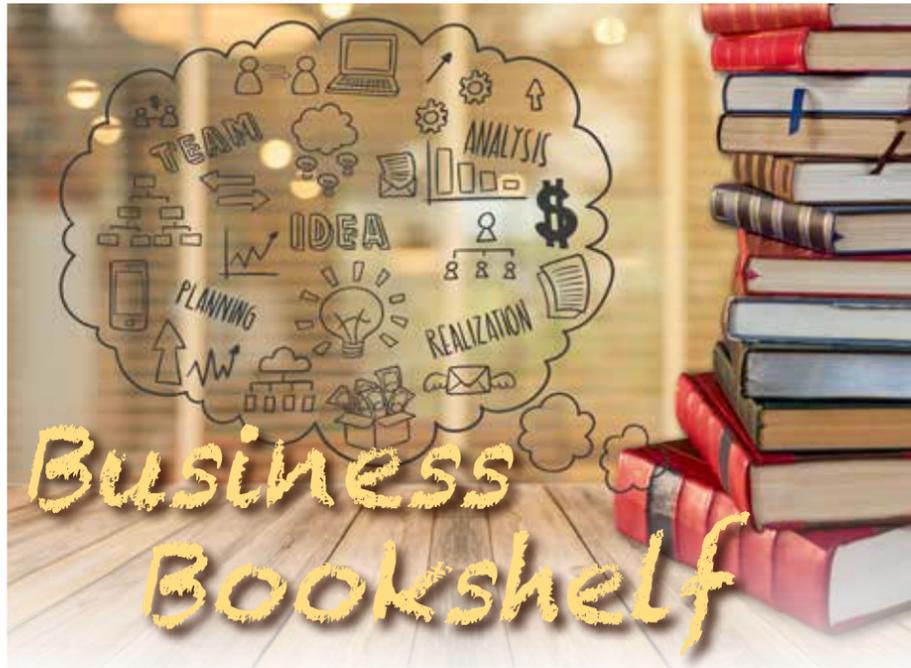
Custom Banners

Banners are 13 oz. vinyl. Free hemming, grommets every 2 feet and windslits as needed. Pole pockets are available for a small additional fee. Banners can be any size- there is a minimum charge of \$20. *16 oz. banners are \$3.35 per square foot. Mesh banners (great in the wind) are \$2.25 per square foot.

\$1.99 per sq. ft.*

Contact us for more information, a quote or to help with your advertising ideas. We can print your design or we can customize a design that is tailored to fit your message, budget and needs.

Bill Forhan
509-548-5286 or bill@eavenworthmedia.com
Carol Forhan Advertising Manager
509-748-5288 or carol@eavenworthmedia.com



How to prevent political discussions from polarizing your workplace



By Joel Patterson

workplace is critical, says Joel Patterson (JoelPatterson.com), a workplace culture expert, founder of The Vested Group and ForbesBooks author of *The Big Commitment: Solving The Mysteries Of Your ERP Implementation*.

“Unfortunately, things have gotten so divisive that even if somebody just wears a shirt or makes an innocuous comment, somebody is going to get upset,” Patterson says.

“When people at work are afraid to say anything political, that fearfulness isn’t conducive to a cohesive work environment. Rather than ignore it or futilely try to shutter it, business owners and managers are better off having a plan to deal with the political dynamic so it won’t disrupt their business and drive their employees apart.”

Patterson offers tips to help business leaders manage political discussions and tensions, and keep politics in proper perspective, in the workplace:

- **Make company culture the first priority.** Having an established set of company core values is highly beneficial in giving your team a framework for how they interact with peers, clients, and other professional contacts externally, Patterson says. “If you have a solid workplace culture,

Much has been written about political polarization in the U.S. and how a heated political climate has drawn a line in the sand between voters.

But heading into the 2020 presidential election, self-censorship also is on the rise – including at the workplace, where some people fear sharing their political views. Nearly a third of employed Americans worry they could lose their jobs or be passed over for career advancements if their political opinions become known, according to a Cato Institute survey.

For business leaders trying to build a strong culture, knowing how to manage political expression and discussions in the

then core values like respect for others, including respect for others’ opinions, will carry the day and overcome political disagreements,” he says. “An emphasis on core values reminds everyone that they are all on the same team.”

