

A PUBLICATION OF WARD MEDIA | ESTABLISHED IN 1987

The Mercantile: coworking space expands to meet demands of downtown Wenatchee

The Mercantile owners Rick and Cory Wray and Jeff and Heather Ostenson opened the original Ellis-Forde coworking space in 2019 with a vision to foster economic development and build community. In order to meet a growing demand, they opened a second location, Mercantile at Midtown, in August.

By **TAYLOR CALDWELL** | Ward Media Staff Reporter

“People value community and working together... It’s our favorite thing to see members that didn’t know each other meet and either partner with one another, or share ideas. I don’t think we realized how valuable that was when we started all this,” said co-owner Cory Wray.

The Mercantile is a hybrid

coworking space for both individuals and small businesses, offering endless opportunities to meet and network throughout the day.

While workers may get to know each other over free tea and coffee in the kitchen, the Mercantile also organizes monthly events, breakfasts, lunches and happy hours, fostering a community of workers



TAYLOR CALDWELL / WARD MEDIA

The Mercantile at Ellis-Forde offers a large and open coworking space in addition to office suites.

in the heart of Wenatchee.

“It’s nice to be downtown, because there’s so many people in and out of here... And just access to our clients,” Jackie Endsley of Endsley and Company.

“We have a lot of local or downtown businesses and peo-

ple that we work with in the co-work, so it’s nice to collaborate and be right here.”

Over the years, the Mercantile at Ellis-Forde grew its community of members by offering

See **THE MERCANTILE** Page 3

Leavenworth Community Workspace: supporting a community and its visitors



TAYLOR CALDWELL / WARD MEDIA

The downtown workspace overlooks 8th Street.
SEE STORY PAGE 19

Brick and Rafters brings coworking option to Cashmere

Brick and Rafters, an event space owned by Lisa and Tom Kriskovic, has expanded to offer coworking space for local residents during the week.

By **QUINN PROPST** | Ward Media Staff Reporter

Venue manager Leisa Osburn said the space, known for hosting celebrations and events over the weekends, now offers a quiet, welcoming atmosphere for people needing a productive workspace.

“During the week, we have Wi-Fi and it’s real quiet in there,” owner Lisa Kriskovic said. “And we thought, well, what could it be used for during the week? So we kind of thought we would try this, and we’ve had

a really good response.”

The space, which features an outdoor courtyard, a private meeting room, and a kitchenette, offers a rustic, coffee shop-inspired vibe without the noise and distractions. Osburn said they also plan to get a printer and espresso machine for the space.

The coworking area provides flexible seating, including a larger communal table

See **BRICK AND RAFTERS** Page 7

inside:

FROM THE PUBLISHER

Collaborative spaces foster innovation and growth in North Central Washington

Page 2

FINANCE

Charitable giving in your will: Simple numbers vs. complex percentages

Page 3

Tax planning ideas to consider before year end

Page 4

Q&A

Meet Mike Steele, Executive Director of the Lake Chelan Chamber of Commerce and a Washington State Representative

Page 5

MARKETING MATTERS

Your post-holiday game plan: Setting up for success after December

Page 13

REAL ESTATE

Top Properties

Douglas County
October 2024 Page 14

Top Properties

Chelan County
October 2024 Page 15-16

LABOR REPORT

L&I announces 3.8% increase in Washington Workers' Compensation Rates for 2025

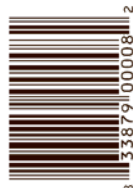
Page 16

December 2024 Association Newsletter

2024 in Review: A Year of Transformation – Page 9, 10, 11

Huddle Up and Score BIG at the Building NCW Home Show – Page 11

Welcome New Members – Page 11



\$2

Terry Ward
CEO & Publisher
terry@ward.media
509-731-3284

Amy M. Yaley
COO & Co-Owner
amy@ward.media
509-731-3321

Mike Maltais
Reporter
michael@ward.media

Quinn Propst
Reporter
quinn@ward.media

Taylor Caldwell
Reporter
taylor@ward.media

Sherrie Harlow
Advertising Sales Manager
sherrie@ward.media
253-255-5920

RuthEdna Keys
Advertising Sales Executive
ruth@ward.media
509-682-2213

Harmony Liebert
Advertising Sales Executive
harmony@ward.media
509-289-2477

WBJ OFFICES & CONTACT INFO

© WardMedia, LLC 2024

The Wenatchee Business Journal is published on the first Monday of each month. Subscriptions are \$20 per year.

CIRCULATION

For circulation information or to sign up for a subscription, call 509-293-6780

NEWSSTAND LOCATIONS

- Wenatchee**
Plaza Super Jet
106 Okanogan Ave.
Safeway, 501 N. Miller St.
- East Wenatchee**
Safeway, 510 Grant Road
- Cashmere**
Martin's IGA
Market Place
130 Titchenal Way
- Leavenworth**
Dan's Food Market
1329 U.S. Highway 2
- Chelan**
Safeway,
106 W. Manson Rd.
- Lake Chelan Mirror**
131 S. Apple Blossom Dr., #109
- Brewster**
Quik E Mart #2 (Exxon)
26048 U.S. Highway 97
- The Wenatchee Business Journal is published monthly
29 S. Wenatchee Ave., Suite A
Wenatchee, WA 98801



Collaborative spaces foster innovation and growth in North Central Washington

By **Terry Ward** | CEO and Publisher

This month's Wenatchee Business Journal highlights a powerful trend reshaping our region's economic landscape: the rise of collaborative workspaces and technology-driven innovation.

From Cashmere to Leavenworth, and throughout the greater Wenatchee Valley, we're witnessing the emergence of vibrant communities where entrepreneurs, remote workers, and established businesses come together to create, innovate, and grow.

The expansion of co-working spaces across our region – from Brick and Rafters in Cashmere to The Mercantile's new Midtown location in Wenatchee – speaks to a fundamental shift in how we work and connect.

These aren't just places to plug in a laptop; they're incubators of innovation where chance encounters lead to new partnerships and shared ideas spark fresh opportunities.

The success of these spaces, evidenced by The Mercantile's need to expand and the steady growth of Leavenworth Community Workspace, demonstrates our region's evolution into a hub for remote work and entrepreneurship.

This spirit of innovation is further exemplified by Amazon's decision to open a new delivery station in East Wenatchee.

This investment not only brings hundreds of jobs to our region but also strengthens our position as a strategic location for major technology companies.

When combined with the achievements celebrated at the NCW Tech Alliance's Annual Innovator Awards – from FieldClock's agricultural software success to the inspiring work of AEM Energy Champions at Wenatchee High School – we see a clear picture of a region embracing technological advance-

ment while maintaining our community-focused values.

What's particularly encouraging is how these developments complement each other.

The same collaborative spirit that makes our co-working spaces successful is evident in our technology sector, where local innovators are addressing real-world challenges in healthcare, agriculture, and energy conservation.

Dr. Gautam Nayak's work with Coltrain to address rural healthcare disparities and the AEM Energy Champions' efforts to reduce commercial building emissions demonstrate how technology can serve our community's needs while creating economic opportunities.

As we look ahead to 2025, initiatives like INVEST NCW promise to further strengthen our entrepreneurial ecosystem.

This regional approach to supporting innovation aligns perfectly with the

From the Publisher



collaborative environments being created in our coworking spaces and tech sectors.

Our region's future lies in this powerful combination of physical spaces that foster connection and the technological infrastructure that enables innovation.

Together, they're creating an environment where businesses can thrive, entrepreneurs can flourish, and our community can grow while maintaining the qualities that make North Central Washington special.

The stories in this month's issue remind us that true economic development isn't just about individual success – it's about creating spaces and opportunities that lift our entire community.

As we continue to support these initiatives, we're not just building businesses; we're strengthening the foundations of a more connected, innovative, and prosperous region for all.

Terry Ward is the CEO of Ward Media and the publisher of NCW News, Cashmere Valley Record, Lake Chelan Mirror, The Leavenworth Echo, Quad City Herald, and the Wenatchee Business Journal. He can be reached at terry@ward.media.

Building Digital Leaders: NCW's Commitment to Computer Science

As December 7-14, 2024, marks Computer Science Education Week (CSEd Week), North Central Washington is set to engage students, families, and the broader community in a celebration of coding and computer science.

By **Dr. Sue Kane, CEO** | NCW Tech Alliance
Sponsored by Microsoft

This global initiative underscores the growing importance of computational thinking skills, which are essential for preparing our students – and ultimately, our workforce – for future opportunities.

The rapid evolution of technology is transforming industries and creating new career paths right here in North Central Washington.

Schools across the region are stepping up to ensure that every student gains the skills needed

to navigate this digital landscape.

From understanding how algorithms work to grasping the fundamentals of cybersecurity and leveraging AI technologies, computer science education is becoming a cornerstone of modern learning.

In 2019, Washington State passed SHB 5088, mandating that all comprehensive high schools offer computer science education courses.

This legislative step highlights the state's com-

mitment to equipping students with critical digital skills. Furthermore, SHB 1577 requires an annual report to the legislature on student participation in these courses, ensuring ongoing assessment and improvement.

Across North Central Washington, all of the comprehensive high schools offered at least one CS course in 2022, and many now offer extensive program pathways through career and technical education that allow students to earn college

credits and credentials that employers recognize in IT, cybersecurity and networking.

A bill in 2023 was introduced that would make computer science a high school graduation requirement, and while it didn't make it all the way to law last session, its reintroduction in the upcoming session signals the urgency of embedding these skills in our education system.

While some are understandably cautious about adding graduation requirements, and contend that not all students will become computer scientists, an ever increasing number of industries are becoming increasingly more reliant on digital proficiency, and the ability to understand and apply computer science concepts will be vital for young professionals entering the workforce and for our communities maintaining economic vitality and

competitiveness.

Local schools and community partners are hosting a range of activities to commemorate CSEd-Week. Schools including Lincoln Elementary, George Elementary, Waterville, Quincy Innovation Academy, Mansfield Elementary and High School, Ancient Lakes Elementary, Columbia Middle School, Cascade High School, Mountain View Elementary, Eastmont Junior High School, Sterling Junior High School, St. Paul's Lutheran School, Monument Elementary, Valley Academy, Almira Coulee Hartline High School, and Coulee City Elementary are organizing Hour of Code events.

These events aim to ignite interest in STEM careers and provide students with a foundation in computational thinking.

In addition, the Apple

Finance

Beau Ruff
Contributor for Ward Media



Charitable giving in your will: Simple numbers vs. complex percentages

Many people desire to tithe both during life and after death. Accordingly, giving 10% of their estate to their church (or other charity) is often a goal for a couple contemplating estate planning.

But, there is nuance to uncover in this kind of goal and perhaps a better way to structure the gift after you pass which leads to both better tax ramifications for your heirs and less administrative complexity.

First, what is the administrative complexity? Assume a gross estate of \$1M and a couple wants to give 10% (or \$100k) to church and the remainder to their two adult children. There are two main ways to do this in the Will. The first is called a pecuniary gift consisting of a sum certain (“I give \$100k to my church”). The second is a type of fractional gift (“I give 10% to my church”).

Assume further that the eldest child (let’s call

her “Sue”) is the named executor under the Will, charged with following its provisions. In the case of a pecuniary gift, Sue has a simple job: she must ensure that the church receives \$100,000... no more and no less. Once Sue can deliver that check to the church, her obligation to the church ends.

In the case of a fractional gift, Sue’s job is much more complicated. First, because the church is entitled to receive 10%, the church gets to know “10% of what?” That means that the church is entitled to an inventory of all assets of the estate. Further, to deliver the 10% to the church will likely require action. It will require Sue to sell assets like the parents’ residence and their vehicles. So, the church will also be entitled to see how Sue sells the assets and the price obtained.

Because estate expenses (including any creditor claims) impact the definition of “10%,” the church

would also be allowed to see the various expenses incurred throughout the pendency of the probate to include any fee charged by the executor – in this case, Sue. Sue would detail all of these items through both a formal inventory and an accounting to show all monies going in and how any monies were spent. Not only is the information provided to the church much greater in the case of a fractional bequest, but the church can also challenge the actions of the executor if the executor has failed in some way of delivering exactly 10% of the value of the estate to the church. At the end of the day, it means there is another party to oversee and challenge the actions of the executor.

In most circumstances (and in this author’s experience), the church is not likely to quibble over small accounting issues. But it has the right to quibble. Assume Sue sells the family car to her sister’s child at

a discount. An action like that technically deprives the church of the full fair market value of 10% of the car and violates the strict provisions of the Will.

The pecuniary gift outlined above avoids all the oversight. The church has no right to see an inventory or expenses or what happens in the administration of the estate. So long as the church receives the pecuniary gift, it has no other rights.

The challenges of a fractional gift can compound with more beneficiaries as well. Assume split 10% among ten different charities. Each of those ten charities would have all the rights outlined above pertaining to fractional gifts.

So, the fractional gift is more complex for your heirs, namely your executor. But, the tradeoff is that it offers simplicity in drafting and less need to revisit the amount as would be required with a pecuniary gift.



STOCK PHOTO

As I have written about previously (here – add link for online “Use Retirement Accounts To Give to Charity in Your Estate Plan”), a better suited asset to use for charitable giving (including gifts to church) is the pre-tax retirement account. It allows a couple to reserve better assets for their heirs (assets that are not subject to ordinary income tax). And, it is easy and (usually) free to update retirement account beneficiary designations. Plus, your executor will not need to have any third party overseeing his or her actions as executor.

