

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS



**Building
Relationships**

**Driving
Collaboration**

**Championing
Opportunity**

**In the Greater
Spokane Valley**

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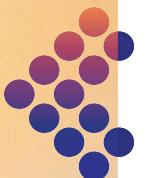
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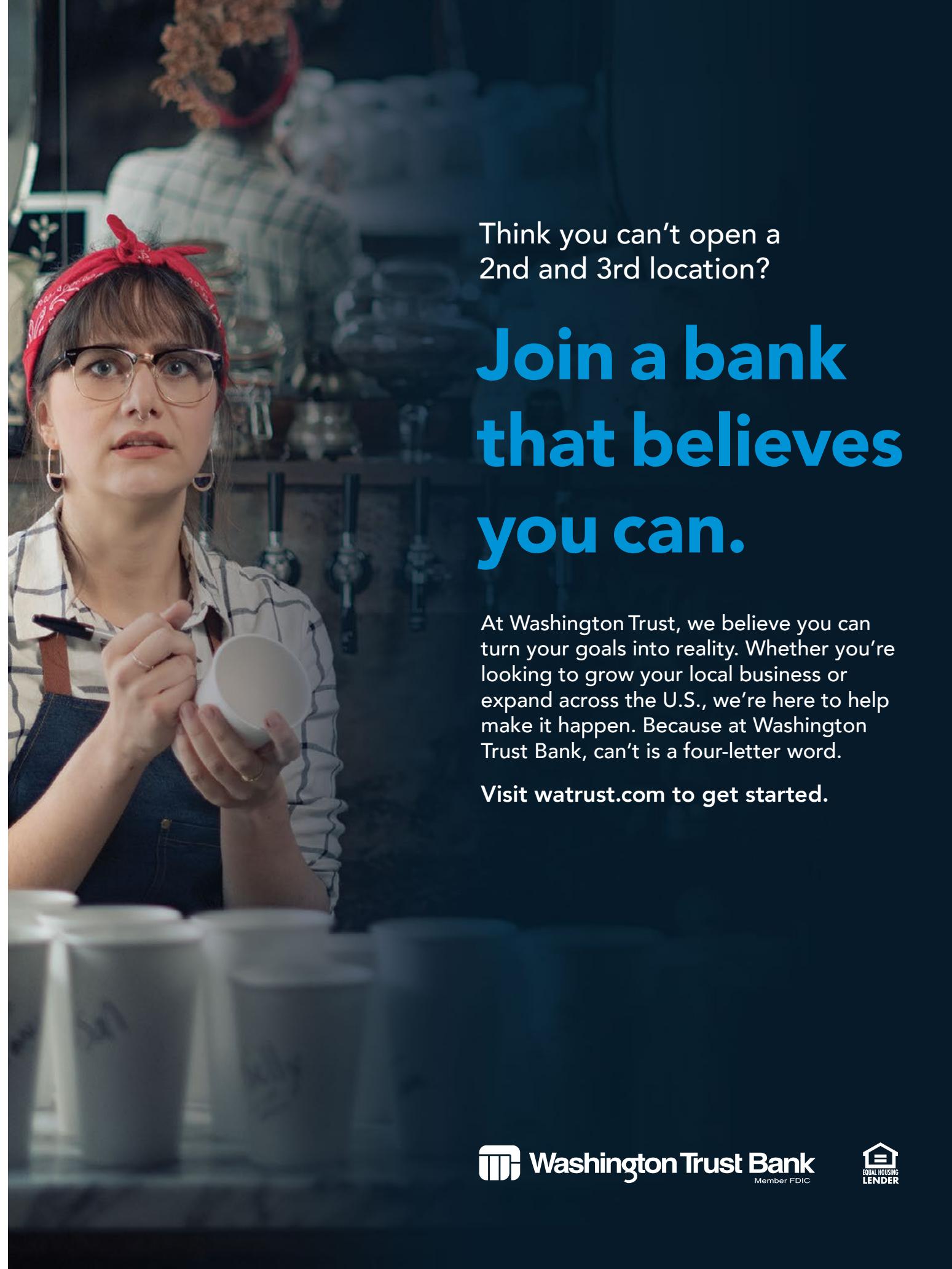
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Mission Statement:

"We are the catalyst for building relationships, driving collaboration, and championing opportunity for the Greater Spokane Valley."

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Director of Membership & Events
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Business Development Associate
Madeline Howeiler
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WM
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MESSAGE FROM BOARD CHAIR

"A Century of Innovation"



Tami Yager
WM

What do traffic lights and Band Aids® have in common with the Valley Chamber? All were created in 1920. They're as invaluable today as they were 100 years ago. That's the enduring power of innovation.

As the Valley Chamber celebrates its 100th year, we remain focused on being the **catalyst for building relationships, driving collaboration, and championing opportunity in the Greater Spokane Valley**. We are committed to embodying this mission through our work by being **friendly, genuine, impactful, inclusive, and credible**.

I truly believe there is no better time to have a Chamber so clearly focused on these principles. We are well positioned to listen and lead.

This year, the Valley Chamber increased its visibility, through our new branding and by opening a new office right in the heart of the

Greater Spokane Valley.

Our 2021 legislative agenda supports common sense legislation that prioritizes Transportation and Infrastructure, Business Climate, Quality of Life, Education, and Health Care.

As we create a path forward together, I encourage you to get engaged. Opportunities for member-to-member connections are plentiful. The challenges of today will lead to the opportunities of tomorrow, and through it all, the Greater Spokane Valley Chamber will be there to champion our area.

It's a privilege to be the Chair of the Board of Directors for this great organization. Just as I have been inspired by those who came before me, I hope you are emboldened to continue our mission. Let's strengthen the relationships and connections built throughout our history as we chart our course for the next 100 years.

PAST LEADERS

Terry T. Grant | 1921 & 1922
M.J. Luby | 1923

J.B. Felts | 1924
Harry E. Nelson | 1926
Raymond P. Kelley | 1927 & 1928
Oscar D. Reinemer | 1929

A.H. Syverson | 1930
Earl Z. Smith | 1931
J. Fink Giboney | 1932 & 1933
John M. Booth | 1934

Wm J. Green | 1935
Dr. N.E. Bayne | 1936
George W. Pierce | 1937
R.B. McCabe | 1938 & 1939

Thomas H. Bienz | 1940
Gene Kenney | 1941
David R. Meigs | 1942 & 1943
Sig T. Hanson | 1944