- **Give flexibility – within reason.** “Most people don’t want or expect a formal workplace policy related to politics in the workplace,” Patterson says. “The leadership team of your business needs to let employees know they are valued as individuals while emphasizing that leaving politics out of the workplace is the best practice for all involved. Let your employees know you are flexible with their comfort level, but they are also accountable for how they conduct themselves as a representative of your company.”

- **Keep political programs off the office TVs.** “You don’t want to invite arguments,” Patterson says. “Making sure that office TVs, especially in the break room, are

not tuned to political programs is an easy preventive measure. Sometimes the news and panel discussions get people wound up.”

- **De-escalate, don’t instigate.** As a manager or business owner, employees will be watching to see how you handle a heated political conversation between workers. “Try to cool things off and lead by example,” Patterson says.

“If the employees persist, tell them that their loud conversation is distracting to a productive work environment. If someone you work with is expressing a viewpoint that doesn’t coincide with yours, a mental note to yourself to agree to disagree often does the trick.”

“Handling political talk isn’t something business owners and managers should be afraid of,” Patterson says. “It’s an opportunity to ease the tension their employees feel and remind them that no matter their differences, they can remain strong together.”



Take Five

An update from Commerce Director Lisa Brown

“The economic impact of COVID is like nothing we’ve ever seen before.”

Leaders worldwide and locally are facing the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression. The trajectory for recovery will be very different depending on where you live, who you are and what industry dominates the regional economy, among other complex factors.

The economic impact of COVID-19 on individuals, families and businesses is like nothing we’ve ever seen before. The depth and complexity of the challenge we’re dealing with demands that we use data in new ways to help every family, every community and every industry get back on their feet, stronger and more resilient than before.

This week, Commerce unveiled the state’s new Economic Recovery Dashboard, a unique tool for analyzing and visualizing data from public and private organizations to reliably examine the impact of COVID-19 on the state’s economy. The dashboard details numerous metrics on regional, demographic and industry sector levels that could help state and local leaders more effectively and equitably focus economic recovery efforts by tracking the varying impact of the pandemic and needs through a prolonged slowdown.



For example, the dashboard data currently tells us:

Two months after reopening efforts began, Washington’s employment decline is still 30% greater than the lowest point in the Great Recession a decade ago.

Unemployment trends in Washington state are tracking similarly with most other states with a steep drop through April and slow but steady growth since May.

While construction has recovered 80% of lost jobs as of June, leisure and hospitality has only recovered about one-third of job losses and is the hardest hit of all industries.

There are early signs of disproportionate unemployment impacts across race groups, particularly Pacific Islanders and Black workers. An additional 100,000 people have signed up for food or temporary cash assistance since February, with larger increases in central Washington, Spokane and Tri-Cities areas.

The dashboard is available to the public on the Commerce website.

About the author

Joel Patterson is the founder of The Vested Group, a business technology consulting firm in the Dallas, Texas area, and ForbesBooks author of *The Big Commitment: Solving The Mysteries Of Your ERP Implementation*.

He has worked in the consulting field for over 20 years. Patterson began his consulting career at Arthur Andersen and Capgemini before helping found Lucidity Consulting Group in 2001. For 15 years he specialized in implementing Tier One ERP, software systems designed to service the needs of large, complex corporations.

In 2011, Patterson founded The Vested Group, which focuses on bringing comprehensive cloud-based business management solutions to startups and well-established businesses

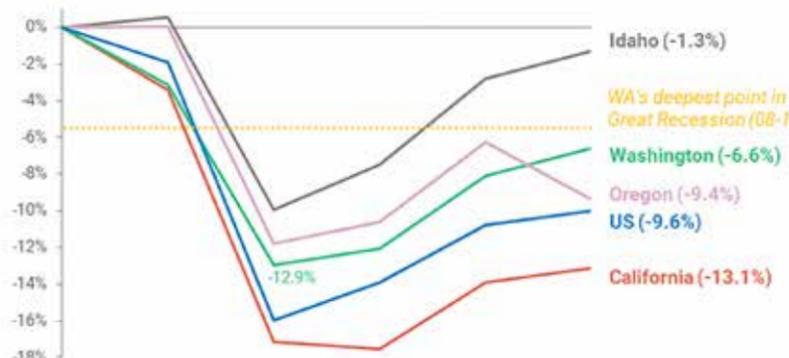


Joel Patterson

alike. He holds a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration from Baylor University.

