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Great communities have several things in common: a unique identity, resourceful residents, access to and appreciation of the arts, an emphasis on education and information, and a desire to continue to improve the quality of life for its residents.

Northwest Public Radio believes it adds to every community it serves and strives to help foster those qualities every day. As we take stock of the accomplishments of 2015, we are proud of the impact the station has had on the Pacific Northwest. We were able to add news reporters to help cover important topics and reflect the voice of the region in the national discussion. We uplifted the arts through classical music, jazz and cultural programming. We were able to provide learning opportunities for students, expand signals and report vital information when it was needed most.

All of this is only possible with another great part of a community — individuals and organizations who visualize a preferred reality and provide the funding to make it possible. Thanks to the many listeners, businesses and foundations that support cultural programming, art and access to information. It has been said that public radio may be America’s last best hope for an informed society. As we look to the future, we believe that, with your support, Northwest Public Radio can be a beacon.

Kerry Swanson
Station Manager
National Programs
By Gillian Coldsnow, Program Director

This year, we moved to a completely new system of delivering the NWPR signal to transmitters, which involved major software and hardware upgrades. These improvements allow us to give you more consistent service.

Another major technical change involved the digitization of our classical music library. With music stored and played from a database, you began hearing many more hours of locally produced music programs, which are not subject to the errors caused by malfunctioning or aging CD players. Consolidating music from two separate physical libraries into a single, shared database expanded the music choices available to our hosts.

This year, Brett Charvat stepped into the Morning Edition chair vacated reluctantly by Sueann Ramella. Sueann continues to be a valued part of the NWPR team as a vital member of the digital and social media team and is occasionally on the air. In addition, we were all sad to see Bruce Bradberry retire as host of Weekend Edition; we miss his warm and witty presence, both on the air and around the office.

As part of The Edward R. Murrow College of Communication at Washington State University, NWPR serves as a professional “teaching studio” for students. This year, Alex Siddons, Kelsie Smith, Charlotte Yau, Jenny Huang, Katharine Krahn, Janelle Mendoza, Kelsey Meyer, Tesia Lingenfelter, Corey Sullivan, Megan Abundis, Angela Nguyen and Kevin Vallene were among the students who worked alongside NWPR staff in announcing, news writing and production, social media and operations. NWPR is very proud to continue a long tradition of training and grooming broadcasting’s next generation.
Fiscal year 2015 was a year of growth for music on NWPR. Hosts Steve Reeder, Gigi Yellen, Anjuli Dodhia and I continued to join you weekday mornings, afternoons and evenings and even expanded into locally programmed, produced and hosted overnight classical music. NWPR harnessed technology to bring you an additional seven hours of music programming during the week. Mondays through Thursdays now see 17 hours of local classical music each day. Not only did this turn your overnight soundtrack into more place-based programming but this station was able to save more than $60,000.

Saturdays continued to offer an eclectic mix of musical selections with Inland Folk with Dan Maher, The Thistle and Shamrock, and now an additional hour of both American Routes and The Retro Cocktail Hour. You can now hear seven hours of classical music programming every Sunday on NWPR’s NPR and Classical Music Service. The Score with Edmund Stone and the bilingual Concierto with Frank Dominguez joined the ranks of Sunday Baroque, From the Top and Classical Guitar Alive to give you a very musical Sunday.

Steve, Gigi and Gillian Coldsnow were seen in the community at performances from the Wenatchee Valley Symphony, Lake Chelan Bach Festival, Icicle Creek Chamber Music Festival and more.
NWPR’s reporters were on the front lines, in some cases literally, as big news swept through the region.

Anna King’s reports on the police shooting in Pasco and the Okanogan fires kept listeners informed and up to date not only in the Pacific Northwest but across the U.S. and even further afield as her work was picked up by NPR, Here and Now and the BBC. Amid all that action, she found time to lead a major multimedia journalism, photograph and art project, Daughters of Hanford, which explores the role women played in the development of the Hanford Nuclear site. The project is on display at THE REACH Interpretative Center in Richland.

