

# Twenty on the Twenty

A 20-second (or so) monthly update about co-op development in the Pacific Northwest provided to you on or about the 20th of each month. Please share with your network!

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# Twisted Strait Fiber Starts Membership/Capital Drive

The fiber producers and artists of the PNW Fiber Web Coop have begun their Membership and Capital Drive. The Clallam County based co-op aims to create a producer/artist owned fiber mill on the Olympic Peninsula of Western Washington. As part of the drive, they will be creating a new website and adopting the name **Twisted Strait Fiber** (to recognize the Strait of San Juan De Fuca, the gateway to the Salish Sea).

They hope to draw enough members by June 30, to be able to acquire the needed capital to purchase equipment and begin operations in 2018.

## Sp'q'ni Food Truck Co-operative Starts Rolling



The workers of the Chewelah Casino in Chewelah, WA have begun working on a unique venture. They plan to cooperatively own and operate a food truck with an espresso bar trailer. The main location will be the parking lot of the casino. The food truck will replace the Casino's restaurant for employee meals and also provide service to the general public. Members will control the menu and have an additional source of revenue.

They plan to be operational by summer of 2017.

#### Capital Homecare On The Move

Capital Homecare Cooperative (CHC) is moving into NWCDC's vacant office. The office will serve as incubator space during the Co-op's ramp-up period and provide the required physical office for State license approval.

CHC will be providing homecare in Thurston County. They incorporated last fall and are putting the finishing touches on the business plan. The next step involves recruiting members and acquiring clients.

The board is working on a marketing plan while also finalizing the business license and State license requirements to provide homecare.



### **ROC News**



It has been a busy month with the Resident Owned Communities!

- Northlake Cooperative has been approved for their mortgage and looks forward to closing in the next week or so!
- Woodbrook Wagon Cooperative has been approved for a pre-development loan.
- Hillside Homeowners Cooperative in Centralia,

Washington was featured in the **Washington State Housing Finance Commission's** Annual Report featuring a NWCDC program (see below).

- Ponderosa Cooperative has agreed to participate in an "alpha" test of a remote
  collaboration kit that includes a laptop computer, mobile hotspot, access to Chromecast, and other equipment to allow support for the board and membership without the
  cost of traveling across the state. ROC NW staff provides the training. If successful,
  this will allow ROC NW CTAPs to use their time providing service that would
  otherwise be spent driving a car.
- In collaboration with <u>CIELO</u> and <u>The Evergreen State College</u>, NWCDC has been providing translation services of core documents for Spanish speaking cooperative members and teaching English for Language Learners to those members.
- ROC NW staff visited Representatives at the Washington State Capitol to educate them about the ROC program and the Washington State Housing Finance Commission's land acquisition program.

## Help us provide technical assistance to co-ops!

Rural grants only go so far and urban areas have few, if any resources. You don't have to wait for the end of the year to support our programs! You can provide a **tax deductible** one-time donation or monthly sustaining gift to help fund the work of co-op development!

You can even earmark specific projects.

**DONATE NOW!** 

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