Economic Recovery Dashboard to help leaders track key data by industry, region, demographics

Dashboard screenshot: % change in total employment vs. February 2020 by geography (seasonally adjusted)



Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) - Seasonally Adjusted, Bureau of Labor Statistics (includes all workers in the labor force)

East Wenatchee gets a new Wendy's

Story and photos by Gary Bégin

EAST WENATCHEE – Good fast food is always in demand and as of mid-November, Wendy's will be open and running at 10 Grant Road in the front parking lot of Hobby Lobby, according to builders at the site. Hobby Lobby will hold the lease and may eventually sell the property to the Wendy's franchisee, according to company sources.

The same sources stated the Wendy's interior square footage in East Wenatchee will be slightly smaller than the one in Wenatchee and will feature the drive-through more than a large dining area.

An Apex Construction & Excavation foreman stated the national chain controls the entire original building process to ensure all contractors are paid in a timely fashion and all building criteria are followed and then sells it to the franchisee.

"Dave Thomas opened the first Wendy's restaurant in 1969 and we continue to follow his sound principles to ensure we build upon our position as a quality leader in the Quick Service Restaurant ("QSR") industry," according to the company website.

The Wendy's corporate website also listed the following requirements:



- Commitment to quality and our innovative, evolving product line

- Brand transformation through bold, contemporary Image Activation restaurant designs and improved customer service

- Impactful advertising and digital marketing

- Strong, experienced leader

Qualifications: Wendy's is actively pursuing prospective franchisees who:

- Are interested in pursuing multi-unit opportunities through the acquisition of existing restaurants or the development of new restaurants

- Are multi-unit operators who have extensive restaurant experience (preferably quick service) with proven leadership skills

- Are committed to operational excellence, customer service and a strong willingness to learn and practice the Wendy's business



The builders are busy getting the new Wendy's into opening shape by mid-November.

model

- Demonstrate exceptional managerial and business acumen

- Are committed to the advancement and growth of their business

- Have access to adequate capital for reinvestment in Wendy's Image Activation program and new restaurant development.

Financial Requirements

- The minimum financial requirements for new multi-unit franchisees or franchisee groups are:

- Minimum net worth of at least \$5,000,000 U.S. (\$2,000,000 Canada).

- Minimum liquid assets of at least \$2,000,000 U.S. (\$1,000,000 Canada).

Fees and Estimated Costs

- Application Fee – \$5,000
- Background Check Fee – \$500 per person

- Technical Assistance Fee – \$50,000 per restaurant (franchise fee – for a 20 year term)

- Royalties – 4% of gross sales
- National advertising – 3.5% of gross sales

- Local advertising – 0.5% of gross sales

- Initial investment (for development of new restaurants) – There are many factors that influence the development costs for a new restaurant including, but not limited to: The cost of real estate, building size and design features, local labor and building supplies, permitting, etc. The estimated total investment required to begin operation of a new restaurant normally ranges from \$2,000,000 to \$3,500,000.

Labor & Industries compliance assistance available

Submitted by Ken Mattson

As a 30-year business veteran I can help you get in compliance with State of Washington regulations and requirements for any industry. Assistance includes:

- Accident Prevention Plan
- Covid19 Health Regulations
- Employee Manual Handbook
- Labor & Industries Safety Plan
- Reports Customized for your Industry

A written L&I-compliant safety plan is the first step! Employers are required to create and maintain a program that protects their employees from job-related

safety and hazards that is L&I compliant.

We can create a NEW written safety program for you in less than 30 days.

Alpha Sales Technologies creates custom L&I-compliant written safety programs for companies in Washington State.

We will do a comprehensive interview to determine the elements necessary to create a successful safety program for your operation.

All of our safety programs are customized to meet the needs of your business.

Alpha Sales Technologies will work with you to either: Write a new safety program; Review and revise your company's existing



Ken Mattson

written safety program to ensure it meets Covid-19 L&I standards and requirements in a workbook.