Clyde H. Jones | 1946
Ray Hortte | 1947 & 1948
Vernon Bryant | 1949

Don R. Stephens | 1949
J. Orville Humphries | 1950
Roy H. Nyholm | 1951

Carlos H. Landa | 1952
E. Dawson Whitaker | 1953
Jack Morrison | 1957

Robert Jarvis | 1958
Lloyd D. Martin | 1959
Tom S. Smith | 1960

Harry Chambers | 1961
Joe W. Custer | 1962 & 1963

Don L. Jordin | 1964
Carl V. Erickson | 1965

Arthur J. Davis | 1966
Ronald A. Franklin | 1966

C. Fritz Nelsen | 1967
John Vlahovich | 1968

Alan V. Carlson | 1969
Joseph B. Olson | 1970

Lawrence E. Peretti | 1971
Raymond E. Perry | 1972

William S. Featherstone | 1973
Cecil Cleveland | 1974

Don Pederson | 1975
Jack Cunningham | 1976

Gordon Richardson | 1977
Mel Kaylor | 1978

Clark Hager | 1979
Norma Ventris | 1980

David Gilman | 1990
Judi Williams | 1991

Ed Allen | 1992
Linda Tompkins | 1993

Lonnie Bailey | 1994
Steve Baker | 1995

John Hanson | 1996
Terry Lynch | 1997

Robert Henry | 1998
Frank Tombari | 1999

Greg Bever | 2000
Dick Denenny | 2001

Jim Bowles | 2001-2002
Doug Kelley | 2002-2003

Julie Prafke | 2003-2005
Wayne Frost | 2005-2006

Matt Ewers | 2006-2007
Rustin Hall | 2007

Dr. Phillip Rudy | 2008-2009
Damon Smith | 2010-2011
Nancy Holmes | 2012

John Guarisco | 2013
Barry Baker | 2014
Denny York | 2015
Ben Small | 2016
Greg Repetti | 2017
Erica Young | 2018
Kelly Fukai | 2019
Kevin Ralser | 2020

WELCOME TO THE FOURTH ANNUAL GREATER SPOKANE VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MAGAZINE

It's safe to say 2020 was quite a year in the life of the Greater Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce - and our entire business community for that matter. The precautions taken in our state to prevent the spread of COVID-19 have brought unprecedented challenges to employers. Although many of our traditional Chamber events and activities were placed on hold, the work to champion business in our community did not stop. Just a few of these recent efforts included:

- Our team led 21 weekly Joint Chamber Small Business Resource calls pairing experts on available resources to answer questions directly with our members.
- Our advocacy led to the creation of the Spokane Valley Cares Grant Program.
- Our team led the administration of the Spokane Valley Cares Grant

Program, and the Spokane County Hospitality Relief Grant program.

• We launched our "Shop the Valley" advertising campaign which featured 16 of our Chamber members and encouraged the public to get out and support Greater Valley businesses.

As we celebrate our 100th Anniversary, we offer this guide as an opportunity to highlight some of the amazing members that make the Valley Chamber the friendly, genuine, inclusive,

i m p a c t f u l ,

and credible organization we strive to be. On behalf of our dedicated Chamber staff, I want to personally thank all of you for involvement.



Lance Beck
President & CEO
Greater Spokane Valley
Chamber of Commerce

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TALENT SOLUTIONS
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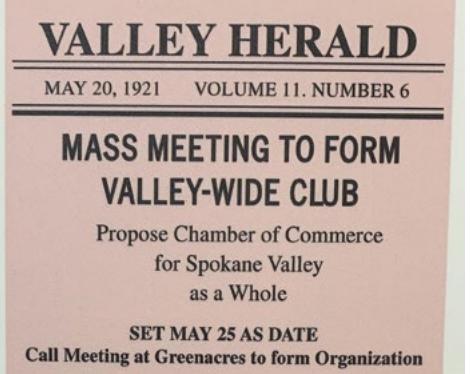
SPOKANE
Resource
Center

Support and resources to overcome financial hardships.

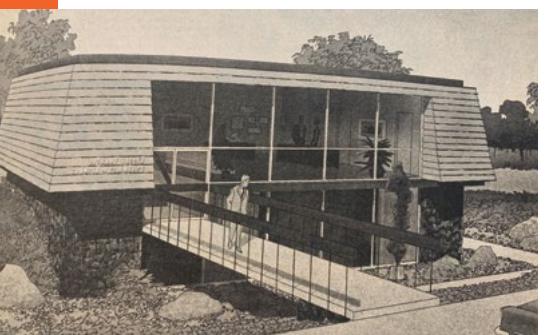
The Spokane Workforce Council and its WorkSource Spokane Campus' career and social one-stop centers are proud partners of the American Job Center Network and equal opportunity employers/programs. Auxiliary aids are available to individuals with disabilities upon request.

100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

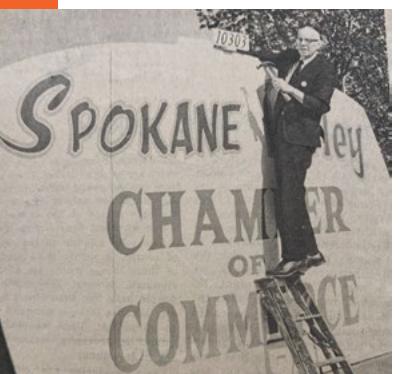
On May 25th, 1921, the Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce was organized by a group of business leaders who saw the need for an organization to represent business interests and to coordinate community events in Spokane Valley. Fast forward to today, the Chamber continues to focus on serving member businesses throughout the Greater Spokane Valley, including the cities of



News article from 1921 announcing the meeting to form the Spokane Valley Chamber



Valley Chamber's new office on the Balfour Property in 1968



The Chamber sign outside of the Balfour office



Map of the Greater Valley inside the new Valley Chamber office

Spokane Valley, Millwood and Liberty Lake and unincorporated areas of Spokane County.

As the Chamber begins its second century of service, the organization adopted an updated mission, core values, and branding. The new mission statement declares the Chamber as the catalyst for building relationships, driving collaboration, and championing opportunity in the Greater Spokane Valley.

The new identity of the Greater Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce will continue to help move the entire Greater Spokane Valley forward. The new icon embodies the future with an industrial-modern style, with a strong emphasis using the bright, friendly, and inclusive orange color. Within this icon, the Valley 'V' is the energy center. It is surrounded by the 'C' as the community of the Chamber, bringing new opportunity around the center of the Valley. Orange is a naturally invigorating and playful shade, that stands out from the crowd and conveys excitement. The new color palette is the Chamber's way of creating a vibrant visual experience and showcasing the Chamber's unique personality.

Now more than ever, the Chamber is advocating for the business community. Washington State guidelines through the COVID-19 pandemic have been tough for businesses. One of the Chamber's main drives remains promoting our member businesses and encouraging people to Shop the Valley.

At the end of 2020, the Chamber launched the Shop the Valley campaign as part of its brand launch. The campaign featured commercials both on local broadcast news stations and regional cable in Spokane and Kootenai Counties. The commercials were also promoted on social media platforms. The purpose of this campaign was to drive awareness to shop, support, and invest in the Greater Spokane Valley.

One of the local businesses the Chamber highlighted in the Shop the Valley Campaign was TT's Old Iron Brewery & BBQ. Located in Spokane

BIG 5 INITIATIVES | COLOR | CORE VALUES

GREATER VISION **Friendly**

GREATER LEARNING **Genuine**

GREATER CURES **Inclusive**

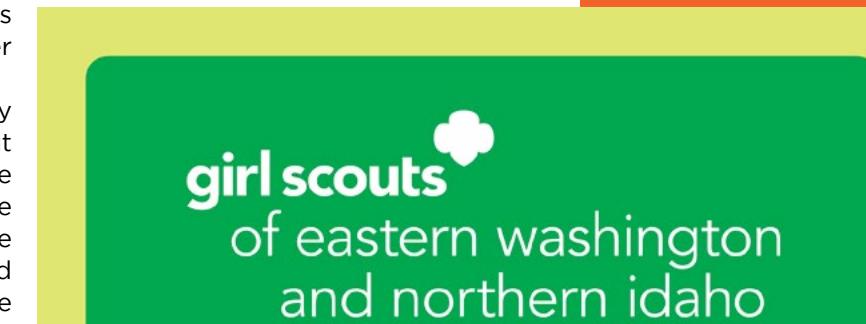
GREATER OUTDOORS **Credible**

GREATER GOODS **Impactful**

REBRAND



Within this ICON, the Valley 'V' is the energy center. It is surrounded by the 'C' as the Community of the Chamber, bringing new opportunity around the center of the Valley.