Last year, NWPR launched a search for a bilingual news reporter to be based in Yakima. This first-of-its-kind initiative was established by matching grants from the Yakima Valley Community Foundation and the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. The search found Rowan Moore Gerety, and he has had an extraordinarily productive year. When Anna wasn’t on the fire lines in Okanogan, Rowan was. Along the way, he offered listeners a look at emergency planning regulations that leave farmworkers in migrant housing unprotected. Off the lines, Rowan was one of the first to report nationally on the growing practice of paid video visitations in jails. He was also one of the first to explore “remote jailing” — when people accused of minor crimes are jailed hundreds of miles away from family members and attorneys.

Courtney Flatt continued to break new ground in her environmental reporting, particularly in detailing the intricate efforts by governments, ranchers and scientists to protect the Western Sage Grouse. As part of
that reporting, she was a member of the Institute for Journalism and Natural Resource’s Sagebrush Country Tour. One of our favorite Courtney pieces in the past year offered instructions on how to listen for a spotted bat. Another detailed efforts of wildlife detectives to stop illegal — and dangerous — antler hunting. Through all of this, Courtney continued to develop her video story-telling. Most of her pieces have a video component; in fact, she was a special guest on the KCTS-TV broadcast In Close to talk about her radio and video report on whether Northwest forests can be protected from future mega-fires.

Through NWPR reporters you heard in-depth analysis of policy, breaking news and untold stories throughout the region. In statehouse politics, Chris Lehman broke the news of Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber’s imminent resignation in February and provided live coverage on NPR’s All Things Considered, while Austin Jenkins doggedly pursued the story of Washington’s indicted state auditor. Jessica Robinson expanded our statehouse coverage to now include Idaho’s legislative session and covered the tacit tug-of-war between Idaho and Homeland Security regarding REAL ID requirements. Austin Jenkins shone a light on the justice issues of mental health, truancy and juvenile court, telling stories of people throughout Washington state who are subject to those systems. Tom Banse continues to highlight innovation in our region through his unique reporting on drones in our daily lives. The national stories that broke in our region were told with unique sensitivity and experience — Chris Lehman on the Roseburg, Oregon shooting; Jessica Robinson from Hailey, Idaho as Bowe Bergdahl was charged with desertion; Anna King and her interpreter on the Pasco police shooting of Antonio Zambrano-Montes; and team coverage of drought and wildfires.
NWPR brought listeners face to face with the people who bring them their favorite public radio programming every week. Working with community organizations, NWPR has been able to broaden its outreach to enrich listeners’ experiences. The following map contains many of the places and events where listeners and public radio personalities met live and in person.
Gillian Coldsnow emceed Mara Liasson’s lecture at the Snowy Owl Theater in March

NWPR sponsored Lake Chelan Shore to Shore Marathon, Half-Marathon and 10k in September

Steve Reeder emceed Wenatchee Valley Symphony Orchestra in April

NWPR sponsored Murrow College Hall of Radio History event, Evergreen Radio Live in April

KJEM presented Jazz Night at Gladish in March

NWPR, in partnership with Shakespeare Walla Walla, sponsored Seattle Shakespeare’s production of Julius Caesar in August

NWPR sponsored WSU Tri-Cities’ First Jazz and Wine Event in June

NWPR sponsored David Sedaris’ presentations at Whitman College in November

NWPR sponsored Neil deGrasse Tyson’s presentations at Whitman College in September

NWPR sponsored Maria Hinojosa’s screening at the University of Idaho of her North Idaho episode of America By The Numbers
As KJEM, the “Jazz Gem of the Palouse”, entered into its second year of operation, a student management team took over the day-to-day operation of the station. The students recruited and supervised a crew of volunteers that recorded announcements, attended jazz events, developed a website, and recorded intimate jazz performances shared on air and at kjemjazz.org. One highlight of the year was KJEM 89.9’s sponsorship of the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival at the University of Idaho. KJEM also sponsored Jazz Night at Gladish, a concert in Pullman featuring bands from local universities and high schools. The event was a resounding success with nearly every seat filled! The students gained a great deal of professional experience and left the station in great shape for this year’s team.