- Educate you and your staff twice per year and employee manual handbook.

- Onsite inspection of your company's facilities

for safety hazards, chemical and material hazards, etc.

Alpha Sales Technologies follows L&I recommended practices when writing or revising a program.

All of our safety programs meet L&I standards and requirements.

A written safety program is the blueprint for keeping your workers safe.

Our L&I written safety programs in both English and Spanish promote a company's work safety rules and employee training guidelines, so you can feel confident you are providing a safe environment for all of your employees and subcontractors!

Written safety programs

are vital to the success of your company and your employees.

Consultation and review of your present compliance to Labor and Industries required reports and documentations

Alpha Sales is providing a form of insurance. All inspectors are going to find something of a violation to the many L&I rules.

Accident Prevention Plan and employee training program is a minimum requirement.

This allows your legal team to mitigate fines and punishments.

It all starts with a complaint. L&I handles complaints from businesses that

don't need a specific license.

Washington businesses face fines of \$10,000 or more for not following coronavirus rules.

The Department of Labor & Industries cite businesses for being open or for operating in a way that is "purposely defying the phased-in approach and, as a result, putting their workers at risk."

Officials said they will also perform in-person spot checks on some of the businesses to make sure they are following through with the requirements.

Ask for an interview. Call Kenneth Mattson, cell/text 509-679-9659 or go to alphasales.com.

BUSINESS TERM OF THE MONTH

Leveraged buyout



The acquisition of a company using borrowed funds. The idea is that the debt will be repaid by money raised from the acquired company. See gearing, takeover, hostile takeover, white knight, reverse takeover, corporate raiders.

New contractors Chelan-Douglas August 2020

Name	Address	City
ABS PLUMBING & GNRL CNTRG LLC	3316 Burch Mtn Rd	WENATCHEE
CJL ROOFING & CONSTRUCTION LLC	1115 3RD ST SE	EAST WENATCHEE
COOL RED AIR LLC	121 OLIVE AVE	MANSON
INFINITY CLEAN LLC	1269 MILLERDALE AVE	WENATCHEE
JONES GENERAL CONTRACTING	PO BOX 3255	WENATCHEE
KTS DEVELOPMENT, LLC	2140 MELODY LANE	EAST WENATCHEE
LAKESHORE LANDSCAPING	PO BOX 749	MANSON
MISSION PEAK CONSTRUCTION LLC	918 N Jennifer LN	EAST WENATCHEE
SITTMAN CONSTRUCTION	PO Box 445	LEAVENWORTH

Stemilt hires Cristian Wulf as CFO

Submitted by Stemilt

Stemilt is proud to announce Cristian Wulf as its new Chief Financial Officer. Wulf joins Stemilt following 32 years in various senior management roles at Accenture, a leading global professional services company that specializes in management and strategy consulting, technology services, and outsourcing.

Among his many roles with Accenture, Wulf was responsible for the CFO management & technology practice, lately focused on the West Coast.

In addition, he also served as the CFO for Avana, a venture between Microsoft and Accenture, helping the company from startup to global business launch.

Wulf replaces David Millheiser as Stemilt's CFO following Millheiser's retirement earlier this year.

As CFO, Wulf will lead Stemilt's finance organization, including finance, accounting and reporting,

budgeting and planning, business analysis, tax and treasury. He will also serve



Cristian Wulf

on the executive leadership team that assists Stemilt in fulfilling its vision, mission and goals.

"We are excited to welcome Cristian to the Stemilt team," said West Mathison, Stemilt President.

"His experience in leading global companies through organization and process improvements, along with his international accounting background, will help guide Stemilt as we continue to evolve our business of

growing, packing and shipping World Famous Fruit."

Wulf was born and raised in Argentina and earned his Accounting degree and CPA credentials from the Universidad de Buenos Aires.

He has an MBA from the University of Washington with a concentration in finance and international accounting. His 32 years with Accenture were focused on driving the CFO Agenda and guided companies through organizational, process and transformations technology

"This is an exciting new career chapter and challenge for me," said Wulf.

"Stemilt is known globally as an industry leader and is a company continually evolving with a new perspective on the industry. I look forward to being part of the leadership team and helping this family-owned business as it grows in the future."

