

December 2017 Newsletter

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Celebrate Grant County:

GCEDC 2017 Annual Banquet

Retail and Services Development: Grow retail and service sector by 5-15 businesses.

 Current Total: 12 new retail establishments across Grant County since 2012.

2017 Annual Infrastructure Development: Assist with 10-12 job Banquet: Celebrate creating infrastructure projects.

 Current Total: EDC has worked with 27 different projects within the Strategic Infrastructure Program to bring new infrastructure to our local communities throughout Grant County since 2014.

Following Mayo's remarks, Paul J. Kimmel, the Palouse area regional business/public affairs manager with Avista Corporation, presented about rural economic development.

The EDC would like to extend a thank you to the evening's raffle sponsors: Alice Parker, 10 Pin Brewery, BBCC Foundation, Confluence Health, National Frozen Foods, Samaritan Healthcare and Skaug Brothers. Thank you also to the EDC Board of Directors, who help to ensure that the vision of the investors and partners is fulfilled. One last thank you to all those who attended Celebrate Grant County. It was a fun night of networking and entertainment from the Fabulous Basin Boys and games of Plinko. The EDC is proud to be working so hard to continue to grow Grant County and we could not do this without each and every one of you.



Brant Mayo Speaks at the 2017 Annual Banquet

Council held the 2017 Annual Banquet: Celebrate Grant County on December 7, 2017 at Big Bend Community

The Grant County

Economic

Development

College. Attendees from across the county came to hear an update of the EDC's capital campaign, Building Prosperity.

Brant Mayo, Executive Director of the EDC, outlined the success that Grant County has recently seen as well as the work that will continue to happen as the EDC wraps up the first five-year capital campaign. From 2014 to now the EDC staff has helped to facilitate the following goals from Building Prosperity:

Existing Business Development: Expansion of local agrelated and industrial businesses resulting in a 100-125 job increase.

 Current Total: 110 increased jobs from AstaReal expanding in 2015 and SGLACF expanding in 2014 and 2015

Business Recruitment and Attraction: New business development in Grant County resulting in 300-350 new iobs.

 Current Total: 355 new employees from Amway/ Nutrilite and AstaReal in 2014, and AeroTEc/MRJ in 2015 Thank you for maknig
Celebrate Grant County a Success!
Presented by the Grant County Economic Development Council

December 7, 2017

Grant County Sees Rise in Blockchain Requests

The term Bitcoin has been thrown around a lot lately and it keeps on popping up in places we wouldn't expect. Just recently an ESPN radio show talked about "10 ways to know A Person has no idea what Bitcoins are at a Christmas Party."

This should not be so surprising given the fact that Grant County has seen a large increase in requests for information about locations for Bitcoin, blockchain, cryptocurrency and other related companies. In fact, these types are companies are becoming so common that other Economic Development Organizations in the Pacific Northwest have called the Grant County EDC office to ask what we know about the new technology and how they can handle the larger than normal request for information.

But what is Bitcoin really and how will it affect Grant County in the long run. Here at the EDC we first heard about bitcoins from Project Fridge in January 2013. Ever since that time, the requests have not slowed down. The

office may not know what the future of this industry may bring, but Grant County EDC will continue to learn more about the industry as it continues to evolve.

For more information about blockchains follow this link.



Initiative 1433: What You Need to Know



Voters passed Initiative 1433 on the 2016 statewide ballot. The initiative was mostly known for raising the statewide minimum wage to \$13.30 by 2020, but it also included a paid Sick and Safe Leave requirement for all employers beginning January 1, 2018.

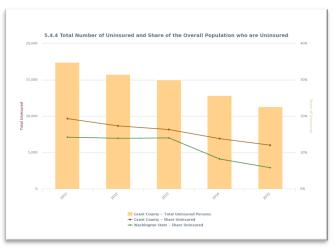
Do you know how Initiative 1433 will affect your business?

 Within 90 days after the initiative takes effect, employers must provide these benefits to current employees as well as provide benefits to new employees 90 days after their date of hire.

- Employees will accrue one hour of benefits for every 40 hours worked.
- There is no limit to the amount of leave employees can accrue within a given year. If an employee has unused hours of 40 or less, all must be carried over into the next year.
- Employees can use the sick leave
 - for themselves or to care for their family members.
 - Paid time off (PTO) provided to employees by an employer's PTO program satisfies the requirements to provide paid sick leave if the PTO program meets or exceeds the provisions of the RCW.

 If an employee chooses to use all available PTO or purposes other than those authorized under the RCW and the need for additional PTO arises, the employer is not required to provide more PTO.

For more information about the Initiative 1433 see the Department of Labor and Industry's website here.



Graph Source: The Grant County Trends Website

Partners & Investors

Founders Circle (\$75,000+ up)

ASPI Group City of Moses Lake City of Quincy **Grant County Grant County PUD** Port of Moses Lake Port of Quincy

Platinum Division (\$50,000-\$74,999)

Central Terminals LLC Columbia Basin Herald Microsoft Corporation Samaritan Healthcare Washington Trust Bank Oath:

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Chemi-Con Materials Confluence Health **Genie Industries** Havden Homes McKinstry Co., LLC

Silver Division (\$15,000-\$24,999)

AKZO Nobel City of Ephrata CliftonLarsonAllen LLP Port of Ephrata Port of Mattawa **REC Silicon**

Accredited Appraisals

Bronze Division (\$2,500-\$14,999)

Agri/Com Appraisals Alsted Real Estate **Aviation Technical Services B & D Communications Basic American Foods** Barrett Business Services, Inc. Belle Enterprises Inc. Big Bend Community College Cayuse Lake View Home Sites **Central Bonded Collectors** City of Electric City City of George City of Royal City City of Soap Lake City of Warden Clear Risk Solutions

Coldwell Banker Tomlinson Ranch & Home Columbia Basin Development League Columbia Basin Job Corp

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Bronze Division Continued

Dano Law Firm, PS **Express Employment Professionals** Gary Mann Real Estate General Dynamics—OTS **Guild Mortgage Company** Horizon Credit Union Housing Authority of Grant County **Hub International** Inland Cellular Inland Tarp & Liner, LLC ITC Services, Inc. J & M Electric JR Newhouse Co., PLLP

Lamb Weston, BSW Landau Associates, Inc. LC Farms, Inc. Lenroc Company **Linage Logistics** Live Nation-Gorge Amphitheatre

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Key Bank

Mardon Resort

Martin Morris Agency Million Air Moses Lake

Moses Lake Chamber of Commerce Moses Lake Community Health Center

Moses Lake School District National Frozen Foods **Northland Communications** Northwest Farm Credit Services Pillar Rock Grill/Moses Lake Golf Club Polhamus Heating & Air Conditioning Port of Coulee City

Port of Hartline Port of Royal Slope Port of Warden **Quincy Foods Rock Steel Structures**

SGL Automotive Carbon Fibers

Skaug Brothers, Inc.

SkillSource **Skone & Conners**

Total Employment & Management (TEAM)

Town of Coulee City Trask Insurance Inc. Umpqua Bank Western Pacific Engineering

Western Polymer Corporation Windermere K-2 Realty

Zip Truck Lines, Inc.

Friends of the EDC

Justin Ashley **David Bailey** Terry Brewer **Kevin Burgess** Jane Dickinson

Friends of the EDC Continued

Randy Dickinson Jeff Foster James & Frances Irwin Rory Knapp Denise Lefler Fred Lischka Col. Clyde Owen **Dale Pomeroy** Sheldon Townsend

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