“Northwest Public Radio reaches thousands of listeners in British Columbia, and many listeners join in supporting the station. Valuable media and community support cross international boundaries. I’m honored to be a member of NWPR. Indeed, as we’ve heard many times during fundraising, once you are a member, everything you listen to takes on a special significance.”

- Patricia Kidd, Victoria, B.C.
With 19 radio stations, two televisions and numerous translators, the engineering department is always busy. It is our goal to provide listeners with the best-sounding stations around, be they classical music stations or news and views. In addition to a heavy maintenance schedule, our engineers find time to add other stations and improve signals across the fleet.

FM translators make up an important component of our network that extends the coverage of our main stations. This year, we replaced antennas on the Goldendale translator (90.5), which carries the KFAE signal. This greatly improved the signal in The Dalles, Oregon and along a segment of Interstate 84. We added another translator to our network in Bellingham, which provides improved news service in the area. We continue to look for opportunities to add translators throughout our operational area.

Did you know that the FM broadcast signal can carry multiple program streams? Some of you may know about and receive HD signals from some of our stations that are so equipped. There is yet another stream that can be injected into the FM signal. It’s called SCA or Sub Channel Authorization. We use this SCA channel on KFAE in the Tri-Cities to provide a reading service to sight-impaired persons. A dedicated group of volunteers reads the news from local papers daily in our Richland studios. Sight-impaired listeners use special radio receivers to tune into the SCA channel. These receivers are provided by the state.

 Probably our biggest engineering project this year was to replace the antenna at KWWS in Walla Walla. Three years ago, we applied to the FCC for authorization to provide greater signal strength from this station in the direction of the Tri-Cities. To acquire this signal strength, we needed a specially designed and constructed antenna, which would direct more...
energy toward the Tri-Cities, while restricting signals in other directions to keep from interfering with other nearby stations. The project also required installing a stronger tower to support the larger antenna. Thanks to many of you who contributed to this project. We’re excited about this project and look forward to solid news service coverage in Pasco, Kennewick and Richland.

Broadcast Engineering
By Don Peters, Director of Engineering

With our network of 19 stations in two states, it’s a challenge to deliver signals from our studios in Pullman, Richland and Tacoma to the transmitters, most of which are located on mountaintops. To efficiently deliver those signals and provide localized coverage for your area, we use satellites. We send the signal 22,500 miles up to the satellite, which then sends the signal 22,500 miles back down to a satellite dish at the transmitter site. One problem with satellite transmission is a phenomenon called “sun transit.” Twice a year for several days, around the autumnal and vernal equinox times, the sun appears directly behind the satellite. The overwhelming amount of energy emitted by the sun overpowers the satellite signal, and all we hear is static for several minutes. This year, we replaced our satellite receivers with new models that contain technological advances. One of which is the addition of an Ethernet port. This allows us to provide a backup path to most of our receivers over the Internet. We can feed our broadcast signal terrestrially to these receivers. Now, during sun transit, the receivers will automatically switch to this feed and virtually eliminate the annoying, twice-yearly interruption by the sun.
As mentioned, most of our transmitters are located on mountaintops. Our highest site is KNWR located on Naneum Ridge, near Mission Ridge between Ellensburg and Wenatchee. At nearly 7,000 feet, it is a very challenging site because winter comes early and leaves late. Winter access to this site requires a Snowcat to get to the transmitter. Ice forms on the tower and, during alternate periods of freezing and thawing, large chunks of ice come crashing down on the transmitter building, as well as the transmission line to the antenna. This summer, our site engineer, Don Eckis, reinforced the ice shield, which offered some protection for the transmission line. Don is hoping he won’t have to make a winter ascent this year. Send good thoughts his way.