Building girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.

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VERIZON 5G ROLL OUT

“We reached out to Avista early on and established a partnership, as well as a process that allowed us to launch quickly, expeditiously, and with a good aesthetic so the small cells would blend in with the existing infrastructure,”

—Verduzco said.



5G small cells located on existing structures like utility poles and streetlights.

Since 2019, Verizon Communications Inc. has been working to establish infrastructure for 5G, the fifth-generation technology standard for broadband cellular networks, in cities nationwide including several in the Spokane region.

Spokane, Spokane Valley and Liberty Lake in 2019 at a rate of 100 small cell sites a year and will have about 300 small cells established by the end of 2021.

Verizon describes small cells as short-range cell sites used to complement macro cell towers in a smaller geographic area ranging from a few hundred feet to upwards of 1,000 feet. The 5G small cells are able to provide estimated download speeds of 1 gigabit plus.

as well as a process that allowed us to launch quickly, expeditiously, and with a good aesthetic as

aesthetic so the small cells would blend in with the existing infrastructure,”
—Verduzco said.

Verduzco said the company initially planned to launch 5G in larger Pacific Northwest cities like Seattle and Portland but found it didn't have strong enough partnerships in those areas that would enable it to quickly and efficiently establish infrastructure and launch the new 5G networks.

Therefore, he said Verizon switched its focus toward cities on the east side of the state, that were more receptive to 5G technology.

"There are some regions, such as Spokane, that have worked really hard over the years to set themselves up as technology friendly," Verduzco explained.

"The Spokane region has innovated with organizations such as the University District and Urbanova, as well as large companies like Amazon." He said. "The cities of Spokane, Spokane Valley, and Liberty Lake have also worked to establish

city ordinances and agreements that would allow companies (like Verizon) to streamline and create a clear path forward.”

“In 2020, Verizon was instrumental in resolving connectivity issues we were having while we awaited hardline connections at our new

Verduzco said Verizon began building infrastructure for 5G in

Continued Page 10



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In 2019, Verizon started to install the 5G small cells at a rate of 100 sites per year and will have 300 by the end of 2021.



5G small cells located on existing structures like utility poles and streetlights.

Sprague," Beck said. "We were able to occupy the office several months earlier than planned due to this wireless internet service being available that could fully support the digital needs of the organization."

Looking ahead, Verduzco said Verizon will likely continue to install new 5G infrastructure for several more years, depending on demand.

"We're still at the beginnings of 5G and the applications and uses of this technology are still being developed," he said. "Some of those things like drone deliveries and automatic manufacturing are already underway but it will be interesting to see what else will come as a result of these new connections."

On March 2, 2020, as the U.S. confirmed the first COVID-19 cases in Washington, an STCU team met to map out possible scenarios, including the impact if staff became ill or could not work onsite; how to deal with conflicting guidelines across state lines; how they would help members; and how they would handle branch closures. Over the next 18 months, critical lessons were reinforced.

LESSON ONE:

Calm the waters, provide direction and double down on culture.

Every decision was framed around a "beside and beyond" approach. "Beside," meaning meeting the needs of their employees, as well as the expectations of members, while offering full support to the community. "Beyond," meaning they would help position employees, members, and the community for recovery and success.

An internal website and employee Q&A became a hub for all COVID-related information, including steps to protect employees; their intended response in case of exposure at the workplace; and resources for struggling employees.

Prior to the pandemic, 60 of STCU's 750 employees worked remotely. Within three days, another 300 employees had joined their ranks.

STCU set up a fund of \$50,000 to support employees in need during the pandemic. Employees could confidentially apply for financial assistance if they had experienced a hardship at home due to a job loss in the family, had incurred additional childcare expenses, or other basic needs.

LESSON TWO:

Take care of the things that matter.

STCU stood up a platform to help more than 1,000 business members with PPP lending. They provided the same service to smaller credit unions that lacked the resources to administer the loans for their

own business members.

The STCU Community Relations team quickly shifted its financial education program from in-person to digital, providing 245 workshops on topics from eliminating debt to preventing fraud, including some in Spanish. Also, with parents and educators seeking digital learning opportunities, the team added virtual story times for grades K-3.

As the "stay home" order was taking effect, STCU quickly purchased more than 800 gift cards from local restaurants and grocery stores. Some were distributed to local nonprofits, some for social media giveaways, and others went to members and staff as random acts of kindness.

STCU leaned into assisting nonprofits. That included surprising 15 chambers of commerce, including the Greater Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce, by doubling their dues. In addition, STCU surprised more than 20 community organizations with checks ranging from \$10,000 to \$32,000 - more

Continued Page 12



STCU member's volunteered to pick up litter in the People's Park/High Bridge Park area.

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STCU

Lessons learned from a head quartered company on how you react and realize your civic responsibility during a pandemic. Looking forward, how you lean into the next phase of recovery with key partner, Spokane Valley Greater Chamber of Commerce

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"STCU members have made clear time and again that they want their credit union to assist always, and particularly during challenging times but also in times of transition and recovery," CEO Ezra Eckhardt said.

Continued From Page 11

than \$400,000 in unrestricted gifts.

LESSON THREE:

Be relevant, spontaneous, and in the moment.

STCU bought additional billboards, print and digital advertising space, and quickly shifted their campaign of data stories to COVID-appropriate messaging celebrating and thanking STCU members and acknowledging shared experiences.

- To our 283 members who work at Costco, thanks for the toilet paper.

- To our 251 members who work at USPS, thanks for delivering to us - even when we don't shower.

- Dear business member who owns Anastasi, Moore & Martin, is Disney+ tax-deductible as childcare?

- To our 18,008 members who made mobile deposits last month, wasn't that easy?

as reaction

"STCU members have made clear time and again that they want their credit union to assist always, and particularly during challenging times but also in times of transition and recovery," CEO Ezra Eckhardt said.

STCU is now working to collaborate with the Valley Chamber and several private and public entities to create a recovery plan that leverages partnerships, resources, funding, and is motivated around a common vision. A strategic, coordinated and aligned effort will require private organizations like STCU to bring both their voices and expectations of how private investment enables a strong and unified lift.

CMO Marty Dickinson said, "Doing things, the same way they always have been done is not the answer. STCU is eager to partner with influential organizations such as GSVCC to challenge others to think differently, think bigger, and drive new outcomes that position our region too."

LESSON FOUR:

Recovery is as important

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Ariel photo of Ridgeline High School during construction in November 2020

RIDGELINE HIGH SCHOOL

K-12 education now available in Liberty Lake

These days business and education go hand-in-hand as area industries seek to train and grow the workforce of the future while also improving community connections. In the Greater Spokane Valley, building schools that provide quality education and communal gathering spaces, has become an essential part of its plans for future growth.