Wulf speaks three languages and authored the book CFO Insights: Enabling High Performance through Leading Practices for Finance ERP.

Outside of work, Wulf has been married to Ramalee Wulf for almost 30 years. They have three adult sons, and enjoy any time spent outdoors as a family, including hiking and skiing.

Wulf will reside in Wenatchee, WA where he will work at Stemilt's administrative office.



First product features Woody from Disney and Pixar's Toy Story on pack

Crunch Pak enters the meal replacement category with Lunch Kitz

Submitted by Crunch Pak

CASHMERE – Crunch Pak, the sliced apples specialist, is entering the meal replacement category with new Lunch Kitz.

Lunch Kitz is a 4-ounce snack tray that contains fresh sliced apples, a slow baked artisan cracker, string cheese and Italian salami.

The first Lunch Kitz features the character Woody from Disney and Pixar's Toy Story movie on pack.

"We do consumer research as part of our product development process and we found that moms are turning to trusted brands during the Covid pandemic," said Ozgur Koc, senior vice president of new business and product development. "We use shopper

data, matched with supply chain information to create new products that meet shopper preferences." One piece of information the company collected during the product development phase was concern from moms about the sodium content in snack foods. As a result, Crunch Pak worked with its salami supplier to source product without nitrate, nitrites or any artificial ingredients.

All of the Lunch Kitz ingredients meet Disney's strict nutritional guidelines, and the package is considered an excellent source of vitamin C, while still delivering kid and family-friendly tastes. Lunch Kitz will launch in October in more than 3,000 stores nationwide, the suggested retail price is \$2.99 to \$3.49 depending on the market.

For more information visit crunchpak.com.

About Stemilt



Stemilt is a family-owned grower, packer, and shipper of tree fruit. Owned and operated by the Mathison family, Stemilt's mission is to cultivate people and delight consumers with its World Famous Fruits. Stemilt is a leader in sweet cherries and organic tree fruits, and a key supplier of apples and pears. The company stewards an environmentally sustainable and socially responsible business through its Responsible Choice program, which has been in place since 1989. Visit Stemilt.com for more information.



Green apples

Washington Apples Expecting Lighter Crop Volume

Submitted by Washington Apple Commission

In early August, the first estimate for the Washington apple crop predicted a crop volume of 134 million boxes (40 lb.), on par with the previous season of 133 million boxes.

Since the time of the initial estimate, extreme windstorms, wildfires on the West Coast, and more accurate reporting of crop load on the trees as harvest progressed, suggest a lighter total crop volume for the

2020-21 apple harvest.

Over Labor Day weekend, a strong windstorm resulted in apples being knocked off the tree and some growers sustaining damage to their trellis systems.

Fueled by the wind event, wildfires burning in Washington and other West Coast states have produced intense smoky conditions, delaying harvest a few days as some areas have had to halt operations.

Expectations are for a 5-10% reduction in crop

volume as a result of the adverse weather events.

Washington apple growers and orchard crews started picking Galas in late August and have since moved on to Honeycrisp.

Harvest in Washington typically begins mid-August and lasts into November. Red Delicious, Fuji and Cosmic Crisp® will be harvested in October and the season will wrap up with Granny Smith and Cripps Pink in November.

Demand for Washing-



ton apples has been high in response to elevated health-conscious and bulk-purchase behavior by consumers.

Volume of apples shipped during this time period is slightly lower than last season, but overall movement is good.

Suppliers are working hard to meet the demand and keep on pace with season goals.

Washington is the leading producer of apples, representing 65 percent of all U.S. fresh apple production.

The state exports one-third of its fresh crop to over 60 markets worldwide,



Red apples

Photos by Gary Bégin/WBJ

accounting for 95 percent of all U.S. apple exports.

The Washington Apple Commission is a non-profit, promotional organization

dedicated to marketing and advertising fresh Washington apples internationally. For more information on the Washington Apple Commission, visit.



NATIVE AMERICAN BUSINESS PAGE

Northwest Native Development Fund: \$1m+ award from US Treasury CDFI fund

'Indianpreneurship' Graduation

On August 4 the Northwest Native Development Fund graduated eight individuals from the 2019 Indianpreneurship course in Omak.