“We want to start the momentum for the pledge drive early. We were in [another state] for [another station’s] most recent pledge drive, and it was so frustrating to listen to them go on and on, urging people to call in. We hope we don’t start taking the short pledge drives for granted and end up with one of those painfully long drives. We would much rather listen to the programs that we enjoy each day on NWPR. We are also thankful to have the news station in the lower Yakima Valley.”
- Janis Rue and Mark Farley, Toppenish

Thank you to Marie Glynn of MG Clicks Photography for the following staff photos:
Kerry Swanson
Jessie Jacobs
Marie Glynn
KJEM student staff
Northwest Public Radio’s financial picture in FY 2015 was healthy. Continued growth in membership and business and community partnerships helped NWPR invest in local programming, reporting partnerships and critical equipment upgrades to improve service. Smart budgeting also helped NWPR staff find savings in some areas of program production and technology services. Northwest Public Radio continues to employ best practices in order to maximize financial support for enhancing services to listeners and communities of the Northwest.
Northwest Public Radio membership reached a new height in FY 2015. The broad base of membership support, which has held essentially steady the past five years, provides the station with a reliable funding base for operations. Growth in sustaining memberships and major donations at all levels have increased the overall funds contributed, which allow the station to meet planned maintenance, upgrades and special project and programming needs. Members who contribute cash, cars or appreciated assets, whether contributing monthly or annually, during fund drives or throughout the year, continue to be the largest single source of NWPR’s income and provide the foundation for bringing public radio to tens of thousands of Northwesterners every day.

### Membership Donors

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### Sustaining Members

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Legacy Associates

Legacy Associates have included NWPR in their estate plans. Their gifts will provide public radio service to future generations.

Alida Bockino, Moscow
Charles & Nancy Borg, Wenatchee
James Corcoran, Wenatchee
Brooke DuBois, Richland
Robert & Paulette Fordan, Vancouver
Robert Pearse Gibb, Bellingham
Albert W. & Mary Lou Harst, Gig Harbor
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Edward Siciliano, Richland
V. D. P. Spicer, Yakima
Donna Lynn Zuba, Kennewick
Anonymous, Athena
Anonymous, Battle Ground
Anonymous, Bellingham
Anonymous, Ellensburg
Anonymous, Lewiston
Anonymous, Lynnwood
Anonymous, Milton-Freewater
Anonymous, Prosser
Anonymous, Pullman (2)
Anonymous, Richland
Anonymous, Walla Walla (2)
Anonymous, Wenatchee
Anonymous, Yakima (2)

Ron & Jo Ellen Force, Moscow
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Jim & Jo Ann Roberts, Sequim
John C. Roberts, Kennewick
Matthew Root, Pullman
George M Roper, Othello
Mark Farley & Janis Rue, Toppenish
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Peter Ward, Wenatchee
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Dianna & Steve Woolley, Walla Walla
Kathleen Yenne, College Place
Ralph & Valerie Yount, Pullman
Anonymous, Colorado Springs, CO
Anonymous, Ellensburg
Anonymous, Kennewick
Anonymous, Leavenworth
Anonymous, Moscow (3)
Anonymous, Moses Lake
Anonymous, Republic
Anonymous, Sequim
Anonymous, Toppenish
Anonymous, Victoria
Anonymous, Yakima
* deceased

Broadcasters Circle

Broadcasters Circle members contributed $5,000 or more. Their gifts allow NWPR to invest in projects beyond general operations.

Diana Broze, Walla Walla

Leadership Circle

Leadership Circle members contributed $1,000—$4,999 and receive quarterly “insider” letters from the station manager and periodic invitations to special events.

Terry Abeyta, Yakima
Don & Ellen Baer, Richland

Be Sustainable
Partners
Partners contributed $500–$999 to NWPR.