One recent project that is expected to impact education, infrastructure, and economic development in our community is the construction of Ridgeline High School.

The \$98.2 million school started construction at 20150 E. Country Vista Drive, in Liberty Lake, in August 2019. Ridgeline was funded through the district's \$129.9 million construction bond that voters approved in early 2018, with the rest being state matching funds for school construction.

Although planning for a third comprehensive high school in the Central Valley School District has been in the works for years, Superintendent Ben Small said the passage of the 2018 school construction bond allowed the project to come to fruition.

"Ultimately this project was about enhancing our communities and providing a quality education for our students and their future," said Small.

The 242,500 square-foot building was designed by ALSC Architects along with Garco Construction Inc., contracting the project. Considered to be one of the largest construction projects in the county in 2020, Ridgeline is expected to be completed by July of 2021 with a grand opening set for August.

"We engaged with Garco to

ensure worker safety, as well as plan an alternative should there be delays or interruption to the project due to COVID-19," said Small. "They were a tremendous partner and helped us stay on schedule."

Small said the district is grateful to have a positive relationship with the Greater Spokane Valley Chamber who helped to organize both the groundbreaking, as well as an early site walk through of the Ridgeline site.

"We believe a quality business community is a critical part of having a vibrant community and quality schools," he said. "Our partnership with the Chamber helped us show area business leaders what we

Continued Page 16

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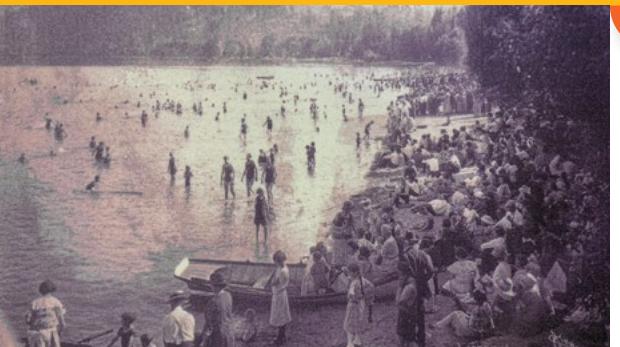
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YOUR CHAMBER:

THE LAST 100 YEARS

1920s

In the 1920s the estimated population of the Spokane Valley was about 7,000 people. On May 20, 1921, the Valley Herald posted an article asking for every resident of Spokane Valley to attend a mass meeting to form a Valley-wide club. Five days later on May 25th the meeting was held in Greenacres at the town hall for the purpose of organizing the Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce. A group of business leaders saw the need for an organization to represent business interests and to coordinate community events in Spokane Valley. Member dues were set at \$25 per year per business and were payable in semi-annual installments of \$12.50. The Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce sponsored the All-Valley Days at Liberty Lake from 1923 - WWII. All businesses in the area closed to attend this event. This decade brought on the incorporation of Millwood and the production at Inland Empire Paper Company doubled its production of newsprint.



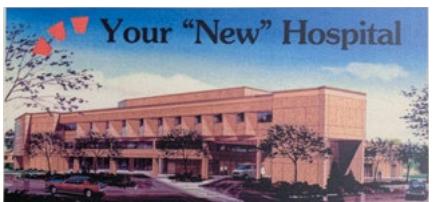
1970s

The Chamber reaches its 50th year, celebrated with a parade down Sprague Avenue. The start of the decade begins with record pace home purchases. Argonne interchange plan is agreed upon to help with the projected traffic in the years to come. Plans for a zoo adjacent to park. Cable television is brought to the Spokane Valley. The population toward the end of the decade is about 79,000.



1980s

Population of Spokane Valley reaches over 82,000. The Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce announces plan to raise \$20,000 for study of the Valley government options which would include incorporation as a new city or annexation from the City of Spokane. State approves proposal for new Valley Hospital. The Spokane Industrial Park has over 80 tenants.



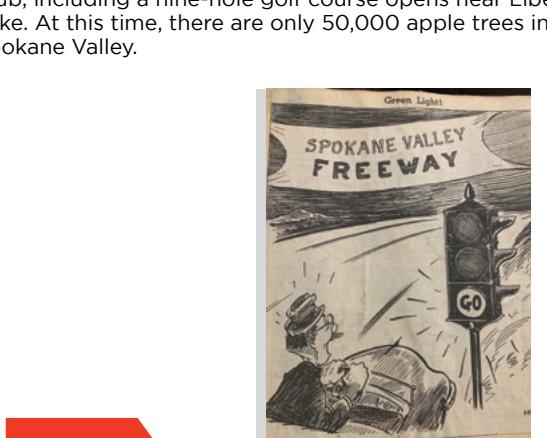
1990s

Spokane Valley residents reject the incorporation proposal. Liberty Lake is planned to be an industrial and residential community. Construction on the Centennial Trail along the Spokane River from Planters Ferry Park to the state line begins. Mid-decade the Valley's Walk in the Wild Zoo closes. The Spokane Valley Mall is constructed. Spokane Business & Industrial Center has over 100 tenants and employs over 5,000 people.



1940s

The 1940s start off with the formation of Fire Protection District #1. Power rates in Spokane Valley drop when Vera Power and Water buys its power from Bonneville. The war is over and the Spokane Valley Chamber institutes the "Take Care of Returning Veterans" Campaign. The Valley County Club, including a nine-hole golf course opens near Liberty Lake. At this time, there are only 50,000 apple trees in Spokane Valley.



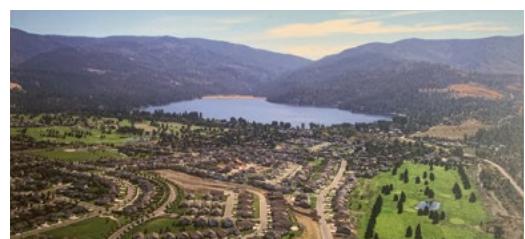
1930s

By the 1930s the population of Spokane Valley had reached about 11,000 people. The Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce appoints a committee to start naming and numbering the Spokane Valley streets. In 1937 the first Spokane Valley fair was held. WWII begins.



2000s

The City of Liberty Lake and the City of Spokane Valley become incorporated, ringing in the new century. CenterPlace Regional Event Center at Mirabeau Park is built as the first City of Spokane Valley public building. Expansion on the I-90 Valley freeway begins. The Central Valley School District builds new Central Valley High School and University High School.



2010s

The Greater Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce moves from its office on Sprague to Liberty Lake. The Chamber also rebrands and introduces the Big 5 Initiatives: Greater Goods, Greater Cures, Greater Outdoors, Greater Vision, and Greater Learning. The City of Spokane Valley also adopted these initiatives into their Comprehensive Plan.



1960s

Expansion in the Spokane Valley continues with a new Spokane Industrial Park at the former Naval Depot in the Velox area. This started the Inland Empire Industrial Exposition bringing people into the Inland Northwest to maintain an industrial growth and development in the Valley. The Spokane Valley tries for annexation from Spokane, but the city declined. Plans are made for a new \$1.25 million 95-bed Spokane Valley hospital. The Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce also builds a new office building on the Balfour property.