The opinions voiced in

this material are for general information only and not intended to provide specific advice or recommendations for any individual or entity. This information is not intended to be a substitute for specific individualized tax or legal advice. We suggest that you discuss your specific situation with a qualified tax or legal advisor.

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

The Mercantile
Continued from page 1

a blend of office suites for small businesses, fixed desks for remote workers, and open workspace for day and flex passes.

Workers could utilize large conference rooms for meetings and phone booths for private calls.

Eventually, the owners saw a need to expand, leading them to open the Mercantile at Midtown,

located just down the street.

“We had been full down there for a couple years, so we knew there was some pent up demand. We didn’t realize it would fill this place up so quickly,” said Wray.

Contrary to its sister location, the Midtown location offers more privacy with office suites for businesses and nonprofit organizations, rather than open workspace.

“I think it’s hard for

smaller businesses [of] one to three people to find office space downtown that’s affordable. And our tenants, they save money... They share all the costs of a print center and a kitchen, a conference room, and a common area. And then they just have rent for their own dedicated space,” said Wray.

The second location offers similar amenities, such as a large kitchen for gathering, a business center, a conference room,

and common area with a lounge and desks. Eventually, the Mercantile at Midtown plans to add a rooftop deck to its list of offerings.

The Mercantile at Ellis-Forde is located at 14 N. Wenatchee Avenue, and the Mercantile at Midtown is located at 37 S. Wenatchee Avenue, Suite F.

*Taylor Caldwell:
509-433-7276 or
taylor@ward.media*



TAYLOR CALDWELL / WARD MEDIA
While the Midtown location may have more private workspaces, its kitchen is designed for workers to gather and mingle during breaks.



TAYLOR CALDWELL / WARD MEDIA
The newest space, Mercantile at Midtown, offers more office suites surrounding a more quiet common area.

This Christmas, gift yourself and your loved ones the joy of true relaxation. A Bullfrog Spa is more than just a hot tub – it’s an experience that will make your holidays even brighter.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

(509) 289-4408

pooltospaservices.com

160 S. Worthen St - Wenatchee

Finance

Tax planning ideas to consider before year end

Tyler Kert

Contributor for Ward Media



Most people aren't thinking about taxes in December, unless it's the tax they're spending on Christmas gifts or airline tickets. But while December is a great month for gift giving and spending time with friends and family, it's also your last month to ease your tax burden in 2025.

On things like IRA contributions, the IRS is flexible and gives you time to make contributions after the year end.

However, there are several other tax-saving options that end on December 31st. Here are a few to consider to make sure you're setting yourself up for success when you file your return.

Roth Conversions

Unlike IRA contributions which can be delayed until you file your return in 2025, Roth conversions must occur in the year you want the taxes to apply. So why might you consider doing a Roth conversion?

Converting a traditional IRA to a Roth IRA means you'll pay taxes on the

converted amount now, but all future growth and withdrawals in retirement will be tax-free.

If you think you will be in a higher tax bracket later or in retirement, you should definitely consider doing a Roth conversion because it locks in your current tax rate. A Roth conversion can also provide flexibility in retirement planning because of its tax-exempt status.

Year-end is a prime time to consider conversions, because you generally understand what your income is going to look like.

That said, it is critical that you take into account your income and tax situation before you decide to do a Roth conversion.

As a CPA, I've had conversations with clients who have been advised to do Roth conversions by their financial advisor when it clearly doesn't make sense from a tax standpoint. Yes, a Roth is a powerful retirement tool and you don't have to take RMDs, but that doesn't mean that you should convert your money at a higher tax rate now, when you could defer the taxes

into retirement when you will pay a lower rate.

Consider doing a Roth conversion if you're having a low-income year. But definitely consult with your tax advisor before doing so to make sure you won't be paying extra tax on the conversion without realizing it. Once you convert IRA funds, there is no going back.

Harvest Investment Losses

Another strategy that you can implement in 2024 to lower your tax burden in 2025 is loss harvesting. It sounds like farming, but really it's just an investing term that means selling your investment after it has gone down in value.

Now, I know that doesn't sound like the way investing is supposed to work. You're right. You're supposed to buy low and sell high. But inevitably, even the best investors face market corrections and are left with positions that are worth less than they originally paid for them.

To illustrate this strategy, I'll use an example:



Let's say that you had a brilliant idea and bought zoom stock early in 2020 at \$100/share when the coronavirus was just starting to emerge.

One year later, you are confirmed as a genius because your investment is worth over 4 times what you paid for it. Do you sell and take your winnings? No! You're convinced it's going to keep going up. Well unfortunately, the tide turns and another year later your investment is back to \$100/share again. A few more months, and your investment has declined in value nearly 30%.

Fast forward to today - you're still holding zoom stock at a loss and the recovery is slow. What can you do? Sell the zoom stock and the loss will offset against other capital gains that you had in

2024. You can even use the loss to offset your ordinary income up to a limit of \$3,000 per year. Any remaining losses will carry over and offset future gains and ordinary income.

Then, after you sell, you just need to wait 30 days to avoid a wash sale, and you can buy back the zoom stock if you would like.

Markets can fluctuate a lot in 30 days, but it is not uncommon for investors to take losses, reduce their tax liability, and then jump right back into the same investing positions they were in 30 days prior.

Roth conversions and harvesting losses are two powerful strategies that can benefit you immensely if used correctly.

Consult your tax advisor to ensure that a Roth conversion is in your best interest. If your financial

planner hasn't talked with you about tax-loss harvesting, you may consider asking them about that also. Both strategies can keep more money in your pocket in the long-term. Remember, it's not what you make that matters, it's what you keep.

This material is for informational purposes only and does not constitute financial, investment, or tax advice. Please consult your tax advisor or financial planner to discuss your specific circumstances before making any decisions.

Tyler Kert, a licensed financial advisor and CPA, provides financial planning and tax consulting services at Tamarack Wealth Management in Cashmere, WA.

SPONSORED CONTENT

Green dining: How your restaurant's composting program can attract eco-conscious customers

From Winton Manufacturing Compost Works

The dining landscape is changing. Today's customers aren't just looking for great food - they're increasingly making dining choices based on environmental responsibility. Composting is an excellent way to become more environmentally responsible.

For restaurants in our region, it's even easier to partner with Winton Manufacturing Compost Works. Winton offers an opportunity to meet this growing demand while positively impacting the environment.

"We were excited to start using Winton Manufacturing's food composting

service because it was the right thing to do. We've become very well known for our in-house made apple strudels so, we produce a large amount of apple peels - daily. It's also been a sustainable solution for our coffee grounds, green pepper cores, onion skins, eggshells, and even our to-go breakfast containers from our breakfasts", said Linda Black, General manager of Obertal Inn.

The Business Case for Restaurant Composting

Implementing a com-

posting program does more than just reduce waste. It can:

- Lower waste management costs
- Create positive brand recognition
- Attract environmentally conscious customers
- Demonstrate community leadership
- Provide marketing opportunities

Making the Transition

Winton Manufacturing Compost Works makes it simple for restaurants to begin composting. Their state-of-the-art facility, housed in a repurposed

sawmill, processes food scraps and organic waste into high-quality compost. They provide the necessary bins, regular pickup service, and staff training support to ensure a smooth transition.

"On day one of composting service we asked the City of Leavenworth to remove our second trash container that was receiving daily pickups. Winton Mfg has been an active partner aiding in our transition to the correct products and supplying information to train our employees with. For anyone interested in making the switch, it's easiest to just commit completely and implement strong changes at the beginning", explained Mia Abbett, CEO/Owner of Munchen Haus in Leavenworth.

The Winton Manufacturing staff provides one-on-one customer service, from your first on-site evaluation of a food waste recycling program for your business to support with design, training, and education materials including posters and labels to put customers into the right-



sized container level for the volume of compostables their business generates.

Your food waste recycling program should reflect the amount of food waste generated while helping you to minimize excess landfill waste costs. Working with other restaurant businesses has helped them highlight ways in which they could reduce excess food waste loss and reduce preparation costs, saving the business more money.

Abbett continues by saying "Participating in the commercial composting with Winton Mfg has allowed our business to reduce our daily landfill contributions by well over 70%

since beginning in 2022. We were able to immediately reduce our landfill amount by 50% and we've increased that waste reduction steadily over time."

Food waste isn't just in the preparation of food in the kitchen it is also the leftover food on customer's plates, this is generally where most food waste is generated at businesses. Restaurants know how to use food well and most times there is little excess in the preparation, so when thinking about your compost recycling program at your business think about the customer's plates that you scrap into the garbage bin as the first place to capture compostable materials.

"We removed all customer-facing waste receptacles which allows our employees to sort all waste as it is received. This is much simpler and less time-consuming than trying to sort already filled bins and check for contamination.

Once you realize how

Q & A



Meet Mike Steele, Executive Director of the Lake Chelan Chamber of Commerce and a Washington State Representative

By **Quinn Propst** | Ward Media Staff Reporter

Mike Steele wears many hats in his service to the Lake Chelan Valley. As the executive director of the Lake Chelan Chamber of Commerce for 18 years and a recently reelected state representative, Steele has dedicated his career to advocating for his community's economic vitality and quality of life.

Born and raised in Lake Chelan, Steele's connection to the area runs deep, with family roots stretching back six generations.

Steele's passion for public service began early with a degree in Political Science and Business

Administration. His career includes a stint at the White House on the Political Affairs Team and work with the Republican Caucus in the Washington State Legislature.

Today, his dual roles allow him to blend his love for the valley with his commitment to addressing local and state needs.

We caught up with him recently to learn more about his vision for the Lake Chelan Valley.

Tell our readers a little bit about yourself.

I was born and raised in Lake Chelan. I am a graduate from Pacific Lutheran

University, with a major in Political Science and Business Administration. Upon graduation I had the opportunity to serve in the White House as a member of the Political Affairs Team. I moved back to Washington State in 2006 and began work with the State Legislature as a member of the Republican Caucus staff, until coming to the Lake Chelan Chamber where I have now served as the Executive Director for over 18 years.

I served as a member of the City Council in Chelan and am an active board member for several community and business or-

ganizations including: the Lake Chelan Community Hospital Foundation, the North Central Washington Small Business Loan Fund, The Board of Trustees for the Community Foundation of North Central Washington and the Lake Chelan Rotary Club.

I am currently serving a second term in the Washington State House of Representatives.

What led you to this position?

I have a deep love for the Lake Chelan Valley. My family has been there for 6 generations. When the job was posted several small business owners contacted me and asked me to apply.

I was offered the job and have been in love with the position ever since.

How do you balance your chamber director role with your duties as a state representative?

There are many overlaps with these positions. Both positions are about building community and supporting local needs.

I use the every day experience I have with the chamber to inform policy needs and solutions for the district and State.

What are you most

looking forward to in your role as executive director of the Lake Chelan Chamber of Commerce?

I love the ability to help people, drive economic development and discussions that lead to a healthy and vibrant community.

What does a normal day look like as executive director of the Lake Chelan Chamber of Commerce?

Meetings, meetings and meetings. This job is all about networking and connecting people and working toward community solutions that benefit our locals and visitors alike.

What is your favorite part about your job and why?

I love helping people and making my home valley a better place to live, work and do business. We live in one of the most incredible places in the world and I love sharing it as an ambassador for the community.

What are some of your goals for the Lake Chelan area?

I want Lake Chelan to be a place that remains

known for its small towns and charm. A place where everyone feels like they are part of the community and can each bring something special to make this place a home. We are lucky to live in a place that so many people want to share and be part of.

Who or what inspires you?

I am inspired by our valley's sense of community. People that have lived here for a long time or moved here recently all seem to know how special this place is and I am always inspired by the kindness, generosity and hardworking spirit the people of our valley exude and share.

What do you like to do with your free time?

I love to Ski! I enjoy reading and golfing when I get the chance.

Is there anything else you want our readers to know?

I am so proud to be part of this community and appreciate the many folks that have worked so hard over the years to continue help shape it and the future we share.

*Quinn Propst:
509-731-3590 or
quinn@ward.media*

IF YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO SHOULD BE FEATURED IN A WENATCHEE BUSINESS JOURNAL Q&A, EMAIL QUINN@WARD.MEDIA

Green Dining

Continued from page 4

much really can be commercially composted and you've transitioned disposables to approved products, the sorting step is smooth and simple, especially in the restaurant industry", Said Mia Abbott, CEO/Owner of Munchen Haus. Winton aims is to provide continued one-on-one customer service from the first time a business contacts through the lifetime of that business's food waste recycling program. They believe that as a customer they become a partner in the region's sustainability and they try to highlight their efforts by providing cross-marketing and data for them to share with potential and current customers.

Together with businesses participating in food waste recycling, we can all produce tomorrow's soils for the region.

Marketing Your Green Initiative

Restaurants that compost have multiple op-

portunities to showcase their environmental commitment:

- Menu notations about their composting program
- Table tents explaining environmental impact
- Social media content highlighting green practices
- Website features about sustainability efforts
- Staff sharing sustainability stories with customers

Environmental Impact

By diverting organic waste from landfills, restaurants contribute to significant environmental benefits. Organic waste processed at Winton's facility doesn't generate methane in landfills and instead becomes valuable compost that enriches local soil.

