

WHAT YOU'LL FIND INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

😊 **Wellness looks different for everyone** — and it often works best when we don't do it alone. This story highlights two women from the Lake Chelan Community Center who are helping long after those New Year's resolutions begin to fade. *Page 2*

💛 **Leadership and making a true difference in our community.** Quietly, mostly behind the scenes, a small group of committed volunteers has been guiding the planning, funding, and construction of The Community Center. Now we thank those board members whose terms have concluded and welcome a new member. *Page 3.*

👷 **The build-out of the gymnasium and performing arts center has been funded and will be underway soon!** Thanks to the generosity of Tim and Kristy Turner, a search for the general contractor is underway. *Page 4*



“It’s the perfect time for Wilf to join our team.” ~ Brooke Isaak, Seven Acres Foundation President

With decades of construction management experience, Wilf Wainhouse joins the Seven Acres Foundation Board. *Page 4*



“THIS SUCCESS BELONGS TO THE COMMUNITY — AND WE’RE DEEPLY GRATEFUL.”

**MARIBEL CRUZ,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

A Community That Showed Up In A Big Way

As January winds down, we want to pause for a moment of gratitude.

Over the final months of last year, something truly special happened at the Lake Chelan Community Center.

Neighbors gave. Friends shared the story. Families, businesses, and organizations stepped forward — each in their own way — to support a place designed for connection, wellness, learning, and belonging.

Because of that collective generosity, The Community Center successfully completed its \$2 million matching challenge, closing the year with extraordinary momentum and community-wide participation. Every gift mattered. Every conversation helped. And together, they moved this project forward in a meaningful way.

This milestone reflects more than dollars raised. It reflects belief — in one another, in the future of the Chelan Valley, and in the power of coming together around something bigger than ourselves.

As construction begins on the gymnasium and performing arts center, we do so with deep appreciation and confidence, knowing this progress was built by many hands and caring hearts.

From all of us: thank you for being part of this journey.

Maribel Cruz
Executive Director

TWO WOMEN WHO HELP HEALTH TO STICK EVEN AFTER JANUARY RESOLUTIONS BEGIN TO FADE AWAY.

By the time February rolls around, a lot of New Year's resolutions have quietly slipped away. Gym bags end up back in the closet. Schedules get busy. Life happens. At the Lake Chelan Community Center, we see something different every day. We see that health isn't a January promise — it's something built over time, and often built together. Two people who show that in very different (and very real) ways are Alicia Munro and Linda Hollier.



For Alicia, health started with noticing what was missing. When she moved to the Lake Chelan Valley, there wasn't a local gym — so she built one. What began as a leap of faith eventually became True Fitness, now operating 24/7 inside The Community Center. Today, Alicia sees more than workouts happening here. She sees neighbors crossing paths, parents exercising while kids play nearby, and people lingering long after class because connection matters just as much as conditioning.

“This isn't just where I work. It's where I see neighbors, clients, and friends every single day.”

— Alicia Munro

Linda's story reminds us that health isn't only physical. Her impact comes through care, compassion, and showing up for others. Linda's presence at The Community Center reflects the quieter side of well-being — emotional health, purpose, and the power of belonging. Her story is a reminder that sometimes the healthiest thing we can do is connect, listen, and serve.

Together, Alicia and Linda show us what real, lasting health looks like. It's movement and meaning. Strength and support. A place where bodies grow stronger and hearts feel at home. As the new year continues — long after resolutions fade — The Community Center remains a space where healthy habits are easier to keep because you don't have to do them alone.



We invite you to read Alicia Munro's full story and Linda Hollier's full story on our website.

Each one offers a different perspective, but together they capture the heart of what the Lake Chelan Community Center is all about. www.chelancommunity.org

**Brian Hendricks****Scott Hutchinson****April Williams****Ben Williams**

With Gratitude for Years of Service

At the start of this year, the Lake Chelan Community Center marked an important moment of appreciation and transition. Following their final board meeting, **Brian Hendricks, Scott Hutchinson, April Williams and Ben Williams** concluded their formal service as voting members of the Seven Acres Foundation Board of Directors and, effective January 1, 2026, moved into emeritus status. This change reflects both gratitude for their leadership and a continued connection to the work ahead.

As emeritus members, Ben, April, Scott, and Brian remain welcome to attend board meetings at their convenience and participate in discussions, offering insight and perspective drawn from years of dedicated service. While they will no longer vote on board decisions, their voices, experience, and institutional knowledge continue to be valued.

Each of these individuals played a meaningful role in helping guide The Community Center forward — through thoughtful leadership, steady commitment, and countless hours of behind-the-scenes work. Their contributions helped shape the project into the community-driven effort it is today.

On behalf of the Board and the entire Community Center family, we extend our sincere thanks to Ben, April, Scott, and Brian for their years of service and tireless work. We're grateful they will continue to be part of the journey in this new way.

To learn more about each of these leaders, we invite you to visit our website at www.chelancommunity.org.



A Careful Step Forward: Our New Gymnasium and Performing Arts Center is Underway

As the Lake Chelan Community Center prepares to begin the interior construction of the gymnasium and Performing Arts Center (PAC), an important step is now underway: selecting the right general contractor for the work ahead.

This is a decision our board of directors is approaching thoughtfully. A competitive selection process is in progress, with multiple qualified contractors being evaluated based on experience, approach, and alignment with the long-term vision for a place designed to serve the entire Chelan Valley.

Beyond cost and schedules, the focus is on partnership — choosing a contractor who understands the responsibility of building a community space meant to support connection, wellness, learning, and belonging for generations to come. The process is moving forward steadily, and we expect to be ready to announce the selected general contractor soon. We're grateful for the community's continued support and confidence as this next chapter takes shape.

Introducing Our Newest Board Member — Wilf Wainhouse

Wilf Wainhouse brings decades of leadership and community-focused experience to the board of the Lake Chelan Community Center. After a 45-year career with Sellen Construction—where he advanced from Project Engineer to Chief Operating Officer—Wilf developed a deep appreciation for how thoughtfully built spaces strengthen communities.

Wilf and his wife, Diane, have been drawn to the Chelan Valley since 1984, first visiting on waterski vacations before making Chelan their full-time home in 2023. Inspired by the growing number of young families choosing to settle in the valley, Wilf is excited about The Community Center's role as a welcoming, multi-use gathering place serving residents, visitors, and future generations.

To learn more about Wilf, please visit the TEAM page of our website.