Present

Today the Greater Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce has relocated to the Valley and rebranded, embracing a new mission, vision, and identity. We have faced the obstacles brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. We had to adjust to the ever-changing rules and guidelines. We are continuously advocating for our local businesses to ensure they stay open doing this tough time. As things start to look up, we will continue to be the catalyst for building relationships, driving collaboration, and championing opportunity for the Greater Spokane Valley.



Continued From Page 13



Ridgeline High School groundbreaking on August 29, 2019, was attended by many elected officials, Central Valley School District leadership, and several hundred community members.

were doing at the site, talk with them about our plans to stretch tax dollars, and operate in a way that benefits the business community."

Small said that Ridgeline is similar in size to both Central Valley and University High Schools but was designed and built a bit differently. The high school includes a central commons area with four wings, consisting of 80 classrooms, two career and technical education classrooms and labs, a culinary kitchen, art and performing arts classrooms, and two full-size gyms.

"We did what we could to design an efficient footprint, use durable materials, and save costs where we could," he said. "The costs we did save went toward building new fields at our other district high schools."

Small said Ridgeline also has more parking spaces than the other high schools, a theater with balcony seating, and new safety features such as controlled entrances and shatter resistant glass.

Small said the school has capacity for up to 1,600 students but will initially open only to grades nine through 11 and about 920 students are expected to attend in the first year.

Prior to construction, Small said the district partnered with the city of Liberty Lake for help in preparing the selected site, formerly owned by the local gun club, for construction.

"The city did an excellent job of

helping us with those processes to ensure we'd maintain our timeline for the project," he said. "Choosing this location ensured our commitment to a fall 2021 school opening, reduced construction costs, and provided traffic and neighborhood accessibility."

Katy Allen, City Manager for Liberty Lake, said one of the first things the district needed help with was annexing and re-zoning the site. The next challenge was fine tuning operations of Country Vista Drive that runs along the north side of the site.

"We knew that the addition of a high school in this location would result in many more trips along the corridor from people using either Barker Road or Harvard Road," she said. "We also determined that as E Country Vista Dr develops, there would be a need for protected turning so we looked at installing a traffic signal off Country Vista at the entrance to Ridgeline."

Allen said the city applied for and were successfully awarded a Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) grant which covered 70 percent of the \$383,000 cost of designing and constructing the traffic signal, with the city covering the remaining expense.

Both Small and Allen added the partnership between the district and the city on previous school construction projects including Liberty Creek Elementary and Selkirk

Middle School made the process of designing and constructing Ridgeline High School easier to coordinate.

Creating a new high school in Liberty Lake also meant a significant shift in boundaries for the Central Valley School District, a process which involved a lot of public input.

"In changing the district's boundaries, we had to consider growth for all three high schools," said Small. "A committee was formed to look at solutions that would balance enrollment and demographics while matching the needs of the community."

Small said Ridgeline creates opportunities to improve high school education across the district. He is excited for the future and grateful to the community for its continued support. The school's staff has developed a mission: Belong, Inspire, Grow. This will encompass the values of the new school and the work taking place there.

Ridgeline High School Principal Jesse Hardt said, "Our goal is to

create an environment that will give both students and staff a sense of belonging and inspiration."

Hardt added that continued partnerships like those between the district and the Greater Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce are expected to enable students to connect with area businesses that may want to offer them internships, volunteering, training, and employment opportunities.

Liberty Lake's Mayor, Cristella Kaminskas, said that she and the community are excited for Ridgeline's opening.

"For students and families, it provides education and social interaction closer to home which is great for forging deeper friendships and a closer community," she said. "It's also good from a city development standpoint because the new traffic to the area will provide many opportunities for new businesses to pop up along the corridor. It's just a fantastic opportunity all around."

ADDING CAPACITY

Ridgeline has capacity for **1,600** students. It will initially open to grades 9-11 and 920 students.



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MIRABEAU POINT

The 88-acre site, also sometimes is referred to as “the shoe” due to its shape on maps.

Spokane Valley continues to grow and change with many businesses and industries fulfilling area needs or creating something new. However, one thing many developers seem to have in common is the desire to build in a way that preserves the community's connections to its natural environment.

One area that has seen increased interest from developers is a place along the Spokane River

in the center of the Valley, called Mirabeau Point. The 88-acre site, (also sometimes referred to as “the shoe” due to its shape on maps) is bordered by Mirabeau Parkway to the west, the Spokane River to the north and east, and the BNSF railroad to the south.

Jeff Kleingartner, Public Information Officer for the City of Spokane Valley, said interest in the land has been growing since 2017 when the City updated its comprehensive plan. The City's vision for the area is to provide a variety of complementary and integrated uses, that support a walkable community.

“This area is a focus for our economic development efforts as the Spokane River, Centennial Trail, and CenterPlace Regional Events Center, and the recent addition of the West Lawn Plaza present many opportunities for synergy,” said Kleingartner.

A majority of the site is currently owned by Centennial Real Estate Investments and associated LLCs. Doug Yost, Vice President of Centennial Real Estate Investments, said the land has been owned by the company for over 100 years but it has taken a while to decide its best use.

“I'm in charge of acquisitions, development, and real estate developments for the company,” Yost said. “I was asked about 10 years ago to come up with the best strategy for this property whether that was selling parcels to other developers or developing it ourselves.”

Centennial initially owned all of the 88-acre site, but recently sold some parcels for others to develop on. The first being a 1.87 acre section to GL8 Hospitality for the development of the Tru by Hilton. The other being a 6-acre parcel to the Inland Group for development of senior living apartments to be called Affinity at Mirabeau Park.

Located at 13509 E. Mansfield, the Tru by Hilton started construction in December 2019

and had its official opening almost one year later. The 43,000-square-foot hotel includes 92 guest rooms, free Wi-Fi, a fitness center, indoor pool and hot tub, outdoor patio with a fire pit, a 24-hour ‘Eat & Sip’ market, and six bicycles that guests can use free of charge.

As for the Affinity at Mirabeau Point project, city records show construction broke ground in May 2021. Located just east of CenterPlace Regional Event Center along the Spokane River, plans for the site include a 170-unit senior living facility, four garages, a swimming pool, dog park, and community garden.

Yost said Centennial currently owns 76 acres of land and in April began construction on infrastructure for a currently unnamed development that will utilize between 20 to 30 acres.

“Currently we're building the roads, sewer, water, and a binding site plan for the land that will allow us to make different parcels available either to sell or develop on,” he said.

Since the area is zoned mixed-use, Yost says the vision is for the new development will be similar to the city of Spokane Valley's, a mix of residential and commercial in a riverside setting.

“The idea will be to bring in things like coffee shops or bakeries, that will generate walkability, especially

with its proximity to the convention center and the YMCA,” said Yost. “The next step would probably be residential rooftops and then retail. We're still exploring additional possibilities, but we do know we want to have residential housing with walkability, meaning access to trails and amenities like parks.”

Yost said access to outdoor recreation such as the Centennial Trail and the Spokane River, as well as planned projects like the Valley River Loop Trail along the river's north bank will be important to the development.

“The more we can do to improve the trail system the better. We have the luxury of being on the Centennial Trail already, but a loop will allow for continuous movement,” he said.