Steps to Get Started

1. Contact Winton Manufacturing Compost Works for an initial consultation
2. Winton will assess your restaurant's current

waste stream through an audit period

3. Winton will help you train staff on new procedures

4. Winton can help design so that you can implement a collection system

5. Communicate your initiative to customers

Linda Black of Obertal Inn shared, "The process [of composting] has become a natural part of our operations, and our team is proud to contribute to reducing waste."

While there is an initial investment in starting a composting program, many restaurants find that the combination of reduced waste management costs and increased customer support makes it financially beneficial.

As environmental consciousness continues to grow, restaurants adopting composting programs will be ahead of the curve. They'll attract today's eco-conscious diners and be prepared for future regulations regarding organic waste disposal.

Ready to enhance your restaurant's environmen-

tal profile while attracting conscious consumers? Contact Winton Manufac-

turing Compost Works to learn how your restaurant can join the growing num-

ber of local establishments that are making a difference through composting.

Washington Trust Bank named among 2024's Best Banks to Work For

Ward Media | Wenatchee Business Journal

Washington Trust Bank has been recognized as one of American Banker magazine's "Best Banks to Work For" in 2024, marking its sixth recognition since the program's inception in 2013.

The largest privately held commercial bank in the Northwest earned the distinction based on workplace policies, practices, demographics, and employee satisfaction metrics evaluated by Best Companies Group in partnership with American Banker.

"Earning a 'best place to work' honor is an incredible testament to our entire organization," said Jack Heath, chief executive officer of Washington

Trust Bank.

"As a privately held bank, we have a distinct advantage in the markets where we do business, because keeping our focus on long-term goals rather than quarterly results allows us to make the best decisions for our employees and clients."

The bank, which manages \$11 billion in assets, recently received additional recognition from Forbes as a "Best-in-State Bank" for Washington and was listed among Puget Sound Business Journal's "100 Fastest-Growing Private Companies."

Washington Trust Bank currently operates more than 40 financial centers

across Washington, Idaho, and Oregon, with plans for expansion including a new branch in Vancouver, Washington.

The institution employs approximately 1,100 people and has maintained a presence in the Northwest since its founding in 1902.

The bank evaluates workplace satisfaction through various metrics, including employee engagement, professional development opportunities, and work environment quality.

This approach aligns with their commitment to fostering trust across organizational levels while maintaining focus on long-term strategic goals rather than quarterly performance metrics.

Women In Business



Meet Monica Lough, Chelan-Douglas Regional Port Authority

What inspired you to start your business or pursue your current career path?

I've always been drawn to roles that allow me to merge my passion for financial management with public service. My path as a CPA gave me a solid foundation in financial analysis, but I sought a career that would allow me to contribute to the economic development

of our region. The opportunity to work for the Chelan Douglas Regional Port Authority was particularly appealing because port districts play a crucial role in fostering growth and innovation in local communities. Seeing firsthand the positive impact we have on local businesses and infrastructure motivates me every day.

How has your

initial vision evolved since you started?

When I first stepped into this role, my vision was largely focused on financial oversight and ensuring that the Port's resources were used effectively. Over time, I've come to appreciate how interconnected finance is with strategic planning and economic development. My role has evolved to include a much greater

emphasis on long-term planning, collaboration with local businesses, and finding innovative ways to secure funding for future growth. The dynamic nature of this position has taught me that flexibility and creativity are just as important as fiscal responsibility.

What's the biggest challenge you've faced as a woman in your industry, and how did you overcome it?

One of the biggest challenges I faced as a woman in accounting, particularly earlier in my career, was the underrepresentation of women in leadership positions. There were times when I had to work extra hard to have my voice heard in rooms where men predominantly made the decisions. I found that perseverance, confidence, and building a strong network of mentors – both male and female – helped me overcome these barriers. I also focused on continuously expanding my expertise

so that my work and results spoke for themselves, proving my value beyond any preconceived notions based on gender.

How do you think these challenges have changed in your industry?

The industry has definitely evolved since I first started. Today, there's a much stronger push for diversity, equity, and inclusion in accounting and finance, and more women are stepping into leadership roles. There's also greater awareness of unconscious biases and a collective effort to create more inclusive environments where diverse perspectives are encouraged. However, challenges still remain, especially in achieving complete parity at the executive level. While we've made significant progress, continued support for professional development and mentorship programs is essential to sustaining these changes and encouraging the next generation of women in accounting.

Describe a pivotal moment in your career that shaped

your leadership style.

A pivotal and challenging time in my career was when I took on a significant project involving a functional consolidation of two port districts into one operating entity. It required collaboration across multiple organizations, each with its own unique challenges. Initially, I approached it from a purely financial and operational standpoint, focusing on the technical details. However, I soon realized that the real key to success was building trust and aligning different teams under a shared vision. This experience taught me the importance of communication, empathy, and adaptability – understanding the human side of leadership, not just the numbers. It helped me become a leader who listens, empowers others, and encourages collaboration.

How would you describe your leadership style now?

Today, I would describe my leadership style as col-

See **MONICA LOUGH** Page 18

CHELAN DOUGLAS
Regional Port
AUTHORITY

**Empowering Women
at the Chelan Douglas
Regional Port Authority**



We're proud to highlight the incredible women who are vital to our mission of fostering economic vitality in our valleys. From our Board Member, Finance and Accounting Department, Administration, Airport Maintenance Team, and Economic Development and Capital Project Team, these women are driving innovation and growth in our community.

A list of our Women

Port Commission: **JC Baldwin**

Monica Lough
Stacie de Mestre
Sarah Deenik
Tricia Degnan
Brooke Lammert

Mikenna Scott
Bobbie Chatriand
Julie Avis
Lorena Amador
Laura Camarillo - Reyes

Concetta Rumburg
Amy O'Grady
Camryn Beidler
Monica Hernandez

285 Technology Center Way, Suite 202, Wenatchee, WA 98801

509.884.4700 | www.cdrpa.org

**Keeping
Up** with
people

Wenatchee Chamber names new state lobbyist

Ward Media | Wenatchee Business Journal

The Wenatchee Valley Chamber of Commerce has appointed Samantha Louderback of SL Public Affairs as its new lobbyist, replacing retiring advocate Bruce Beckett.

Louderback will represent the chamber's interests in Olympia, serving as a key liaison between the organization's more than 600 members and state policymakers.

The appointment comes as the chamber continues its efforts to advocate for business interests throughout the Wenatchee Valley region.

"I am honored to have the opportunity to work with and represent the Wenatchee Valley Chamber of Commerce in Olympia. I know I have big shoes to fill, but I am looking forward to getting to know all of you in

the coming months and working with the team," Louderback said.

The chamber, a non-profit membership organization with over a century of experience, emphasized Louderback's existing relationships and experience in public affairs as crucial factors in her selection.

The organization expressed confidence that the partnership would enhance their advocacy initiatives.

In recognizing Beckett's tenure, the chamber expressed gratitude for his years of service and advocacy on behalf of its members.

The Wenatchee Valley Chamber of Commerce operates from its offices at the intersection of Second Street and Wenatchee Avenue in Wenatchee.



**COURTESY OF
WENATCHEE VALLEY
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE**

Samantha Louderback, the newly appointed lobbyist for the Wenatchee Valley Chamber of Commerce.

The organization focuses on promoting the region's economic vitality and quality of life through business advocacy and collaborative leadership.

Brick and Rafters

Continued from page 1

for group work, private tables, and a conference-style table.

Osburn said a private room is also available for phone calls or confidential meetings.

As coworking grows in popularity, the Kriskovics hope to provide a useful space in an area where reliable internet access can be limited, especially in canyon areas.

Since COVID, as more people began working from home, coworking spaces have gained popularity. This trend seems

here to stay, as many find that coworking environments work well, Kriskovic said.

“I think the need for it is for two reasons,” she said. “Some people have a really hard time concentrating at home. They need to actually get out into a space where it feels like they can be really productive. The other reason why I think a coworking space is important is the fact that sometimes you can meet people there, and you can collaborate, and you can even share ideas.”

“I’m drawn to it personally, because I have worked from home for many years,

and I sometimes need to get out of my home to be more productive, being at Brick and Rafters, and I’ve used it personally, it’s great,” Osburn said. “It’s such a beautiful, calm atmosphere, it’s organized, it’s clean, and it’s just the perfect space for you to really be productive and get stuff done.”

With low-cost access – \$20 per day, \$75 per week, or \$175 per month – the Kriskovics hope to provide an affordable option for remote workers, entrepreneurs, and community members seeking a professional environment.

Brick and Rafters is



COURTESY OF BRICK AND RAFTERS

The Cashmere event space Brick and Rafters is now offering coworking space during the work week. The space features tables for working, a comfortable living room space and a kitchenette.



COURTESY OF BRICK AND RAFTERS

The Cashmere event and coworking space Brick and Rafters features a cozy living room area.

located in a convenient part of Cashmere, close to shops and cafes.

“You know, I think our big thing, and Lisa and Tom’s big thing, is just supporting our community,” Osburn said. “And so I really want people to know that Brick and Rafters is right in the middle of what’s really happening in Cashmere right now.”

“And so not only can you use our space, but you can also go down to Weeds and have lunch, like, how awesome to support their little business,” Osburn said. “Or go over to Gaucho for

a little hustle and bustle and have some really great coffee.”

“We want to highlight that we’re right smack dab in the community,” she said. “And yes, you can

use this as a private workspace, but go check it out while you’re here.”

Quinn Propst:
509-731-3590 or
quinn@ward.media.

Quick Read

Cashmere’s Brick and Rafters, traditionally an event venue, has expanded to offer weekday coworking space with flexible seating, Wi-Fi, and amenities. Located in downtown Cashmere with rates starting at \$20 per day, the space provides a quiet, productive environment for remote workers and entrepreneurs while supporting the local community.

Your local business experts

We’ve been helping Wenatchee Valley businesses create new opportunities for generations.



Bobby Black
Commercial Banking Officer

Michael Machado
Commercial Market Leader

Stacy Suydam
Commercial Banking Officer

Peoples Bank

A higher level of service

peoplesbank-wa.com/business
Member FDIC

NCW Tech Alliance honors regional innovators at 23rd Annual Awards Luncheon

Ward Media | Wenatchee Business Journal



COURTESY OF NCW TECH ALLIANCE & JP PORTRAIT STUDIO
All 2024 Winners: L-R Back: Dr. Gautam Nayak, Coltrain, Nathan Holterhoff, University of Washington, Gael Nunez Sanchez, Nathan Vargas, and Aaden Juarez, AEM Energy Champions, Wenatchee High School, and Joshua Farray and Jeff Moser, FieldClock L-R Front: Isabella Garcia, Marisol Nava Araujo, Stephanie Salgado Ontiveros, Ximena Guerra Carillo, and Sloane Eppich Talbot from AEM Energy Champions, Wenatchee High School, and Carrie Nordberg, Samaritan Healthcare, Moses Lake

The NCW Tech Alliance celebrated innovation and technological advancement in North Central Washington during its 23rd Annual Innovator Awards Luncheon, drawing more than 320 attendees to the Wenatchee Convention

Center on November 5. The sold-out event honored regional leaders in technology and innovation, while announcing INVEST NCW, a new initiative launching in 2025 to align resources and support for entrepreneurship across the region.

Dr. Gautam Nayak, co-founder of Coltrain and recipient of the Entrepreneur of the Year Award, highlighted healthcare disparities in his acceptance speech. “If you live in rural America, you have a 43% higher chance of dying

than your urban counterpart,” Dr. Nayak said. “The best clinicians are those who advocate for you, and that is what Coltrain is trying to embody.” Among the honorees were the AEM Energy Champions from Wenatchee High School, a team of eight students recognized for their work in energy conservation at commercial buildings. Their project has successfully reduced costs and CO2 emissions at facilities including JCPenney. FieldClock of East Wenatchee received the Newcomer in Technology Award for their agricultural labor-tracking software, which now supports over 60,000 farm employees and manages \$650 million in annual payroll. Carrie Nordberg from Samaritan Healthcare in Moses Lake was named STEM Champion of the Year for her work connect-

See NCW TECH Page 20

2024 Innovator Award Winners



Entrepreneur of the Year Award: Dr. Gautam Nayak, Coltrain, Wenatchee



STEM Champion of the Year Award: Carrie Nordberg, Samaritan Healthcare, Moses Lake



STEM College Innovator of the Year Award: Nathan Holterhoff, University of Washington, Wenatchee



Newcomer in Technology Award: FieldClock, East Wenatchee



Future Technology Leader of the Year Award: AEM Energy Champions, Wenatchee High School

COURTESY OF NCW TECH ALLIANCE & JP PORTRAIT STUDIO

Point of view

From politics to governance: Transition time here and across America

Senator **Brad Hawkins**
State Senator, 12th Legislative District



With all of the election advertising concluding and campaign signs now removed, the all-consuming “political season” we endured is quickly becoming recent history. With so many local, state, and federal positions being filled, we will soon transition from politics to

governance, which is often more complicated because it involves working together to get things done. Thanks to you, I am one of the recently-elected officials now planning my transition to office. It has been a wild several months for me following the abrupt and drastic changes to legisla-

tive district boundaries. I carefully considered what could be the most effective way for me to help our community and to be more present for my family. Serving as your next County Commissioner will allow me to bring all of my experiences to our area and focus exclusively on improving and enhancing

our region while staying home year-round. Thank you for this opportunity. My years of service at the State Capitol have allowed me to build positive relationships with local, state, and federal officials and to understand state budgets and funding opportunities. In the legislator role, I’ve also worked

closely with Chelan County business leaders, community groups, and non-profit organizations. I’m excited to bring all of this background and positive relationships to the county to help us. I am very proud to have grown up in Chelan County. It is a fantastic place to live, work, and raise a fam-

ily, but it is not without its challenges. County Commissioners will likely soon approve a \$57 million budget for 2025. Depending on future sales tax collections, revenues to Chelan County could slow. If so, that will create even more challenges for maintaining

See HAWKINS Page 13



COLONIAL VISTA
POST ACUTE
A 4-Star Medicare Facility



For your comfort and care

We're more than a skilled nursing home. Our team is committed to providing the highest-quality care in a safe environment, with the comforts of home.



