



Grant County

Economic Development Council April 2019 Newsletter



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Contact Us

Grant County Economic Development Council
 6594 Patton Blvd NE | Moses Lake, WA 98837 | Phone 509.764.6579
brant@grantedc.com | emily@grantedc.com
allan.peterson@wsbdc.org | rebecca@grantedc.com

Port of Moses Lake hosts Moses Lake Airshow



The Port of Moses Lake is hosting the first annual Moses Lake Airshow on June 14-15, 2019. This two-day festival will feature world class aerial entertainment, food, local

artisans, classic car show and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Education Zone.

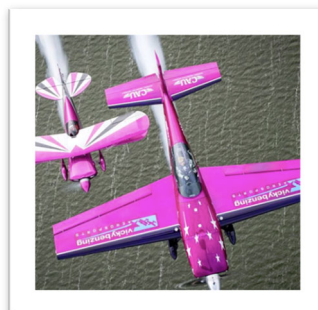
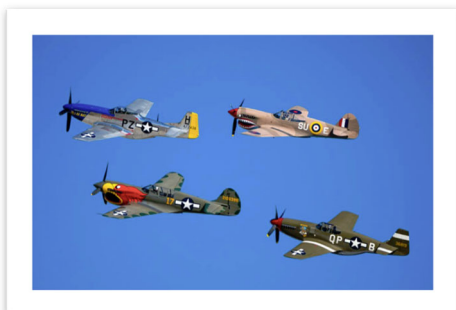
The Education Zone will feature aircraft maintenance and aircraft flight from Big Bend Community College, a weather booth, and aeronautics professor. Headliner Vicky Benzing along with many of the other featured entertainers are excited meet and talk with children interested in a STEM career. Many of these acts will be visiting the booth while not in the air.

“Show casing the STEM program, to introduce children to the many different pathways they can take for their

career is a major focus of the Grant County Economic Development Council,” said Brant Mayo, executive director of GCEDC. “It is exciting to see everyone come together to bring excitement to the many different industries that STEM encompasses all while building the brand of Grant County and bringing tourism to the region.”

The Port of Moses Lake is working hard to make this airshow a top attraction not only for the local residents of Grant County, but also to Washington State and any aeronautic fan across the nation. This is the first time the Port will have a live air show. “Past events had static shows of airplanes, but this year the Port really wanted to make an impact, an event that would kick off the summer each year, and bring in more and more visitors to our area,” said Rich Mueller, Airport Director.

If you would like to volunteer or help sponsor the event, visit the [Moses Lake Air Show website](#).





Rural Community Vitality Forum Travels to Quincy



The Washington Workforce Training & Education Coordinating Board is touring rural Washington State to hear from local

residents about the workforce needs in their community.

The board has already visited Toppenish and Aberdeen, but will still visit Colville on May 14th and Quincy on May 16th.

This listening forum is open to all residents: employers, educators, service-providers, elected officials, jobseekers, concerned citizens to share their perspective on how Washington can keep the rural economies strong and vibrant.

The Workforce Board is working with the US Department of Labor facilitators to organize a listening tour in rural communities.

During the sessions, participant comments will be recorded to help craft next steps for Washington State. After comments from all four sessions are compiled, residents

will have a chance to provide additional input before a report is provided to state and federal policymakers.

A statewide webcast will also be organized for later this summer.

Please join this forum in Quincy on May 16th from 9:30AM to 2:30PM. Lunch will be provided. Starting at 7:30AM a breakfast will be available to participants.

For more information contact Erica Wollen at 360.709.4608 or erica.wollen@wtb.wa.gov.

State Passes Biennium Budget

Late Sunday night, the Washington State Legislature passed the 2019-2021 budget in Olympia.

The \$52.4 billion budget was passed after a 105-day regular session by 57-41 in the House and 27-21 in the Senate. While the budget does raise taxes, it does not include the proposed capital gains tax.

To pay for the budget increase new taxes were also passed. A new tiered real estate excise tax, the B&O Tax rate increased for large banks and travel agents, new taxes for vaping products and the state eliminated the automatic sales tax exemption for shoppers from states without a sales tax.

A number of other new taxes were also passed that were not included within the budget. Including raising the B&O on select professional

services such as technology, new payroll tax and a hazardous substance tax.

Also passed was a \$9.8 billion transportation budget and a \$4.9 billion capital budget. Local communities were funded in the new capital budget.

- George was awarded \$201,000 for a new roof at the George Community Hall.
- Within Quincy the Quincy Hospital received \$300,000, and \$41,000 went to the Quincy Valley Historical Society & Museum.
- Royal City Parks and Recreation received \$250,000.
- Big Bend Community College received funds for facility repairs, minor works and roof



repairs totaling \$2.245 million.

- \$3.525 million went to Grant County Landfill.
- Coulee City Medical Clinic received \$150,000 to help build the new clinic.
- Community Services of Moses Lake Food Bank Facility was awarded \$2 million.



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Moses Lake School District
Northland Communications
Northwest Farm Credit Services
Polhamus Heating & Air Conditioning
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Port of Hartline
Port of Royal Slope
Port of Warden
Quincy Foods
Rock Steel Structures
SGL Group
Skaug Brothers, Inc.
Skone & Connors
Total Employment & Management
Town of Coulee City
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