Yost said Centennial Real Estate Investments has seen a lot of support for the project both from the City of Spokane Valley and the Greater Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce.

“The City has been great to work with and the Chamber has been an excellent resource as they promote our projects in the community, as well as keep us informed of other things going on around us.” he said. “Being able to partner with these organizations keeps us wanting to continue to do more projects in the area and we're excited for what's to come.”



Mirabeau Park features a natural area with walking trails and an open grassy park area. The park is located just a short walk from the future development area.



The new Tru by Hilton that opened in December of 2020

An advertisement for the Spokane Transit Summer Pass. It features a large central image of a grey cat wearing a yellow fedora and bow tie, playing a black electric guitar. Surrounding the cat are five smaller images of various animals (a dog, a cat, a bee, a squirrel, and a bird) each holding a "SUMMER PASS" card. The background is a textured teal color. At the top, the Spokane Transit logo is displayed with the text "SpokaneTransit SUMMER PASS". Below the main image, there are two young children smiling and pointing towards the text. The text includes "Unlimited free rides on STA for youth age 6-18 and K-12 students!" and "Pick up your pass at local libraries in the STA service area." At the bottom, the website "SpokaneTransit.com/SummerPass" is shown.



Ribbon Cutting for the Spokane Valley Farmer's Market and Grand Opening for the West Lawn Plaza at CenterPlace Regional Event Center on June 4th, 2021.

SHOGUN



Shogun is a hibachi and sushi restaurant located at 20 N Raymond Rd

Joseph Lee and his restaurant, Shogun a hibachi and sushi restaurant, have had one heck of a journey. AAnd so, in 2004, he bought Shogun - then located near Sprague and Evergreen - and started a new journey as a restaurant owner. So, in 2004 he bought Shogun and started a new journey as a restaurant owner. Shortly after Lee took over Shogun, he moved the restaurant to the east end of Third Street in Spokane. In April

2018, a terrible fire destroyed the restaurant. Nearly a year after the tragedy, Lee found the restaurant a new home back in the Spokane Valley at 20 N Raymond Road.

"The new location is a lot bigger than the downtown one. There's more space, more parking, and we have a patio," Lee said. "It's a much better location and I like the Sprague and University area."

Before Shogun even had their grand re-opening, Lee said he had so many customers excited to see Shogun open again. They were making reservations weeks in advance of the re-opening. He said many people were also really excited for the restaurant to be back in the Spokane Valley again.

Not even a year after the re-opening of the new Spokane Valley location, the COVID-19 pandemic put a halt to the restaurant industry. Washington State phased guidelines varied from take-out/curbside pick-up only, to outdoor dining only, to different capacity levels for indoor dining.

"Our customers come in groups for dining," Lee said. "With the Washington State guidance for indoor dining we couldn't accept big groups. We were struggling to remain open, so we tried opening a drive thru, but our menu is not suitable for a quick drive thru. I did my best to survive."

Lee said he was receiving a lot of encouraging remarks and messages from his customers which helped him keep going.

"My main focus was survival," Lee said. "This is the time for the revival of Shogun."

Many restaurants and businesses had to get creative in finding ways to draw in customers during this difficult time. Luckily, federal and state grant and funding opportunities helped a lot of these businesses stay afloat.

The Greater Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce had the honor of allocating grants to our local restaurants as the administrator of the Spokane Valley Cares Grant Program(s) and the

Spokane County Hospitality Relief Grant Program. Both programs were funded using Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds provided by the U.S. Treasury Department. The grants could be used to pay for business expenses incurred due to COVID-19. Shogun was one business fortunate enough to be selected as a recipient of a grant.

"The grant programs are why we are surviving now," Lee said. "I really appreciate how much they focused on the small businesses like mine. Without the grant programs and support, we wouldn't have survived."

The Greater Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce has also been working with local government officials to advocate for our local small businesses to remain open and communicate with the membership on any additional grant or funding opportunities that become available. And of course, continuing to promote supporting local business.

"Business is gradually picking up,"

Lee said. "We are currently working on a garden and patio for outside dining during the summer. We are also going to do some cooking classes."

After a difficult couple of years, things are starting to look up for Shogun. With restrictions lessening, more people are dining out. The restaurant industry is starting to see a light at the end of the tunnel.

"The grant programs are why we are surviving now,"

Lee said. "I really appreciate how much they focused on the small businesses like mine.

Without the grant programs and support, we wouldn't have survived."



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- American Medical Response
- Anderson, Peretti & Co., CPA's, P.S.
- Arby's Roast Beef Restaurant #233/7159
- Avista
- Bank of America
- Banner Bank
- Broadway Truck Service, Inc.
- Central Pre-Mix Concrete Products Co.
- Community Colleges of Spokane
- InCyte Diagnostics
- Inland Empire Paper Company
- Inland Power & Light Company
- Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation
- Mirabeau Park Hotel & Convention Center
- Modern Electric Water Company
- MultiCare Valley Hospital
- Sunshine Health Facilities, Inc.
- The Spokesman Review
- Vera Water & Power
- WM

2020 BY THE NUMBERS

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED \$32,300 TO 10 STUDENTS BY THE SPOKANE VALLEY CHAMBER FOUNDATION



LARGEST MEMBER CATEGORIES

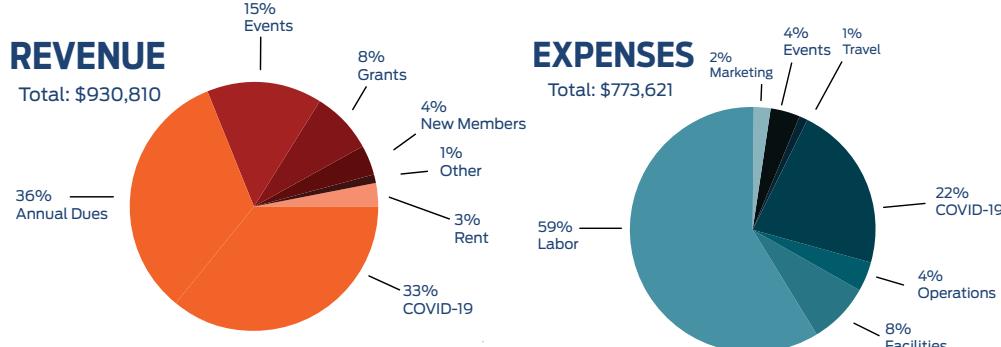
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|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 Business & Professional Services | 5 Health Care | 8 Arts & Recreation |
| 2 Nonprofit Organizations | 6 Construction & Engineering | 9 Real Estate, Moving, Storage |
| 3 Retail, Hospitality & Restaurants | 7 Government & Education | 10 Manufacturing |
| 4 Finance & Insurance | | |



PROGRAMS & EVENTS 181 EVENTS EDUCATION TOWN HALL 828 ATTENDED

Due to COVID-19, we moved to virtual events; topics tailored to inform impacted businesses on resources, from Joint Chamber Resource Calls, Virtual Education Town Hall, Business Connections, and Virtual Networking & Coffee. We brought our members together to discuss, network, learn, and celebrate the business community in the Greater Spokane region.