Jan & Keith Abel, Richland
William Adley, Kent
Marian Alexander & David Netboy, Bellingham
J. R. Aldredge & Judy Meuth, Pullman
Erik Anderson & Janice Fletcher, Moscow
Effie M. Burton, Parker

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Serena Dabney, Lummi Island
Darwin & Patricia Davis, Ellensburg
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Stephen Hines, Pullman
Virginia Hilsop, Yakima
Rick Hoffman, Selah
Robert Holtz, Port Townsend
Holly Howard & Frank Skorina & Family, Walla Walla
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Erick & Sharon Isaason, Richland
Orrin & Catherine Iseming, Colton
Janet Isherwood, Port Townsend
Corey Johnson, Pullman
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Carrie Lee, Moscow
Melanie Lee, Richland
Dave & Judi Lewis, Yakima
Charles Lincoln, Walla Walla
Jeannie Liner, Tacoma
Margaret Littlejohn, Oakand
Allison Mandas, Tacoma
Gary Manning, Ellensburg
Marvin & Carol Marcelo, Pullman
Edward Marquand, Seattle
Thomas Mayne, Victoria
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Ron McFarland, Moscow
David Monthie, Olympia
Tae-Im Moon, Richland
James E. & Robin Morris, Richland
Janet & Charles Mosier, Orofino
Janel Mundell, Pullman
LuAnn Nelson, Pullman
Barbara S. Nepom, Lopez Island
John & Gwen Nixon, Anacortes
David & Patricia Notter, Wenatchee
Jon & Li Ochs, Lacrosse
Stephanie Ogle, Olympia
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Joann Otto, Bellingham
Linda L. Blackwelder Palf, Moscow
John & Gretchen Patrick, Pasco
Steve & Pat Pennak, Pullman
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Joann Peters-Kent-Swanson, Ellensburg
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Irene Preuss-Meyer, Yakima
Pegasus Project, Yakima
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Leslie Ramsden, Moses Lake
Sureshkumar Rangasamy, Portsmouth
Gary & Lucy Grace Reiber, Walla Walla
Yancey & Lavonne Reser, Walla Walla
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Warren & Libby Street, Ellensburg
Charles Strickland, Port Angeles
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Susan & Loch Trimingham, Lummi Island
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Tom Weber, Kennewick
Nancy Wenke, Ephrata
Dr. Hans Went, Pullman
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Tony Wright, Palouse
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Ray Yocum & Pamela McClary, Selah
Doug & Lillian Young, Pullman
Jennifer Zaccardo, Beaver
Robert & Jill Zalgelo, Walla Walla
Anonymous, Kennewick
Anonymous, Mercer Island
Anonymous, Pasco
Anonymous, Pullman
Anonymous, Richland
Anonymous, Steilacoom
Anonymous, Wenatchee (2)

“To us, donating through our Revocable Living Trust has helped us feel better knowing that some things we loved in life can benefit others for a long time to come.” - Paulette and Robert Fordan, Ellensburg
Be Sustainable

Business & Community Partners

By Cricket Cordova, Corporate Support Manager

In FY 2015, more than 270 businesses and community organizations supported NWPR. Their support is instrumental in providing outstanding and innovative programming. The individuals, businesses and foundations that contribute to NWPR help us enrich lives, enlighten and entertain tens of thousands of listeners. We encourage you to join us in thanking NWPR sponsors.

NWPR strives for accuracy in recognizing people and organizations that support its operation. Please notify us of errors so we can offer apologies and correctly recognize you in future publications. 800-842-8991 or nwpr@wsu.edu