- Skilled Rehab
- Outpatient PT/OT/SP
- Aquatic therapy
- Long term care

625 Okanogan Ave. • Wenatchee, WA 98801 • 509-663-1171

Network IT & Cybersecurity
Protect Your Business.



thinkfirefly.com
(509) 663-TECH | Sales@Firefly.ms

FREE NETWORK REVIEW

21 S Chelan Ave. Wenatchee, WA 98801

MEMBER MESSENGER

“Driven to Promote and Protect Small Business”

DECEMBER 2024 ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

PAGE 1



2024 in Review: A Year of Transformation

A review of Building NCW's achievements in 2024 as we move forward into 2025!



2024 Home Show is about to be underway!

Building NCW had a vision for 2024: to embrace the future and grow while celebrating our past, traditions, and roots. Our successes this past year have been a direct result of this vision. Last year we hosted our 25th Annual Home Show, the 30th Annual Home Tour and Remodeling Expo, Chefs on Tour, the 28th Annual Summer Golf Tournament, and our 3rd Annual Fall Golf Classic. In addition to our “bookend” events, we also held Nothing but Networking nights, had the 1st Annual Builder Expo with US Bank Home Mortgage, and announced our 1st Annual Chelan Home Tour set for October 2025.

Building NCW kicked off 2024 with a bang! Our 25th annual Home Show presented by Complete Design was a hit. The Home Show saw higher attendance, more booths, and more vendors than ever.

Our vendors were pleased to report the success that they had! More than half the vendors were so pleased with the event, they renewed their booth for 2025 right away. This event wouldn't be possible without our Supporting sponsors Cashmere Valley Mortgage, Marson and Marson Lumber, Boyer Mountain Pool and Excavation, and Community Glass. As well as our Associate sponsors Artisan Flooring, EDY Construction, Western Ranch Buildings, Valley Tractor and Rentals, and Moonlight Stone Works.

After wrapping up an amazing Home Show, Building NCW jumped straight into planning the always fun June Golf Tournament.

While planning the Golf Tournament, our office was also busy going out to County Commissioner meetings, attending the Coffee and Commerce Legislative Review with the Wenatchee Valley Chamber of Commerce, Sponsoring the Road Apple Roulette fundraiser at the Apple

Blossom Parade for the Sunrise Rotary Club in Wenatchee, celebrating Community Glass' 40th year at their business, going to People's Bank for a Nothing but Networking, and more! As a Member of Building NCW, our goal is to help Members in any way shape, or form we can. Our team actively participates in discussions, gathers essential updates, and advocates for our Member's interests, ensuring you're always informed without needing to rearrange your schedule.

Fast forward to June, and Building NCW is ready for a fun day filled with golf at the Annual Summer Golf Tournament Presented by American Rock Products and Wenatchee Sand and Gravel.

We hosted a full field of golfers, with all 18 Tee Boxes filled with an engaging individual, fun activity or game, and in some instances, a giveaway! All the golfers were spoiled throughout the day with swag or snacks. A special thank you to Precision Water Jet for providing a beverage to our full field of golfers. Channeling their inner Maverick, golfers were encouraged to dress for the theme of Top Gun. This incredible event would not be possible without our amazing host Highlander Golf Course or our generous sponsors: American Rock Products, Wenatchee Sand and Gravel, Intermountain West Insulation, Precision Water Jet, and all the Tee Box and Green sponsors!

Summer went quickly for the Building NCW Staff. Working hard to get information to our Members about updated energy code changes, safety classes, and marketing opportunities for business.

2024 was a year for updates not only on

See 2024 REVIEW Page 10



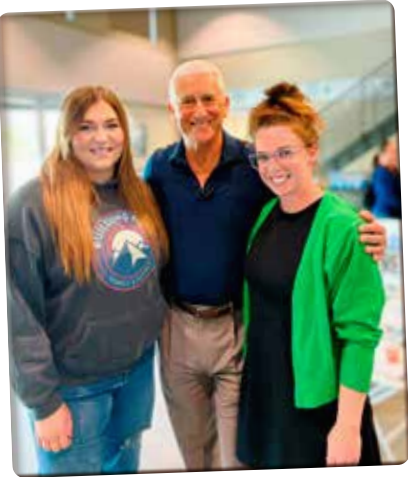
Danielle and Morgan enjoying Community Glass 40th Anniversary party!



Thank you to our Main Sponsor for the Home Show Complete Design.



State of the Union updates from Wenatchee and East Wenatchee Mayors provided by Wenatchee Valley Chamber.



Building NCW staff Morgan and Danielle with Governor candidate Dave Reichert



Thank you to Lit Letters for our BNCW letters!



Ellie enjoying Building NCW's Apple Sox Season Tickets!



Perfect day at Highlander Golf Course for our Summer Golf Tournament

Supercharge your visibility and growth and maximize your marketing budget with special offers designed just for BNCW members!

EXPLORE YOUR OPTIONS Today!

WARD MEDIA
your local partner for all your marketing needs, including print, digital marketing, and promotional products.



MEMBER MESSENGER

“Driven to Promote and Protect Small Business”

DECEMBER 2024 ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

PAGE 2

2024 Review

Continued from page 9

what we can offer a small business but also on our building! Pausing on Building Maintenance, staff began the process of researching how to make the 30th Annual Home Tour the biggest and best ever.

To completely encompass the vision for 2024 to celebrate the past and embrace the future, our Membership Manager Morgan went through over 30 years of records, photos, and magazines. The goal was to see what traditions we could incorporate in our Home Tour.

The much anticipated 30th Annual Home Show Presented by Banner Bank kicked off in grand style with the exclusive prelude event Chefs on Tour Presented by E.D.Y Construction and supported by Ward Media. Our Chefs on Tour transforms four homes into culinary stages where local chefs and drink makers provide tastings of their expertly crafted food and beverages, creating a one-of-a-kind dining and tour preview the night before the public Home Tour experience.

This year our four Builders who opened their new builds a night early were KTS Development, Lexar Homes, Lange Construction LLC, Skyridge Triad Homes LLC, and a bonus home for 2024 was offered by Sweeney Construction.

The four Chefs featured were Clearwater Catering, The Crepe House, Taqueria El Tarasco, and The Orchard. The drink makers featured alongside the food were RM Wineries, Hellbent Brewing Company, Iron Horse Brewing alongside Oddstock Cider Co., and Pear Up Cider.

To make the Chefs on Tour special for our guests we included a preplanned special feature at each home. This included Side Hustle the Band, Everybuddy in photo-booth, a gift for attendees, and permanent jewelry with Wild Lilly Cosmetics.

The night ended at Union Hill Cider Co. with an after-party complete with celebratory



Stunning kitchen from Lange Construction in Entiat

cupcakes for Building NCW's 30th!

The next morning and subsequent days unfolded with exploration and awe from attendees as the Home Tour supported by Marson and Marson, Complete Design, and Precision Water Jet showcased 12 incredible new homes, each one offering unique design inspiration and charm.

Every builder offered a beautiful home that contributed to the combined diversity of homes displayed on the Home Tour which left the attendees thoroughly impressed and delighted by the end of the day on Sunday.

Our 2024 featured builders were KTS Development, Lexar Homes, Lange Construction LLC, Skyridge Triad Homes LLC, Pinnacle Construction, Carlisle Classic Homes, Village Life, Real Homes, Lenssen Homes, Roberts Construction, and Sweeney Construction.

This event was also sponsored by the Associate Sponsors Wenatchee Valley Glass & Door, Sangster Motors, Artisan Flooring, and Kenady Group.

No rest for the Building NCW staff, just a short two weeks following the



Special Thank you to the Women's Service League for helping during the Home Tour



Bob the Builder and Walt on Construction Night

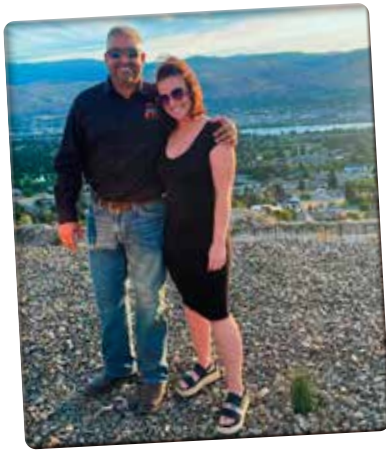
See 2024 REVIEW Page 11



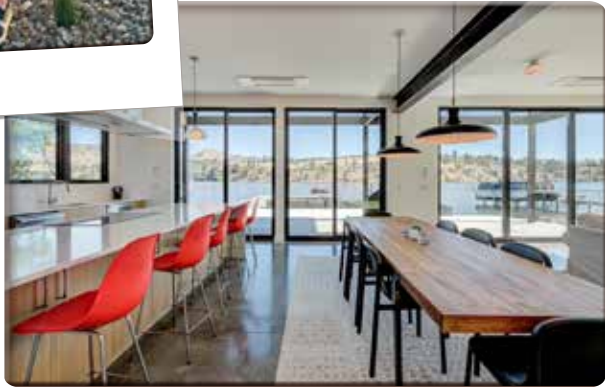
2nd place Best Dressed Winners



Danielle and Sherrie with Ward Media enjoying a fun night of baseball



2024 People's Choice winner Kyle Steinburg and Danielle during Chefs on Tour



Amazing view from Carlisle Classic Homes tour home in Chelan



Instagram Audience Exposure

Up 10000%



Facebook Likes

Up 1000%



Facebook Visits

Up 1000%



Website Visits

Up 70%

Social Media Update

Our Social Media is climbing! Check out our numbers! Visit www.buildingncw.org to see upcoming events.



@buildingncw



@buildingNCW

The Floor Factory is...
FlooringAmerica
where friends send friends™

13 S Weantchee Ave (509)662-1421 www.thefloorfactory.com

SPECIALIZING IN CUSTOM STONE COUNTERTOPS
NEW SHOWROOM

5564 Industry Lane,
Unit A, East Wenatchee
509.782.2164

www.moonlightstoneworks.com

- Quotes in 3 business days
- Template 7-10 business days
- Install 7-10 business days
- Natural Stone over 100 slabs in stock
- Quartz 12 colors in stock
- We sell and install sinks too!

COMPLETE DESIGN, INC.
"Construction Design Specialists"

www.completedesign.cc

(509) 662.3699

Civil Engineering | Landscape Design | Architecture | Structural Engineering
Interior Design | Land Surveying | Planning | Permitting | 3D Modeling | Drafting

MEMBER MESSENGER

“Driven to Promote and Protect Small Business”

DECEMBER 2024 ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

PAGE 3



Huddle Up and Score BIG at the Building NCW Home Show

As the February Building NCW Home Show approaches, the search for vendors is in full swing! This annual event is the perfect platform for businesses to connect with homeowners, builders, and design enthusiasts seeking the latest in home improvement, construction, and lifestyle solutions.

Looking to kick off 2025 with a Touchdown? We are looking for a wide range of vendors, including specialists in home construction, remodeling, landscaping, interior design, home décor, pools and spas, and Technology providers, artisan creators, and local businesses offering unique home-related products are also encouraged to join.

Vendors will get in the game with high visibility and direct engagement with a crowd eager to tackle innovative ideas and services. Businesses looking to score big should call an audible and act fast, as booth spaces are in limited supply.

To get involved, businesses can visit the Building NCW website for registration details and partnership opportunities.

Don't miss this chance to showcase your brand and be part of one of the region's most exciting home shows!

Join the winning team and score big by becoming a vendor at the February Building NCW Home Show!

Reach out to Danielle at Danielle@buildingncw.org or call today 509-293-5840



Presented by:

COMPLETE DESIGN INC. "Construction Design Specialists"

Supporting Sponsors:

Cashmere Valley Mortgage, Marson Mortgage, Community Glass Co, M 15 P, NEER FOUNDATION "You & EXAMINATION"

Associate Sponsors:

Valley Tractor, Kubota, NISSAN, EDV, FLOORING

Located at **TOWN TOYOTA CENTER**

Feb. 1st 9 am - 5 pm
Feb. 2nd 9 am - 4 pm

GET IN THE GAME

Signing up vendors now!

2024 Review

Continued from page 10

success of the Home Tour, Building NCW hosted the 3rd Annual Fall Golf Tournament Sponsored by Cashmere Valley Mortgage, International Wood Products, and Marson and Marson Lumber.

The spooky scene was set at Three Lakes Golf Course for an epic day of golf in October. Building NCW's golfers gathered to play putting games before hitting the course, a crisp early morning turned into the perfect weather for golf.

Next year, Building NCW is proud to announce we will be partnering with the North Central Washington Association of Realtors next year to bring an even better Fall Golf Tournament to our combined membership!

Other events that we are proud of this year are our Building NCW Membership night at the Wenatchee AppleSox, and our Builder Expo in November with US Bank Home Mortgage.