2020 FINANCIAL REPORT



607 MEMBERS

52 NEW



COVID-19 RESPONSE EFFORTS

JOINT CHAMBER RESOURCE CALLS

Weekly Zoom Resource calls focused on providing a forum for small businesses to receive the most relevant weekly updates from subject matter experts. Facilitated 20 events in a span of 22 weeks. Topics covered included: Elected Updates - local, federal, and state officials; SBA – PPP & EIDL; ESD & L&I programs; Washington State Dept. of Commerce; local financial lending, eCommerce capacity training; local law enforcement; sector specific associations (building, real estate, finance, human resources); more. Programs saw 200-400 attendees. Over 1000 unique businesses attended at least one call.

GRANTS

The Valley Chamber of Commerce team worked in partnership with its regional partners to advocate for funding to be made available to local small businesses. Our efforts culminated in three separate grant programs:

OPENTogether | SEPT - OCT 2020

1272 TOTAL BUSINESS FUNDED 922 HOURS DEDICATED VALLEY CHAMBER STAFF TIME
\$9.1 MILLION DOLLARS TOTAL FUNDING DISTRIBUTED

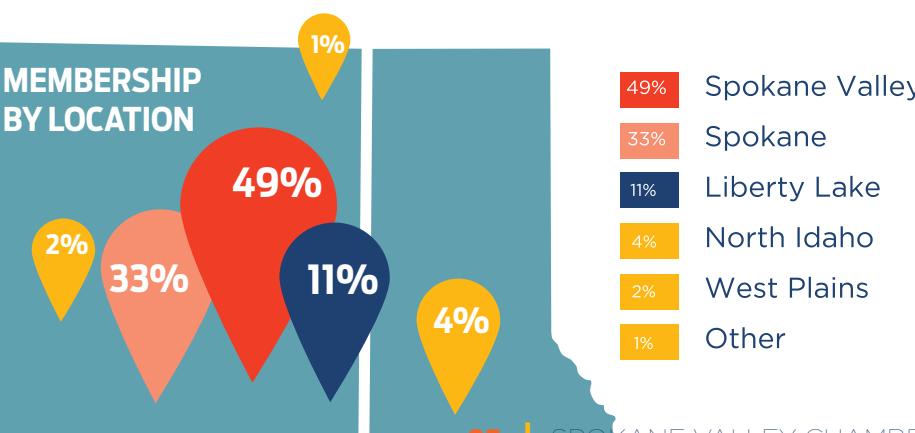
SPOKANE VALLEY CARES GRANTS | OCT - NOV 2020

131 TOTAL BUSINESS FUNDED 816 HOURS DEDICATED VALLEY CHAMBER STAFF TIME
\$2.24 MILLION DOLLARS TOTAL FUNDING DISTRIBUTED

SPOKANE COUNTY HOSPITALITY RELIEF | DEC 2020

665 TOTAL BUSINESS FUNDED 1036 HOURS DEDICATED VALLEY CHAMBER STAFF TIME
\$12 MILLION DOLLARS TOTAL FUNDING DISTRIBUTED

MEMBERSHIP BY LOCATION



HIGHLIGHT LONG-STANDING MEMBERS

49-25 YEARS:

- ALSC Architects
- Appleway Florist & Greenhouse
- Baker Construction & Development, Inc.
- Better Business Bureau Northwest
- Butler, Robinson & Associates, P.S.
- Central Valley School Dist. 356
- City of Millwood
- Crown West Realty LLC
- East Valley School District
- Eljay Oil Company, Inc.
- Freeman School District 358
- G. Arger Co. Real Estate, Inc
- Gibson's Nursery & Landscape Supply
- Global Credit Union
- Good Samaritan Society - Spokane Valley
- Greater Spokane Incorporated
- GSC Meals on Wheels
- Hanson Industries, Inc.
- Hennessey Valley Funeral Home & Crematory
- Higuchi & Skinner, P.S., Drs.
- Holiday Inn Express
- Hutton Settlement
- IEADS Logistics
- Integritus Architecture
- Jacobs
- Jim Custer Enterprises, Inc.
- Journal of Business
- KREM TV
- KXLY TV
- Liberty Lake Sewer & Water District
- Longhorn Barbecue
- M-T Management, Inc.
- Rogers Machinery Co., Inc.
- Spokane Convention Center
- Spokane County Conservation District
- Spokane County Library District
- Spokane Endodontics
- Spokane Transit Authority
- Spokane Valley Ear, Nose, Throat & Facial Plastics
- Spokane Valley Fire Department
- Spokane Valley Mall
- Spokane Valley Partners
- Standard Plumbing Heating Controls

APPLEWAY BUSINESS PARK



Owner Scott Grimmett and his wife Betsy.



The new Grace church building located in the Appleway Business Park.



Greater Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce held a Ribbon Cutting for the Grace Church building on March 23, 2021.

The Appleway Business Park, located on the east end of Sprague in between Sullivan and Barker, is a dream coming to life for Scott Grimmett. The business park features built-to-suit commercial and industrial buildings. Currently, the park has two tenants:

Racom and the newly-built Grace Church.

Grimmett, owner of Two Way Holdings, did not start out as a commercial real estate developer. Two Way Holdings began about 15 years ago as Industrial Communications, a two-way radio company, providing two-way radios for the police and fire departments. Grimmett sold Industrial Communications to Racom in 2018 which was the catalyst to start Two Way Holdings and their Appleway Business Park.

"Along the way, I acquired the building and the land next door for the business and to facilitate Industrial Communications' growth," Grimmett said. "When I sold the two-way radio company to Racom, I kept all the real estate. It was always a dream of mine to have real estate investments - I just never thought I would get there."

Grimmett said that part of the agreement when selling Industrial Communications to Racom is that he would also build the company a new building that they could lease from him. That is what sparked the beginning of Appleway Business Park. Since then, Grimmett has also built a second new building in front of Racom which houses Grace Church.

The next step in the process is to expand and build two more buildings in the Appleway Business Park. "The plan was to build a second identical building like the Grace Church facility in the back of the property next to the Appleway Trail similar to Racom but there's been a lot of people approaching me about building something a little bit different," Grimmett said. "Our plan remains to build two more buildings in the future."

The COVID-19 pandemic has

not been easy for the construction and development sector. Early in the pandemic, Washington State guidelines shut down construction projects unless they were deemed essential. Grimmett had a hiccup in the construction of the Grace Church.

"Right as we got done tearing down the existing structure the state put all the restrictions in place," Grimmett said. "So, I had torn down my old building and I didn't have a contract to proceed. Nobody was building and nobody knew what the future was at that time, so I was a little scared."

The project was delayed about three months. In that time, Grace Church had proceeded with a contract and Grimmett was ready to go. "I got a jump start at the beginning of construction opening back up," Grimmett said. "We were fortunate to have builders right at the start, whereas now it would be really hard to get going."

The church is now completely finished and holding services. They are already over the initial number attendees they were anticipating. The Greater Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting for the new Grace Church back in March. Ribbon cuttings are a way for the Chamber to help celebrate and promote growth in the Spokane Valley.

The Greater Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce has the five key initiatives known as 'the Big 5' that nurture community vitality and stimulate economic prosperity in the Greater Spokane Valley region. Our Greater Vision initiative focuses on building an enterprising identity for the Greater Spokane Valley region.