Business & Community Partners

A Book For All Seasons, Leavenworth
Academy of The Children’s Theatre, Richland
Adventures Underground, Richland
AFS Intercultural Programs USA, Regional
Albertson Family Foundation, Idaho
Allied Arts Association, Richland
American Association of University Women, Walla Walla
American Humanist Association, Women, Walla Walla
American Humanist Association, Washington
American Red Cross, Regional
Ameriprise Financial, Jason Johnson, Kennewick
Anatek Labs, Inc., Moscow
Animal Hospital of Pasco, Tri-Cities
Applesox Baseball Club, Wenatchee
The Arts Center Task Force, Mid-Columbia
Artsisans at The Dahmen Barn, Uniontown
Auditorium Chamber Music Series, Moscow
Battelle, Richland
Bellarmine Preparatory School, Tacoma
Bellingham Festival Of Music
Blue Mountain Station, Dayton
Blue Sky Dental, Moscow
Book People of Moscow
Boys & Girls Clubs of South Puget Sound, Lakewood
Brick Road Books, Ellensburg
Broadway Center For The Performing Arts, Tacoma
Brusetman’s Office Solutions, Kennewick
Business Examiner Media Group, South Sound
Camerata Musica, Richland
Cape Flattery Foundation, Walla Walla
Cascade Analytical, Wenatchee
Cascade Autocenter, Wenatchee
Cascade Farmlands, Leavenworth
Cashmere Valley Bank, Regional
Cavu Cellars, Walla Walla
Central Washington Podiatry, Yakima
Central Washington University, Ellensburg
Charles Wright Academy, Tacoma
Chelan County PUD, Wenatchee
Chelan Douglas Land Trust, Wenatchee
Chinkook Fest, Naches
Classical Guitar Society of The Tri Cities
Clearview Eye Clinic, Moscow
Clyp Park Technical College, Lakewood
Columbia Basin Allied Arts, Moses Lake
Columbia Basin College, Tri-Cities
Columbia Chorale, Wenatchee
Columbia Valley Community Health, Wenatchee
Community Congregational Church of Christ, Pullman
Community Foundation of NCW, Wenatchee
Community Unitarian Universalist Church, Pasco
Confluence Health, Wenatchee
Cowgirl Chocolates, Moscow
D&M Coffee, Ellensburg
Dayton Chamber of Commerce
Dayton Historic Depot Society
Delta Dental, Washington State
Deny’s Auto Service, Moscow
Desert Thistle Pipe Band, Mid-Columbia
Desh International Law, Bellevue
Dihedral Builders, LLC, Mount Vernon
Eastern Oregon University, La Grande, OR
Eastside Marketplace, Moscow
Edensticks, Regional
Ellensburg Arts Commission
Emerald of Siam, Richland
Engineers Without Border, University of Idaho Student Chapter, Moscow
Evergreen State College, Olympia
Festival Dance & Performing Arts, Moscow
Fisher Systems, Lewiston
Forterra - Cascade Land Conservancy, Regional
Gallery One Visual Arts Center, Ellensburg
GET - Guaranteed Education Tuition Program, Washington State
Gilbert Cellars and Orchards, Yakima
Gonzaga Virtual Campus, Spokane
Grand Cinema, Tacoma
Grave Sandwicthes, Walla Walla, Kennewick, Richland
Gritman Medical Center, Moscow
Groove Atlantic
Hanford High School, Richland
Harper Joy Theatre, Walla Walla
Health Alliance, National
Heart of the Arts, Inc., Moscow
Heirloom Gardeners Food & Wine Weekend, Dayton
Heritage University, Toppenish
Hire Electric/Solar Division, Regional
Historic Downtown Chelan Association, Chelan
Hodgins Drug & Hobbies, Moscow
Horticulture Center of The Pacific, Victoria
Hotel Murano, Tacoma
Howard Hughes Appliance, Moscow
Howard’s Medical Supply, Selah, Yakima & Ellensburg
I Heart Yakima
Icicle Creek Center For The Arts, Leavenworth
Inland Arbor, Yakima
Inland Octopus, Walla Walla
In-Home Medical, Pasco, Pendleton, Moses Lake
Inklings Bookshop, Yakima
Integrity 3 Heating & Air Conditioning, Kennewick
Invested, Washington State
Iron Horse Brewery, Ellensburg
Jazz in the Valley, Ellensburg
Jim Custer Enterprises, Regional
Juan de Fuca Festival of The Arts, Port Angeles
Kadlec Regional Medical Center, Tri-Cities
Kay Funk MD, Yakima
KBTC Public Television, Tacoma
Kennewick First Presbyterian Church
Kenworthy Performing Arts Centre, Moscow
Kittitas County Farmers Market, Ellensburg
Kiwanis Club of Pullman
Lake Chelan Bach Fest, Chelan

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- Douglas Nash, Lapwai