As we reflect on a successful 2024 filled with memorable events, we're energized by the exciting opportunities on the horizon.

From the upcoming 2025 Home Show Presented by Complete Design to the debut of the 1st Annual Chelan Home Tour, Building NCW remains committed to showcasing the best in our industry and fostering connections within our community. We invite builders and partners to join us in making these events exceptional.

For inquiries or participation, reach out to us at Danielle@buildingncw.org and Morgan@buildingncw.org or call 509-293-5840. Together, let's continue building a bright future for NCW!



Great conversations at the 1st ever Builder Expo presented by US Bank



Danielle and Morgan with giveaways for attendees at the Builders and Home Runs night with the Wenatchee AppleSox!



WANT TO BE A BNCW MEMBER?

BNCW MEMBER BENEFITS

- Home Show Booth Discount
- Home Tour Ticket Discount
- Discounted Advertising in multiple programs
- Safety Class Discount
- Opportunity to host Nothing but Networking Nights
- Annual BNCW Membership Appreciation Event
- AND MORE!

Visit **BNCW.ORG** for more information

MORGAN DOBBINS Morgan@BuildingNCW.org
509-293-5840



Welcome

NEW MEMBERS



ALL

BNCW members receive a **FREE** subscription to the WBJ paper

If you don't receive your copy

call our circulation department at 509-293-6780 or email Laura@ward.media





For Floors That WOW

APPLE VALLEY FLOORS

YOUR LOCAL PREMIER FLOORING & REMODELING SHOWROOM

- INSTALLATION • CARPET
- LAMINATE • LUXURY VINYL
- HARDWOOD • TILE & STONEWORK

640 Valley Mall Parkway, East Wenatchee
509-886-5076



Call now for new construction and remodeling

Serving the Wenatchee Valley for 44 years

GOLD Construction

Gold Construction Inc.
509-663-4946 www.goldconstruction.org
GOLDCI*077NO



MEMBER MESSENGER

“Driven to Promote and Protect Small Business”

DECEMBER 2024 ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

PAGE 4

HO HO HO

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Our office will be closed
December 23rd thru January 3rd
to spend time with our families.

Danielle & Morgan

Upcoming Events



DECEMBER

DEC. 18 - BOARD MEETING
DEC. 23 - JAN. 2- OFFICE CLOSED
DEC. 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY

JANUARY

DEC. 23 - JAN. 2- OFFICE CLOSED
JAN. 15 - BOARD MEETING
JAN. 31 - SET UP DAY FOR HOME SHOW

FEBURARY

FEB. 1 & 2 - HOME SHOW AT TOWN
TOYOTA CENTER
FEB. 14 - VALENTINE'S DAY
FEB. 19 - BOARD MEETING

MARCH

MARCH 19 - BOARD MEETING



Need a Meeting Room?

As a valued BNCW member company, you're welcome to utilize the BNCW conference room if you require a place to meet with clients or prospective clients, or simply need access to a meeting room. The room will seat up to 16 people comfortably, has wireless internet access and other amenities.



Please contact **Morgan Dobbins** at 509-293-5840 to make the necessary arrangements.

NEED TO BE CPR CERTIFIED?

We got you

FOR CLASS SCHEUDLE CALL TODAY 509-293-5840 OR EMAIL
DANIELLE@BUILDINGNCW.ORG

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



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

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

SMITHSON INSURANCE SERVICES

Medicare Planning • Medicare PDP Rx
• Individual Health Insurance
• Exchange Plans • Group Benefits
Packages • Life • Vision • Dental

509-884-5195

Kathy Z. Smithson • Katy Dalan • Karen Gonzalez

720 Valley Mall Pkway E. Wenatchee • smithsoninsuranceservices@gmail.com

Powder Coat it Tough!

CASCADE

POWDER COATING & METAL FABRICATION

Working to bring your project ideas to Reality.

509-663-9080 | 11 Bridge St, Wenatchee
cascadepowdercoating.com

Professional For Your SOLUTION BUSINESS

To advertise your company/business call our Multi Media Sales Manager:

Sherrie Harlow

WARD MEDIA
253-255-5920

WBJ

Wenatchee Business Journal
Serving Chelan, Douglas and Okanogan counties for over 37 years!

Marketing Matters

AMY YALEY
COO of Ward Media



Your post-holiday game plan: Setting up for success after December

As we dive into the holiday season, smart business owners, in North Central Washington, are already thinking ahead to January.

Whether you're a retailer managing the holiday rush, a service provider booking end-of-year appointments, or a professional firm preparing for tax season, now is the perfect time to plan your post-holiday strategy.

Understanding Your Holiday Season

Every business experiences December differently. While retailers are at their peak, service businesses might be scheduling January appointments, and professional firms are preparing for year-end reports.

The key is working your current holiday pattern to benefit your upcoming months.

As you move through



December, pay attention to:

- Who's connecting with your business?
- Which services or products are most popular?
- Questions customers ask about the coming year?
- How are new customers finding you?

This information will be gold for your January planning.

Turning Holiday Connections into Year-Round Relationships

Plan now for how you'll

stay in touch with December contacts.

Retailers can prepare follow-up strategies for gift buyers. Service providers can schedule January check-ins with December clients.

Professional services can set up new year planning sessions.

The key is having your plan ready before the holiday rush ends. Set up your email templates, plan your January specials, and prepare your follow-up strategy now.

Winter Strategies That Work

Hawkins

Continued from page 8

services. The county has public safety, homelessness, housing, and wildfire issues that will continue to need attention, so commissioners must continue to be thoughtful with our county's tax dollars.

Despite the challenges and opportunities ahead, I am confident that we can succeed together. Throughout my years of service to you, I have worked hard to stay open-minded, be a good listener, treat people with kindness, ask tough questions, respect differences, share information honestly, bring people together, and deliver results.

Thankfully, Chelan County has many terrific officials and staff. I look forward to adding my skills and experiences to this team to help move us forward.

I have some final duties

as your State Senator to complete in November and December, but I plan to continue to attend as many Commission meetings as possible. As part of my transition, I also have a series of "listening sessions" scheduled with county departments to review budget information, discuss goals, and collect feedback. I'm planning additional sessions as well to hear from county stakeholders and groups. Being a good listener is the most important part of serving in elected office. Listening has always helped me do my best to represent everyone.

On a personal note, serving as the Chelan County Commissioner for District 3 will be particularly meaningful because my father, Buell Hawkins, served two terms years ago in this same position. Sadly, my late mother was afflicted at an early age with Parkinson's and dementia. My dad made the

right decision to retire and support her, despite being in the prime of his Commissioner years. I am so grateful to have the opportunity to continue our family's service to you in this role. It will be a very special day when I move things into my dad's old office.

Elections can be a rigorous process, but the people speak loudest through their voting. I'm so grateful that you have chosen me to serve as your next County Commissioner. I will work very hard for you. Together we can accomplish great things.

Brad Hawkins currently serves as State Senator for District 12. He was recently elected Chelan County Commissioner for District 3, which includes north Wenatchee, Sunnyslope, Entiat, Chelan, Manson, and Stehekin. He takes office on January 1, 2025.

Makes Sense

Start setting up these initiatives now:

Email Updates: Create your January content calendar. Plan valuable information sharing, not just sales pitches. Have your winter tips ready to go.

Social Media Content: Draft your post-holiday posts now. Plan your January content while December is still busy.

Community Involvement: Register for January chamber events, plan your winter community activities, and set up your new year networking schedule.

Strategic Partnerships: Connect with complementary businesses now to plan January collaborations.

Your December Action Plan

Start these steps now:

1. Set up a system to track December customer information
2. Create your January follow-up materials
3. Plan your first-quarter specials or events
4. Draft your winter communication calendar
5. Set up your post-holiday customer outreach plan

Remember, the best time to plan your January strategy is before the

holiday rush hits full force.

Looking Forward

Use December's busy moments to fuel your January success. While serving holiday customers, gather information that will help you serve them better in the new year. Create systems now that will make January follow-up easier.

The post-holiday period can be a time of strong growth – if you plan for it.

Take time now, while setting up your holiday promotions, to also prepare your January strategy.

The relationships you plan to nurture will benefit your business all year long.

Are you developing creative ways to keep your business momentum going after the holidays?

Share your plans with us at the Wenatchee Business Journal by commenting on the online version of this article.

Your strategy might inspire other local businesses to start planning now for post-holiday success.

Amy Yaley is the COO of Ward Media and the co-owner of Apple Capital Marketing & Northwest Swag Works. She can be reached at amy@ward.media.

Subscribe to **WBJ** at just \$20 annually.

Unlock the latest in:

Education • Health • Real Estate • Marketing

Stay ahead of the curve with news that truly matters to your business. [ncwbusiness.com](https://www.ncwbusiness.com)

stocking stuffers

\$28 (\$58 value)

Includes All Day Pass, Chicken Strips or Burger, bag of chips, Pepsi and an Exclusive High Trek Chelan offer.

Stocking Stuffer 10-pack \$250 (\$280 value)

Includes 10 Stocking Stuffer passes
Limited quantities. Offers expire 12/31/2024 or while supplies last.
Stocking Stuffers not available online.

2025 Season Pass

Individual and Family & Friend Packages

25% OFF

Season passes are available ONLINE ONLY

To purchase season passes visit slidewaters.com

Cabanas and Pavilions are now on sale on slidewaters.com

To purchase Stocking Stuffer Admission tickets please visit;

Stan's Merry Mart in Wenatchee, Kelly's Ace Hardware in Chelan or mail your check with name, email and return address to; Slidewaters Christmas PO Box 1601 Chelan, WA 98816

Farm

Seller	Buyer	Sale Price	Street	Total Acres
TRIPLE S FARMS	M & H LEGACY FARMS LLC	\$850,000.00		1886.72
STEFFLER, GLENN J & SHAMRA M	BROOKINS, RICHARD & JANAE	\$760,000.00		859.74
LAKE, RONALD D	COTTER &, IDA GRACE	\$615,000.00	1229 PALISADES RD	10.7
VELAZQUEZ, ARNULFO	ROASARIO, DEMETRIO GARZON	\$500,000.00	4550 NW CASCADE AVE	4.9
ERNY &, COLLEEN	IRMER HOLDINGS LLC	\$372,000.00		624.75
ROGERS, ROBERT J & KAREN J	RATHORE &, RAJVEER SINGH & LAXMI KANWAR	\$370,000.00	4948 NW CASCADE AVE	4.3

\$507,999.00	2335 HERNDON DR	0.21	2001	962	864	3.00	2.00	384
\$497,500.00	2301 COMBINE ST	0.28	2006	1268	308	3.00	2.50	506
\$485,000.00	216 WILLOW VIEW DR	0.17	1999	1092	728	4.00	2.50	552
\$463,000.00	2350 SE MARLETTE RD	0.14	2021	1362		3	2	440
\$455,000.00	600 10TH ST NE	0.18	1990	1274		3.00	2.00	462
\$442,500.00	204 RIDGEMONT DR	0.17	1977	1086	1050	3.00	2.00	400
\$440,000.00	1610 N AURORA AVE	0.19	1960	1256	1256	4.00	2.50	384
\$440,000.00	1494 EASTMONT AVE #30	0	2003	1326		2.00	2.00	460
\$439,000.00	1042 CORUM CIR	0.1	2008	951	951	3.00	2.50	418
\$425,000.00	910 FAWN CIR	0.12	2009	1368		3.00	2.00	450
\$420,000.00	1110 3RD ST NE	0.34	2003	1404		3.00	2.00	
\$418,500.00	1980 6TH ST NE	0.23	1960	1120		3.00	1.00	672
\$405,000.00	1001 S PERRY AVE	1.38	1995	1296		3.00	2.00	
\$400,000.00	138 RIESLING DR	0.18	2022	3495		3	3.5	868
\$399,900.00	4009 40TH CIR NE	0.46	1995	1782		3.00	2.00	
\$388,000.00	523 NEWPORT PLZ	0.22	2006	1782		3.00	2.00	324
\$380,000.00	622 S LARCH PL	0.45	1993	1568		3.00	2.00	
\$362,000.00	99 N KENTUCKY AVE	0.28	1959	1118	518	3.00	2.00	
\$358,000.00	413 W FIRST ST	0.2	1999	2184		5.00	2.00	



CHRISTMAS IN WASHINGTON™

Presents

GEOFFREY CASTLE'S  **CELTIC CHRISTMAS**


VIP DINNER
AND
CONCERT PACKAGE



WENATCHEE CONVENTION CENTER
December 22 2024 ~ 3pm Matinee, 7pm Evening Performance
www.ChristmasInWashington.com