Grimmett said he would really like to see Spokane Valley continue to develop near Barker Rd and Sprague Ave. His vision is to see that area make a name for itself like the U-City area and Mirabeau Park.

"I would also like to see the trail and parks expanded," Grimmett said. "I want Spokane Valley to keep the hometown feel. The Valley is my home, and overall, it's just such a great place to be."



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VALLEY RIVER LOOP TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

A stretch of the Spokane River running adjacent to the River Loop Trail.
Photo courtesy of City of Spokane Valley



As summer temperatures rise, so does the interest in the natural spaces and outdoor recreation opportunities available to Spokane Valley residents. One project that is gaining support and momentum in the community is the Spokane Valley River Loop Trail.

The City of Spokane Valley is developing a conceptual design for the trail that would create a

paved non-motorized trail along the Spokane River's north bank from Plante's Ferry Sports Complex to city park property on Flora Road.

The proposed trail is approximately five miles long with pedestrian bridges over the river at each end that will connect to the Centennial Trail.

John Hohman, Deputy City Manager for the city of Spokane Valley, said the idea for the River

Loop Trail started as a recommendation to the city's economic development program in 2012 but the project didn't evolve until the city's purchase of the 45-acre Flora Park property from the Department of Transportation in 2020.

"We now have ownership of that property, and the plan is underway to buy more land to expand Sullivan Park," Hohman said. "With those pieces in place, the idea of a trail to connect these areas started to seem more feasible."

The city hopes to develop the Flora site, which runs along the Spokane River, into a park that could include amenities like campgrounds or a mountain biking course.

Spokane Valley's Parks, Recreation and Facilities Director John Bottelli said plans for the potential trail project first have to be agreed upon with state parks, as they own the land it will be built on.

"We will need to execute an agreement with them on this," he said. "The good thing is that they seem open to it, and I'm pretty optimistic about the project going forward."

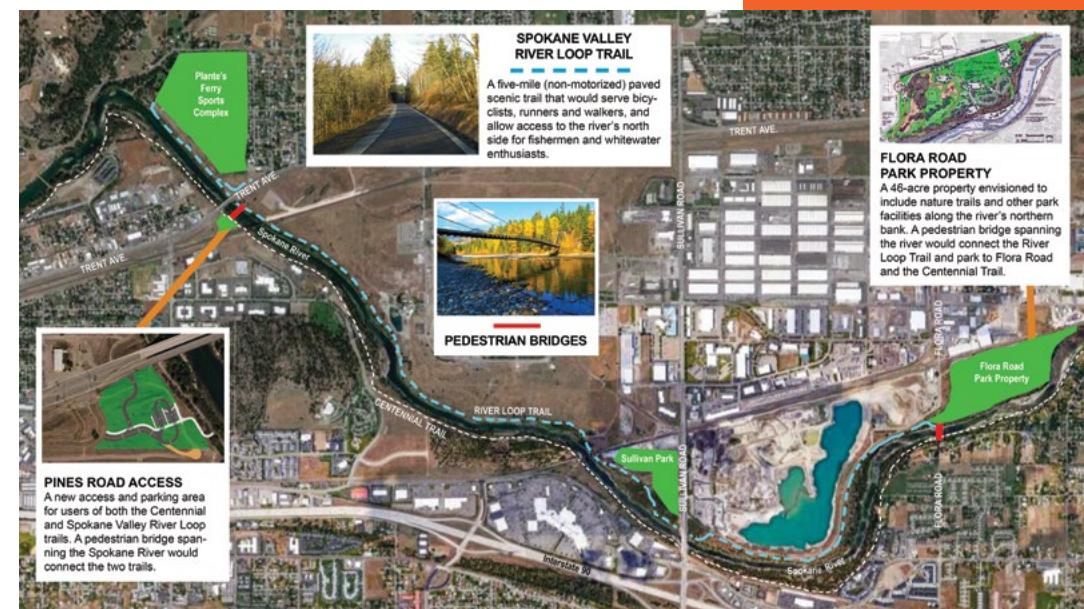
Bottelli said the two most interesting features of the trail project are that it would link three parks (Plante's Ferry, Sullivan, and Flora Road), and increase accessibility to the Spokane River.

"Purchasing additional land at Sullivan would give us some

great options for future redesign or expansion of that park, and the new Flora Road property also has amazing potential," he said. "The other great thing about the trail is it will provide greater public access to the river especially on the north side, which is much needed."

While the Valley River Loop Trail will primarily be for recreational use - it also has potential economic benefits. The trail project will improve infrastructure by connecting different park properties and increasing accessibility to natural areas. It will increase economic development through tourism, business, and housing opportunities.

Recently, the Spokane Valley has



The vision of the River Loop Trail. Photo courtesy of City of Spokane Valley

also been working with Spokane County on an improvement plan for the Plante's Ferry Sports Complex that would include upgrades to its softball and soccer facilities.

"It's still a preliminary effort but it's a collaboration with a lot of potential,"

Continued Page 28

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Continued From Page 27



Example rendering of raised trail bridge.
Photo courtesy of City of Spokane Valley.

Hohman said, "It's been neat to see how many recreational opportunities are coming together in Spokane Valley."

Morgan Johnson is a bicycling enthusiast and owner of Mojo Cyclery, a Valley-based bike shop that specializes in bike repair, fits, and sales.

He said new trails and park connections like those proposed by the Valley River Loop Trail project give people greater encouragement to spend time outdoors and could also generate more traffic for area businesses.

"A lot of people enjoy trails because they're a bit safer than cycling or jogging on the street," he said. "There's already a lot of outdoor events that take place in the summertime, so hopefully a new trail connection will bring more visitor traffic for businesses there."

The Valley Loop Trail project has an estimated cost of \$16.5 million. Its timeline for construction and completion will depend on finding

and securing the needed funding.

The next step will be Spokane Valley City Council allocating some funds to further develop the concept. Currently staff are looking at all potential sources of funding, including local, state and federal grants."

Hohman said that once the project has the full funding, it will be a two-to-three-year process from design to completion. "Our next steps are to have staff looking into preliminary engineering and to get the public engagement side started, as well as continuing to look for funding sources."

Spokane Valley Mayor Ben Wick said there is already a lot of excitement for the project within the community.

"We've had several presentations on this project with groups like the Kiwanis Club and the Valley Chamber, who have supported and promoted the idea," Wick said. "It seems like everyone we talk to wants to know more about how we can get it done."



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The West Lawn Plaza is open for Business

The City of Spokane Valley has developed a new outdoor event space at CenterPlace Regional Event Center. The 10,540-square-foot hard scape plaza is surrounded by lush green lawn and blends seamlessly into the natural backdrop of Mirabeau Point Park.

The plaza and adjacent lawn are the perfect location for community celebrations and festivals, weddings, receptions and other events. The outdoor space has a capacity of 1,000 attendees. CenterPlace can provide additional indoor conference facilities, on-site catering and free parking.

To tour or reserve the beautiful West Lawn Plaza, visit CenterplaceSpokaneValley.org or call 509.720.5200.



CenterPlace Regional Event Center
2426 N. Discovery Place, Spokane Valley