Indianpreneurship is the small business planning course that was created by ONABEN specifically for Indian Country.

This course uses the "story telling" technique to teach people how to research, analyze and then share their particular business "story" or "plan."

COULEE DAM – The Northwest Native Development Fund (NNDF) learned yesterday that they will become the recipient of a \$1,083,300 award for the expansion of services and to increase the volume of their small business lending.

The NNDF will use this million dollar plus award to grow their lending capital fund and increase the current portfolio to \$8 million dollars by the year 2022.

"We are happy, humbled and excited that the CDFI Fund saw fit to invest in our little company," said Ted

Piccolo NNDF Executive Director.

"We have already provided over \$8 million total dollars in small business financing and this award will help us leverage to larger financing dollars in order to fuel small businesses in Eastern Washington."

The NNDF also provides credit builder loans for people who are struggling to increase their credit scores while avoiding predatory lending operations.

They also provide free family budgeting workshops, small business marketing workshops and an

extensive business planning course.

"I am proud to announce the fiscal year 2020 CDFI Program and NACA Program Award Recipients," said CDFI Fund Director Jodie Harris.

"These organizations are providing vital economic development and financial services to neighborhoods, businesses, and families. I am especially proud that we have 91 new organizations receiving awards this year, expanding the opportunity of this program to even more communities across the country."



The CDFI Fund's Native Initiatives generates economic opportunity for Native Communities by supporting the creation and expansion of Native CDFIs like NNDF though the Native American CDFI Assistance Program (NACA Program) and Capacity Building Initiative trainings.

The Native CDFIs, in turn, help to create jobs, establish or improve affordable housing, and provide accessible financial services and counseling within their

communities. The Northwest Native Development Fund has already infused over \$8 million dollars in the community.

This, largest grant award to date, will significantly help the NNDF to increase their contribution to local economic development.

The NNDF is a non-profit 501 c 3 organization with a mission to help individuals obtain and grow personal assets through lending and technical assistance.



COMPLETE THE 2020 US CENSUS

MONTHLY DRAWINGS (5) WINNERS | \$100 FUEL CARD

GRAND PRIZE DRAWING | NOVEMBER, 2020

SIDE BY SIDE | \$1500 VACATION VOUCHER | FREEZER | VARIETY COLVILLE CASINOS PACKAGES
PELLET CRILLS | TRAMPOLINES | BASKETBALL HOOPS | YETI COOLERS | KAYAKS | VARIETY PENNLETON BRAND ITEMS

How to Enter:

- Head of household must complete the Census at <https://2020census.gov/en.html> (one entry per household)
- Must claim Colville Confederated Tribes as your race
- Online completion: submit confirmation page to Elections (email any address below or text screenshot to WC #s below)
- Paper completion: submit picture of envelope to Elections (email any address below or text screenshot to WC #s below)
- If already complete, verify with Elections that you have been entered.

CCT Elections Contacts:

Lachelle Ives	lachelle.ives.elc@colvilletribes.com	W: (509) 634-2151	WC: (509) 634-1439
Suzanne Ankney	suzanne.ankney.elc@colvilletribes.com	W: (509) 634-2121	WC: (509) 634-1478
Diane Stensgar	diane.stensgar.hrs@colvilletribes.com	W: (509) 634-2074	Fax: (509) 634-2152



NAAF (Native American Agriculture Fund) provides \$250,000 grant to NNDF

The NNDF has become the recipient of a grant award from the Native American Agriculture Fund.

The NAAF has been responsible for providing critical funding in Indian Country for Agriculture purposes. This round of funding to the NNDF will be earmarked for Native Agriculture businesses and operations.

Indian Ag Needs Creative Financing

Financing agriculture endeavors is not easy. Due to the natural resource risks and calendar risks financing packages must be built to work around such things.

The NAAF understands that and we appreciate their efforts to address this problem nationwide and specifically here in the Pacific NW through the NNDF.

Be sure to follow along our journey and like us on Facebook: facebook.com/TheNNDF

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If you or someone you know are a Native American and own and operate a business in the four county region of Chelan-Douglas-Okanogan and Grant counties, send your email with contact information to: Gary@NCWMedia.net for an opportunity to be featured in the next Wenatchee Business Journal.

Deadline for November is October 23