Real Estate

Top Properties Chelan County

October 2024

Buyer	Seller	Sale Price	Address	City	Living Area	Year Built	Bed-rooms	Bath-rooms	Garage Area	Pool	Fire-place
RAYSBROOK COMMUNITY PROPERTY TRUST	FAIRBANKS THOMAS & DEBRA	\$5,120,000.00	237 KEY LN	CHELAN	2514	2001	5	4	636	N	Y
BRANDYWINE LLC	VIECO PEDRO & MERRIE LIVING TRUST	\$2,625,000.00	13561 S LAKESHORE RD	CHELAN	1434	2020	3	2.25	0	N	Y
SE INC LLC	HALVERSON'S PROPERTIES	\$2,350,000.00	4182 US HWY 97A	WENATCHEE	4399	1997			0	N	N
BEERS KURT M & MARIANNE C	NANTUCKET LLC ETAL	\$1,990,000.00	314 PORCUPINE LN	CHELAN	1789	2015		3.25	0	N	Y
SALVADOR JORGE JR & MEGHAN E	GANN JAKE & DENISE	\$1,750,000.00	49 ADRIANA LN	WENATCHEE	5021	2021	4	4	857	Y	N
TRIPLE N PROPERTIES LLC	WESCOTT GARY & PAIGE RVCBL LVNG TRUST	\$1,535,000.00	1308 S LAKESHORE RD	CHELAN	1620	1989			0	N	N
SMITH BLAINE S & JACQUELINE J	DOUBLE P ORCHARD	\$1,500,000.00	1715 SLEEPY HOLLOW RD	WENATCHEE	1440	2004	2	1	864	N	N
LAUREN LLC	FREITAS PEDRO & ALINNE	\$1,470,000.00	11968 S LAKESHORE RD	CHELAN	1608	1965	4	2	0	N	Y
SELMER DEAN & TRACI	EIDER CONSTRUCTION LLC	\$1,325,000.00	378 SABIO WAY	CHELAN	3779	2022	3	4	873	N	Y
DAULT RICHARD ETAL	RIGGAN MAC A & CARMYN C	\$1,299,000.00	1915 BROADVIEW	WENATCHEE	2428	1999	5	3.25	776	N	Y
GARRETT RICHARD C & WENDY M	CRIDDLE ANTHONY W & KATIE J	\$1,285,000.00	12605 ICICLE LN	LEAVENWORTH	3360	1983	5	3	336	N	Y
WUTHERICH SPENCER & ERIKA	BOLL CHRISTOPHER D & HEATHER F	\$1,200,000.00	12954 S LAKESHORE RD	CHELAN	676	1953	2	1.5	0	N	Y
HADLEY NATHAN & ELIZABETH ETAL	CURRIER CHRISTOPHER D & JULIANA D	\$1,150,000.00	12115 TITUS PL	LEAVENWORTH	2194	2022	4	3	0	N	Y
JONES TIFFANI & PHILLIPS CHARLES	NIELSEN TAMMY D	\$1,100,000.00	UNASSIGNED	STEHEKIN	2568	2011	3	1.75	1008	N	Y
HAJEC MATTHEW A	ARTICLE V WASHINGTON CREDIT SHELTER TRUST	\$975,000.00	2071 BROADCREST CT	WENATCHEE	3546	2002		4	926	N	Y
RIGGAN MAC A & CARMYN C	GAVIN SUSIE J REVOCABLE LIVING TRT	\$950,000.00	1877 BROADWAY PL	WENATCHEE	2304	2007	4	3	516	N	N
LONGITUDE 120 LLC	AVELAR ANGEL	\$900,000.00	1110 WALLA WALLA AVE	WENATCHEE	1440	1951	3	2	784	N	N
PARKWAY LAKE CHELAN LLC	LAUREN LLC	\$900,000.00	1038 S LAKESHORE RD	CHELAN	1120	0			0	N	N
ITTERLEY DAVID E & SHANNEN	JOHNSON CHRISTINE M	\$895,000.00	638 KINGS CT	WENATCHEE	1857	2006	3	2	462	Y	Y
JONES MICHELLE & KENNETH D	FRAZIER DANIEL & RENAE	\$850,000.00	4784 CROWN LN	MALAGA	3336	1998	1	1	728	N	Y
DVO EXPRESS WASH LLC	WASH CENTRAL NORTH LLC	\$850,000.00	701 N MISSION ST	WENATCHEE	3169	2008			0	N	N
JONES MICHELLE & KENNETH D	FRAZIER DANIEL & RENAE	\$850,000.00	4784 CROWN LN	MALAGA	3336	1998	1	2	728	N	Y
SANCHEZ LETICIA & PORTILLO PACHECO AGUSTIN ETAL	ANTONIOS LANDSCAPING & ROCK WALLS INC	\$850,000.00	56 ABE LN	MANSON	0	0			0	N	N
LOOFBURROW DIANE & DAVE	STONE RONALD & TAMMY S	\$850,000.00	879 SAGE CREST DR	WENATCHEE	2084	2016	3	2.25	1204	N	Y
VALAAS LAURA A	STEVENS SAM & KAY JR	\$755,000.00	1547 ELMWOOD ST	WENATCHEE	3010	1987	4	2.5	384	N	Y
MILLER SHELBY M & NATHAN S	KAP HAUS LLC	\$735,000.00	10620 SKI HILL DR	LEAVENWORTH	1926	1980	2	1.5	480	N	N
EQUITY TRUST CO CUSTODIAN INC	PETERSON MARK W & KRISTEN N	\$732,500.00	5905 LARSON ST	CASHMERE	3560	2018	1	1.5	0	N	N
RUEBEL CHASE W & SARAH J	HAYES BEVERLY A HAYES REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST	\$719,000.00	18750 BEAVER VALLEY RD	PLAIN	1080	1993	2	1	0	N	Y
WILSON ANDREW M & KERRY K	BECKLEY RANDY W & TERRI L	\$715,000.00	1750 WARM SPRINGS DR	WENATCHEE	2248	1997	3	2	704	N	N
BARRY GEOFFREY G & CELESTE Y	CARLSON ROGER D	\$700,000.00	237 LILLY LN	WENATCHEE	2330	2010	3	3	940	N	N
HAMILTON MICHAEL A & DONNA J	HOLMES WADE C & EILEEN M FIELD	\$699,500.00	112 CHASE AVE	CASHMERE	2488	1930	4	2.75	432	N	Y
BENTLEY VINCENT ETAL	ITTERLEY DAVID E & SHANNEN L	\$699,000.00	3209 BURCH MOUNTAIN RD	WENATCHEE	2120	1959	4	1.5	0	N	Y
CARLSON ROGER D & HELGELAND KATHERINE	MARKS LINDA R	\$698,500.00	102 VIEW RIDGE CIR	WENATCHEE	1850	2003	3	2	552	N	Y
BURNETT JOSEPH W & TODD MELISSA A	HERSEL BRADLEY & LESLIE	\$679,000.00	2254 STEPHANIE BROOKE	WENATCHEE	2370	1996	4	1	482	N	N
JOANIS DAMON & JENNIFER	ROWE RUTH L	\$675,000.00	2528 KINNIKINNICK DR	LAKE WENATCHEE	1456	1999	2	2	0	N	N
BECKLEY RANDY W & TERRI L	MAGGS-QUALLS SUSAN	\$675,000.00	1710 CENTRAL AVE	WENATCHEE	2011	2016	3	2	630	N	Y
BEALL NANCY A	STAHLER CHRISTOPHER III	\$670,000.00	924 SKYLINE PL	WENATCHEE	2207	1974	5	3	800	N	Y
FALCON JOY & HONORATO JR	UNDERWOOD GREGORY J & NICOLE M	\$650,000.00	21515 CAMP 12 RD	PLAIN	1239	2004	3	1.5	0	N	N
LEWALLEN MOLLEE & CHASE	ROBERTS MICHELLE A & PETER J	\$650,000.00	3020 RIVERVIEW LN	MALAGA	1553	2021	3	2.5	528	N	N
KOGER CURTIS J & MICHELE M	DAVIS CHRIS & ASHLEE	\$649,950.00	313 W PETERS ST	WENATCHEE	2096	1946	2	1.75	624	N	N
TRIVELLI KRISTEN ETAL	SOMMERFIELD KAYLA B	\$640,000.00	910 WESTMORLAND DR	WENATCHEE	1304	1967	4	2.5	560	Y	Y
VOTH BRIAN K & CHRISTINA A	STACY MATTHEW & HEATHER	\$637,900.00	182 FOX RUN	WENATCHEE	2209	2000	3	2.5	300	N	Y
ARKWRIGHT ANTHONY	PAYNE DONNA	\$627,500.00	1435 WASHINGTON ST	WENATCHEE	1850	1955	4	2.25	500	N	Y
CAMPFIELD DEREK & ABIGAIL	WATERHOUSE PHYLLIS ETAL	\$626,000.00	1627 FULLER ST	WENATCHEE	3086	2008	3	2.5	624	N	N
WILSON BRIAN & RYAN AUDREY ETAL	FERGUSON CAROL A	\$626,000.00	912 W PARKVIEW RD	CHELAN	1961	1967	4	2.5	440	Y	Y
AVERY CHAD I & RACHEL B	TURNBULL MATTHEW W	\$625,000.00	248 BENTON ST	LEAVENWORTH	1320	1912	3	1.75	260	N	Y
MINGO CORY & WENDI	VOTH BRIAN K & CHRISTINA A	\$615,500.00	1831 GARNET PL	WENATCHEE	1242	1978		1.75	0	Y	Y
CLIVE KEVIN & JENNIFER	ROSE HAHN LORNA	\$610,000.00	2212 ASHLEY BROOKE	WENATCHEE	2004	1999	4	2.5	936	N	N
MUNOZ MONICA	REYES DELL M	\$610,000.00	427 S 3RD ST	CHELAN	2320	1910	6	5.75	0	N	N
MC KEE STUART & TAMARA	SMITH KEVIN & LUGENE	\$605,000.00	2326 KINNIKINNICK DR	LAKE WENATCHEE	1096	1974	2	1	0	N	Y
ENGLISH RICHARD C & KLENKE PHILLIP V	NITCHALS LORI M	\$600,000.00	3635 BURCHVALE RD	WENATCHEE	1934	1996	3	2	532	N	Y
CRAWFORD COLBY	TRUCANO NANCY & DONALD P SCHMIDT	\$600,000.00	1595 S MILLER ST	WENATCHEE	1502	1951	3	2	720	Y	Y
MARTINEZ VERA GUADALUPE & BRISENO ALVARADO VICTOR	BOURGEOIS BRIAN E & SARA J NORRIS	\$600,000.00	2013 RAINBOW LN	WENATCHEE	1747	1993	3	1.75	528	N	N
LAKE LEONARD L & MARIAN	DE FRANCISCO SUSAN S	\$568,000.00	1505 SENECA PL	WENATCHEE	1763	2004	3	2	726	N	Y
PITTSINGER JORDAN & ALLISON	CHARRIER KEITH ETAL	\$550,000.00	10679 ENTIAT RIVER RD	ENTIAT	1326	1946	4	1	660	N	N
ARLIDGE TOMAS H & NANTHAM RHEMA C	DU BRUILLE JUSTIN	\$550,000.00	1831 AGATE PL	WENATCHEE	1596	1993	3	3	0	N	N
GILL ROBERT L JR & MERIDITH R	PHEASANT HILL RENTALS LLC	\$520,900.00	218 SALMON DR	WENATCHEE	1769	2022	3	1.75	460	N	Y
COMPSTON STEPHANIE	PEARSALL CHARLES	\$520,000.00	3012 KONA ST	MALAGA	1506	1992	3	1.75	0	N	N
CHELAN VALLEY ORCHARDS LLC	CHELAN VIEW ORCHARD LLC	\$515,000.00	UNASSIGNED	MANSON	0	0			0	N	N
HALVERSON DUANE & CHERYL	COLLINS JOE M	\$505,000.00	937 SUNRISE DR	MANSON	1462	2023			340	N	N
GREEN PATRICK & REBECCA ETAL	GREENER PROPERTIES LLC	\$500,000.00	3955 EELS RD	CASHMERE	1536	1910	4	2	324	N	N
HENDRICKSON LEO C	DOWNNS KATIE A	\$500,000.00	616 NANCY LN	CHELAN	1217	1987	3	1	0	N	N
HOLLIMON HEATHER M	PERRY DIANE E & ROGER M	\$500,000.00	18846 ALPINE ACRES RD	PLAIN	960	1996	2	1	0	N	Y
PFEIFFER WILLIAM & LIZANNE	A HOME DOCTOR INC	\$498,827.00	33 ARLINGTON PL	MALAGA	1880	2024	4	2	484	N	N
BAINE CAMERON D & BRINDA J	WILDERNESS JOHN F & TAWNYA F	\$496,200.00	3608 WAREHOUSE RD	MONITOR	2970	1999			0	N	N
DIAZ GUILLEN MARIA D	ORCHARD MELANIE	\$469,900.00	1650 KAYLA WAY	WENATCHEE	1605	2007	4	2.5	454	N	N
KAL CAT RENTALS LLC	KAMPHAUS REECE	\$460,000.00	125 WELLS AVE	MANSON	1120	1944	2		672	N	Y

Labor Area Reports

Boeing strike drives WA job losses in October

L&I announces 3.8% increase in Washington Workers' Compensation Rates for 2025

Ward Media | Wenatchee Business Journal

Washington state's economy shed 35,900 jobs in October, primarily due to a major strike by Boeing machinists, while the unemployment rate slightly decreased to 4.7%, state officials reported Wednesday.

The substantial job losses were largely attributed to the aerospace sector, which saw a reduction of 31,000 jobs during the month.

The drop marked an unusual shift from recent trends of minimal employment changes.

"October shows an unusually high drop in jobs, unlike the relatively small changes over the past several months," said Anneliese Vance-Sherman, chief labor economist for the Employment Security Department. "This is

largely a reflection of the now-resolved strike by Boeing machinists."

Despite the significant job losses, several sectors showed growth. Government employment increased by 2,400 positions, while education and health services added 1,800 jobs, with notable gains in ambulatory health care services.

The leisure and hospitality sector experienced the second-largest decline, losing 5,400 jobs.

Other services (-1,500), transportation and warehousing (-1,200), and construction (-800) also reported losses.

The state's labor force contracted by 6,924 workers to 3,995,931 in October. The number of unemployed individuals decreased from 190,150 to 187,951.

Year-over-year data showed mixed results, with Washington gaining a net 9,100 jobs since October 2023. While public sector employment grew by 4.1% (24,300 jobs), private sector employment declined by 0.51% (15,200 jobs).

The national unemployment rate remained steady at 4.1% in October, compared to Washington's 4.7%.

Both figures represent increases from October 2023, when unemployment rates stood at 3.8% for both the state and nation.

Employment Security paid unemployment benefits to 57,057 people in October, an increase of 3,143 from September, with manufacturing and construction sectors contributing significantly to the rise in claims.

Ward Media | Wenatchee Business Journal

Washington state employers and workers will see their workers' compensation insurance premiums rise by an average of 3.8% in 2025, the state Department of Labor & Industries (L&I) announced.

The increase, which takes effect January 1, translates to approximately one dollar per week more for each full-time position, with workers continuing to shoulder about a quarter of the premium costs.

"This modest change helps us cover the higher cost of crucial wage and medical benefits for workers, while keeping rates steady and predictable," said L&I Director Joel Sacks.

He added that the increase would help ensure the "financial health

and dependability" of the state's workers' compensation system.

The rate adjustment follows public hearings held in October, including a hybrid session at L&I headquarters in Tumwater and an in-person meeting in Spokane, where business and labor representatives provided testimony.

Unlike most states that calculate premiums as a percentage of payroll, Washington uses an hourly rate system.

Individual industry rates may vary from the 3.8% average based on recent claims history.

To minimize the impact of the increase, L&I plans to draw from its workers' compensation contingency reserve to offset the gap between premium revenue and expected 2025

claims and expenses.

The agency maintains this reserve to help stabilize rates and manage costs.

The department cited several factors in determining the new rates, including anticipated benefits costs, wage and benefit inflation, operational expenses, investment income, and other financial indicators.

L&I has implemented various cost-control measures, including workplace injury prevention programs, early intervention in claims processing, and employer incentives for returning injured workers to their jobs.

The agency provides detailed information about the 2025 rates on its website at www.Lni.wa.gov/Rates.

Buyer	Seller	Sale Price	Address	City	Living Area	Year Built	Bed-rooms	Bath-rooms	Garage Area	Pool	Fire-place
WERNER TORE & KERA	A HOME DOCTOR INC	\$459,676.00	41 ARLINGTON PL	MALAGA	0	0			0	N	N
MEDINA VICTOR & NYDIA	FIELDS EDDIE E	\$450,000.00	302 COTTAGE AVE	CASHMERE	1503	1912	4	1	973	N	Y
VEDDERS KENNETH D & KRISTIAN J	JORDAN WILLIAM L	\$450,000.00	1558 VIRGINIA WAY	WENATCHEE	1188	2005	3	1.75	440	N	N
SHAMLEY ROBERT C & PATRICIA J	WOLGAMUTH LAURA J REV LIV TRT	\$449,900.00	300 S ELLIOTT AVE	WENATCHEE	1389	0			0	N	N
BASTIDAS ESTEBAN & FLORES GABRIELLA	LEWALLEN MOLLEE R & CHASE	\$445,000.00	1852 METHOW ST	WENATCHEE	1680	1979			0	N	N
COX JEREMY & COE CATHERINE	SHIMP RYAN M	\$444,120.00	132 S EMERSON AVE	WENATCHEE	1228	1916	3	2.5	0	N	Y
OWEN JAMES R	BRATRUDE BRUCE E & CHATHERINE A	\$440,000.00	1027 CHERRY ST	WENATCHEE	836	1930	2	1	576	N	N
ELDER MARTI	ROMINE EDNA I	\$437,000.00	1257 MARBLE ST	WENATCHEE	1893	2005			528	N	N
NIKISHIN DMITRIY A & HERRERA BAZAN CARMEN	ABEL NICHOLAS T	\$435,000.00	3437 CASANDRA DR	WENATCHEE	1512	2003			0	N	N
CASTILLO VENEGAS HORACIO & ANAHI HERNANDEZ CASANDRA	VELAZQUEZ ERNESTO	\$430,000.00	1050 WESTWOOD AVE	WENATCHEE	1303	1952	4	2	364	N	N
SOLORIO KRISTA & SOLORIO MALDONADO FRANCISCO	FRAZIER JAMES	\$430,000.00	434 PEARL ST	WENATCHEE	1076	1949	2	1	308	N	Y
DRAKE BENJAMIN & GOVEIA ADDISON	SHILLEY CATHERINE A	\$425,000.00	214 PEARL ST	WENATCHEE	1178	1953	2	1.5	280	N	N
SMUIN SCOTT & HESS EMMA	WEBER KATHERINE & JOSHUA	\$422,000.00	516 OKANOGAN AVE	WENATCHEE	1362	1925	2	1	360	N	Y
HECK NATHAN & KARA	HOSEY KRISTEN N	\$420,000.00	112 N DELAWARE AVE	WENATCHEE	1360	1910	2	1	192	N	Y
ABBARNO LUCIANO V ETAL	BAINE CAMERON D ETAL	\$412,000.00	615 PALOUSE ST	WENATCHEE	1327	1928	3	1.5	187	N	Y
DROUGAS MICHAELA ETAL	ALBERT SUSAN C REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST	\$400,000.00	122 PARKHILL ST	CASHMERE	1003	1910	3	1	400	N	N
MARTINEZ BERMEJO GIOVANNI ETAL	LENICKA MARK A	\$399,900.00	1007 HARVARD AVE	WENATCHEE	810	1930	2	1	312	N	Y
CHURCH STEVEN & DENISE LIVING TRUST	CHURCH STEVEN & DENISE	\$398,478.00	1601 MAIDEN LN	WENATCHEE	1409	0			0	N	N
WARD CLAIRE S & COLTON K	RICHES JESSICA & DOCKINS JEREMY	\$390,500.00	1036 1ST ST	WENATCHEE	1546	1947	3	1.5	436	N	Y
OBORNE SHAWN ETAL	FLOROM SARA G	\$385,000.00	423 S MILLER ST	WENATCHEE	1053	1970	3	1	0	N	Y
ROEDER KATHRYN & BRACKETT CHRISTOPHER	GARRISON JOEL & JO LYNN	\$380,000.00	15221 CEDAR BRAE RD	LAKE WENATCHEE	850	1935	1	1	0	N	Y
FROST DARIN C ETAL	MILLS JANET	\$375,000.00	1310 CASTLEROCK AVE	WENATCHEE	1350	0			0	N	N
ROMERO RENATO & EVA	SIKES KAY	\$375,000.00	324 E NIXON AVE	CHELAN	1276	1935	2	.75	0	N	N
BRACK JOSHUA & BRIGGS BRACK AMANDA	BRIGGS JONATHON W & DEBORAH J	\$370,000.00	408 ERIKA LN	WENATCHEE	1891	2016	3	2	440	N	Y
CUBINE CHARLES & KATHRYN E	LAKEY LLC	\$356,850.00	208 COTTAGE AVE	CASHMERE	2419	1908			0	N	N
CHAVEZ GUTIERREZ DULCE K & CHAVEZ VILLA ISIDRO	WILLIAMS LEEMAN	\$355,000.00	1948 HOWE ST	ENTIAT	1111	1963	3	1.5	0	N	N
CLASSIC CAR ADDICTION LLC	FERGUSON CAROL A	\$350,000.00	914 W PARKVIEW RD	CHELAN	0	0			0	N	N

Ready for a New Address?

Your Search Starts Here:

REALTOR® / BROKER

Client Focused for Real Results!

CALL / TEXT

509.670.8159

KRISTEN@CBCASCADE.COM

WWW.BUYSELLBUILDWITHKRISTEN.COM

REAL RESULTS BY KRISTEN | FACEBOOK

TOP VOLUME PRODUCER

2021, 2022 & 2023

Real Estate

U.S. Home sales rose 3.4% in October, first yearly gain since July 2021

Ward Media | Wenatchee Business Journal

Existing home sales rose 3.4% in October, marking the first year-over-year increase since July 2021, according to the National Association of Realtors (NAR). Sales climbed to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 3.96 million units, up from September's figures and representing a 2.9% increase from October 2023.

The upturn was observed across all four major U.S. regions, though the Northeast showed no year-over-year change. The median existing home price reached \$407,200, continuing a 16-month streak of year-over-year gains with a 4.0% increase from October 2023. NAR Chief Economist Lawrence Yun expressed cautious optimism about the market's direction. "The worst of the downturn in home sales could be over, with increasing

inventory leading to more transactions," Yun said. "Additional job gains and continued economic growth appear assured, resulting in growing housing demand." Housing inventory showed modest growth, with 1.37 million units available at October's end, representing a 0.7% increase from September and a 19.1% rise from the previous year. This translates to a 4.2-month supply at the current sales pace, a slight improvement from last year's 3.6-month supply.

The market continues to present challenges for first-time buyers, who comprised 27% of October sales. This figure, while slightly higher than September's 26%, remains historically low. The NAR's 2024 Profile of Home Buyers and Sellers recently recorded the lowest-ever annual share of first-time buyers at 24%.

Regional variations

The October housing market showed improvement across all regions, with each area posting monthly gains and three regions demonstrating year-over-year increases. The Northeast maintained stable annual sales while experiencing the highest regional price appreciation. The West led annual sales growth, while the South, despite having the largest sales volume, recorded the most modest price increases.

Northeast
Existing home sales in the Northeast rose 2.2% from September to an annual rate of 470,000 in October, matching the sales volume from October 2023. The median price reached \$472,900, reflecting a 7.6% increase from the previous year, marking the strongest regional price appreciation.

Midwest
In the Midwest, existing home sales advanced 6.7% from September to an annual rate of 950,000 in October, up 1.1% from the prior year.

The median price stood at \$305,300, representing a 7.2% increase from October 2023, indicating robust price growth despite maintaining the lowest regional median price.

South
The South, maintaining its position as the highest-volume region, saw existing home sales increase 2.9% from September to an annual rate of 1.77 million in October, up 2.3% from one year before. The median price reached \$361,200, showing a modest 0.9% gain from October 2023, the smallest percentage increase among all regions.

West
In the West, existing home sales increased 1.3% from September to an annual rate of 770,000 in October, marking an 8.5% gain from the previous year - the strongest annual growth among all regions. The median price reached \$627,700, up 4.4% from October 2023, maintaining its position as the most expensive regional market.



NORTHWEST SWAG WORKS
APPAREL & PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS

Prepare your brand for the Holidays

www.northwestswag.com • 509-731-3624

NORTH CASCADES
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING, Inc.
509-784-4822
www.northcascadesheating.net

"The Professionals"

Icicle Ridge
FORESTRY

For Your Healthy Forest
Experienced | Professional | Honest

SERVICES

- Forestry & Logging
- Firewood
- Timberland purchasing & sales

Doug & Darrell Parton
OWNERS

(509) 433-1891
DOUG@ICICLERIDGEFORESTRY.COM
ICICLERIDGEFORESTRY.COM

WESTERN RANCH BUILDINGS LLC
STEEL & POST FRAME BUILDING CONTRACTORS
1976 NFBA

Your building can be customized just the way you want!

Sold and erected by an independent, locally owned builder

509-884-0555
www.westernbuildings.com

1107 Walla Walla Avenue
Wenatchee, WA 98801

RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL • AGRICULTURAL

Monica Lough

Continued from page 6

laborative and supportive. I believe in empowering my team by giving them the autonomy to make decisions and take ownership of their work, while always being available as a resource and guide. I place a strong emphasis on communication and transparency, ensuring that my team understands both the strategic goals and the reasons behind the decisions we make. I also strive to lead by example, showing that I value continuous learning and adaptability. My goal is to create an environment where people feel motivated, respected, and encouraged to contribute their best ideas.

How do you balance your professional responsibilities with your personal life?

Balancing professional responsibilities with personal life has always been a priority for me, but it's not without its challenges, especially in a demanding field like finance. I've found that setting clear boundaries between work and personal time is essential. I try to stay organized and focused during work hours, so I can be fully present for my family, friends, and personal interests when the workday ends. This also means being disciplined about taking time for myself to recharge, whether that's through exercise, hiking, horseback riding, or simply unplugging for a bit. It's about making sure I give myself permission to step away when needed.

What strategies or support systems have you found most helpful?

Having a strong support system is crucial. I'm fortunate to have both personal and professional networks that help me manage the demands of my career. At work, I've learned to delegate tasks effectively and trust my

team, which lightens the load and ensures things run smoothly even when I'm not available. At home, I rely on the support of my family and friends, who understand the pressures of my role and provide encouragement. Additionally, I've found that prioritizing self-care and maintaining a consistent routine are key strategies that help me stay balanced and prevent burnout.

What advice would you give young women aspiring to enter your field?

My advice to young women entering the field of accounting and finance is to believe in your capabilities and never underestimate the value you bring to the table. The path to success isn't always straightforward, but persistence, continuous learning, and building strong relationships will carry you through. Don't be afraid to seek out mentors and ask questions – they can be invaluable resources in guiding your career. Additionally, develop a strong foundation in the technical aspects of finance, but also recognize the importance of soft skills like communication and leadership, which are essential as you progress in your career.

What do you wish someone had told you when you were starting?

I wish someone had told me early on that it's okay to make mistakes and that growth often comes from those challenging moments. In the beginning, I felt a lot of pressure to be perfect, but over time, I've learned that mistakes are part of the learning process.

I also wish I had known the importance of advocating for myself – whether that's in seeking new opportunities, promotions, or professional development. Don't wait for things to come to you; take ownership of your career and be proactive in shaping your path.

How has mentorship played a role in your career as a mentee or mentor?

Mentorship has been instrumental in shaping my career, both as a mentee and as a mentor. One pivotal moment came during my time at Wenatchee Valley College, when my instructor, Mrs. Chan-Nui, encouraged me to continue my education. Her belief in my potential pushed me to pursue opportunities I might not have otherwise considered. That mentorship provided me with the confidence and clarity I needed to keep moving forward in my career, and I'm incredibly grateful for the guidance she gave me at such a crucial time in my development.

How do you approach mentoring others in your current position?

As a mentor now, I strive to offer the same support and encouragement that I received. I believe that mentoring is about listening and understanding the unique goals and challenges of each individual, and then helping them to identify pathways for growth. In my current role, I aim to provide guidance not only in technical skills, but also in building confidence and navigating the complexities of career advancement. My goal is to create an environment where my team feels empowered to take on new challenges and develop their leadership potential.

What strategies have you found most effective for building and maintaining professional networks?

One of the most effective strategies I've found for building a strong professional network is to be genuinely interested in others and their work.

Taking the time to build relationships based on mutual respect and

shared goals is key. I've also learned the importance of consistency – regularly following up with contacts and offering help or insights when possible. Attending industry events, joining professional organizations, and staying involved in community initiatives have also played a big part in expanding my network. Ultimately, it's about creating connections that are meaningful and mutually beneficial.

How has networking changed with the rise of social media and digital platforms?

Networking has changed significantly with the rise of social media and digital platforms, making it easier to connect with a much broader audience.

Platforms like LinkedIn have allowed me to maintain relationships and build new ones across geographical boundaries. It's now possible to stay engaged with peers, colleagues, and industry experts on a more continuous basis, which has been invaluable. However, while digital platforms are a great tool for expanding networks, I still believe in the value of face-to-face interactions. Balancing both online and in-person networking is key to fostering deeper, long-lasting professional relationships.

In your experience, what key skills or qualities have contributed most to your success?

Several key skills and qualities have contributed to my success, but I'd say the most important ones are adaptability, communication, and a strong analytical mindset. In finance, the ability to adapt to changing regulations, economic conditions, and business needs has been crucial.

Effective communication is also essential, not just for explaining complex financial information

but for building strong relationships with colleagues, clients, boards, and my team. Finally, having a sharp analytical mindset has allowed me to approach challenges with a solution-oriented perspective, identifying key opportunities for growth and improvement.

How do you continue to develop these skills?

I continue to develop these skills by staying committed to lifelong learning. I regularly attend industry seminars, workshops, and professional development courses to stay up-to-date on the latest financial trends and regulatory changes. Additionally, I try to step outside of my comfort zone by taking on new challenges or responsibilities that require me to stretch my skill set and think creatively.

How do you stay innovative and adapt to changes in your industry?

Staying innovative and adapting to changes in the financial industry requires a combination of continuous learning, embracing new technologies, and remaining open to fresh ideas. I make it a priority to stay informed about emerging trends in finance, technology, and economic policies that could impact our operations. By attending conferences, engaging with professional networks, and reading industry publications, I'm able to anticipate changes and prepare for them proactively.

Share an example of how you've successfully navigated a major industry shift.

One example of navigating a major industry shift was the rapid adoption of digital financial tools and cloud-based platforms.

A few years ago, as the industry began transitioning to more digital and automated solutions,

we faced the challenge of modernizing our financial systems. As we functionally consolidated and formed the Chelan Douglas Regional Port Authority, we reviewed all our accounting processes and policies in order to transition into an updated system, ultimately improving efficiency and positioning us to meet future challenges with greater agility.

What initiatives or changes would you like to see to promote gender equality in the business world?

To promote gender equality in the business world, I would like to see more organizations implement structured mentorship and sponsorship programs specifically for women.

These initiatives can help women navigate their careers more effectively and provide them with the guidance and support needed to reach leadership positions. Additionally, I believe in the importance of transparent hiring and promotion practices, ensuring that women have equal access to opportunities.

Companies should also invest in flexible work policies that support work-life balance, making it easier for women to thrive both professionally and personally.

How do you personally contribute to advancing these initiatives?

Personally, I advocate for gender equality within my organization by promoting inclusive policies and practices and supporting women's advancement.

Additionally, I make a conscious effort to highlight the achievements of my female colleagues, ensuring their contributions are recognized and celebrated.

By fostering a supportive environment, I hope to inspire others to join in the effort toward gender equality in our industry.

GROW your business with our trusted digital marketing strategies tailored for your success.

Using Digital Technologies

CONTENT marketing

SOCIAL MEDIA marketing

E-MAIL marketing

SEO

CAMPAIGN marketing

APPLE CAPITAL Marketing

a division of **WARD MEDIA**

TAKE the next step
509-731-4932

Leavenworth Community Workspace: supporting a community and its visitors

Since 2015, the Leavenworth Community Workspace has slowly fostered a community of local members while also catering to visitors.

By **TAYLOR CALDWELL** | Ward Media Staff Reporter

“Small town co-working spaces I think are hard to find, or maybe hard to be sustainable. But maybe the reason this one is successful is because it’s just the right size. There’s enough people here that will either work remotely or can afford to have an office space,” said founder Matt Bowen.

The casual space operates on an automated system, allowing members and day pass users to sign up online with 24/7 access.

Members can choose between full-time access to the common areas, or opt for a designated desk in a semi-private workspace.

Leavenworth Commu-

nity Workspace also offers flexibility from one-time to semi-frequent use, offering a day pass, a 10-visit punch card, and a three-tiers of drop-ins per month: five, ten, or fifteen.

The idea for the workspace originated when Bowen had a personal need for a workspace free of distractions. At the time, he was doing marketing for Icicle Brewing Company.

“I was at a computer mostly, and working down at the bar, and it’s a little difficult to be creative at a bar... I really couldn’t work from home either. It was the same sort of distraction,” said Bowen.

Bowen had a few friends

with a similar dilemma, which sparked the idea of renting an office to share with each other.

However, they couldn’t find an affordable space for everyone to commit to. When he shared his experience with a friend working in Seattle, she told him about coworking spaces in the city.

Bowen found the space downtown, and started building from the ground up. He bought IKEA furniture, built desks, and eventually installed conference rooms.

“People seem thankful for it. I definitely have members who say they don’t know what they would do if this wasn’t here,” said Bowen.



TAYLOR CALDWELL / WARD MEDIA

The space offers two conference rooms for use, equipped with video conferencing tools.

For many years, the space survived on members alone.

However, during and after the pandemic, Bowen started to see a drop in members due to job loss, companies cutting costs, or requiring employees to return to the office. At that time, Bowen updated the space to allow for drop-ins.

Now, the workspace sees about eight to ten visitors a month from long-term visitors and those extending their weekends.

“It slowly just started growing like you would hope, it’s never taken off... I’ve always had another full time job. I’ve always called this more my community service,” said Bowen.

Over the past ten years,

Bowen’s responsibilities have grown elsewhere, running a business as a contractor and raising two young children.

While he plans to continue to keep the space running for its members, he’s hoping to pass the baton onto someone new.

“I still would love to see

a new energy injected into the space. I think a new ownership, or something would be key, especially if you were able to start hosting more events and stuff down here,” said Bowen.

Taylor Caldwell:
509-433-7276 or
taylor@ward.media

Quick Read

Since 2015, Matt Bowen has operated the Leavenworth Community Workspace, offering flexible coworking options for both locals and visitors. What began as his personal solution for a distraction-free workspace has grown into an automated facility with various membership plans, serving about 8-10 visitors monthly alongside regular members. After running it as a “community service” for a decade, Bowen now seeks new ownership to bring fresh energy to the space.



TAYLOR CALDWELL / WARD MEDIA

Members can opt for their own desk, which sits behind semiprivate paneling.

KEEPING OUR NEIGHBORS WARM IN THE WINTER AND COOL IN THE SUMMER SINCE 1989

ascade
Mechanical
Heating & Air Conditioning

Residential & Commercial
HVAC • Air Duct Cleaning
Installation • Repair • 24/7
Emergency Services • Free
Estimates • Financing &
Maintenance Programs

Serving Chelan • Brewster • Cashmere • Omak • Methow Valley
902 E. Woodin Avenue • Chelan | 800-682-5923 | www.cascademechanical.com

CSED Week

Continued from page 2

STEM Network and regional partners are excited to announce two major community events.

The Code Green: Tech Recycle & Reuse Event, presented by NCW Tech Alliance, invites community members to contribute to environmental sustainability. Participants will remove hard drives from outdated computers, preparing them for reuse in donated devices.

This event takes place on December 10, from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM, at 1000 Bolling Street NE, Moses Lake. By reusing technology, we not only reduce waste but also provide valuable resources to those in need.

The second event, San-

ta’s Little Computer Science Workshop, is scheduled for December 14, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM at Pybus Market. Sponsored by the Apple STEM Network, Wenatchee Valley Museum & Cultural Center, NCW Libraries, North Central Educational Service District, NCW Tech Alliance, and Microsoft, this workshop offers hands-on computer science activities for all ages.

Participants can explore coding, AI prompt engineering, and create electric circuit Christmas cards, learning about the integral role of technology in our lives.

Holly Bringman, Director for the Apple STEM Network shared their enthusiasm for CS education week. “[We’re] thrilled to bring together students, families, and community

members to celebrate the possibilities of computer science, we’re inspiring the next generation of tech innovators while creating a shared appreciation for the impact of technology. By fostering these skills, we are preparing our youth for a future where digital literacy is as fundamental as reading and math.”

These initiatives not only enhance individual capabilities but also strengthen our region’s economic resilience and competitiveness. Businesses, educators and community members are invited to support these efforts, ensuring that our students are well-equipped for the digital challenges and opportunities ahead. For more details on these events and to get involved, please visit www.apple-stemnetwork.org.

Amazon opens new delivery station in NCW

Amazon has opened a new delivery station in the Wenatchee area, expanding the e-commerce company's logistics network in North Central Washington.

Ward Media | Wenatchee Business Journal

Amazon has opened a new delivery station in the Wenatchee area, expanding the e-commerce company's logistics network in North Central Washington.

The delivery station is expected to create hundreds of local jobs offering competitive wages and comprehensive benefits packages, including health, vision, and dental insurance.

"We are thrilled to open this new delivery station in Wenatchee, which will enhance the speed and reliability of our services for customers across the region while creating valuable job opportunities," said Easton Craft,

Manager of Economic Development Policy at Amazon.

"Our team is committed to being an engaged partner in the Wenatchee Valley, working with local organizations to ensure that the benefits of this facility extend well beyond delivery efficiency and into long-term economic growth for the community."

Local legislators have welcomed the development's impact on regional employment and economic growth.

State Senator Brad Hawkins (District 12) helped facilitate Amazon's expansion into the area.

"I'm very excited that Amazon selected the

Wenatchee Valley for its next delivery station," Hawkins said.

"This facility will put a lot of people to work, improve deliveries to local businesses and families, and help grow and diversify our regional economy. As our State Senator, I was excited to connect with the Amazon team early on about this opportunity, and I thank the Regional Port, Douglas County Commissioners, and others for helping to make this happen. This is an awesome step forward for our region."

Senator Shelly Short of the 7th Legislative District spoke about the facility's workforce development plans.

"Amazon's delivery station in Wenatchee is more than an economic boost; it's an investment in our local talent," Short said.

"I commend Amazon for offering job opportunities that come with educational benefits, which provide a sustainable way for employees to grow and thrive. This facility will support not only Wenatchee but also nearby communities by fostering career advancement and strengthening our regional workforce."

The opening adds to Amazon's investment in



COURTESY OF AMAZON
An Amazon Prime delivery van outside a home reflects the company's expansion into the Wenatchee Valley with its new delivery station, which aims to enhance service across North Central Washington.

Washington state's economic infrastructure, with the company stating the facility will enhance delivery speeds while creating economic opportunities for the Wenatchee Valley region.

NCW Tech Alliance

Continued from page 8

ing students with health-care experiences.

"Our youth need us more than ever, and an organization such as this can change their lives in a profound way," Nordberg said during her acceptance speech.

University of Washington graduate student Nathan Holterhoff received the STEM College Inno-

vator of the Year Award for his research on sensor networks and energy efficiency. "I want to thank all of the past educators who have inspired me. I wouldn't be here without them," Holterhoff said.

"This year's awardees represent the incredible talent and innovation coming out of North Central Washington, inspiring and shaping a brighter future for all of us," said David Mabee, Marketing Director of

NCW Tech Alliance.

The event was supported by several major sponsors, including the Chelan Douglas Regional Port Authority, Microsoft, Native Network, Apple STEM Network, and Confluence Health.

NCW Tech Alliance, established in 1999, operates as a 501(c)3 organization focused on supporting entrepreneurs, STEM education, and technology adoption in North Central Washington.



Think you can't dream big?

Yes, you can.

You want a bigger home. We're here to help make it happen. Because at Washington Trust Bank, we believe you can do anything you set your mind to.

Visit [watrust.com](https://www.watrust.com) to get started.



Washington Trust Bank
Member FDIC

