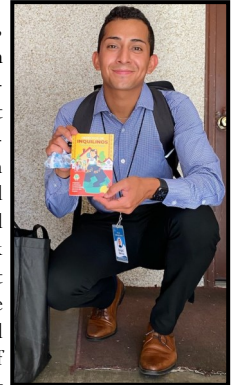




Celebrating the Success of Manson Graduates *January 2021*

Angel Garcia: Assistant Director, Villa Comunitaria Angel grew up in the Manson Valley with his mother and six siblings. A large, loving family provided a great support system for Angel. "Manson High School afforded me the opportunity to accelerate my education, participate in various clubs, compete year-round in cross-country, volleyball, basketball and soccer all while simultaneously working at Wapato Point Cellars Winery." Angel says his experience here was irreplaceable and allowed him to balance his educational aspirations, athletic prowess and a job. "The support I received to tackle these feats cemented my work ethic and has carried me into my adult life and career." After graduating MHS in 2015, Angel attended the University of Washington where he received his Bachelor of Arts with a major in Architectural Design and certification in Lighting Design in 2019. This coming fall, Angel will obtain his Master of Architecture Professional Degree at UW. While carving his way through his BA, Angel became involved with the creation of housing for low-income and underrepresented communities. "I hope to one day work in the Chelan Valley and tackle the lack of affordable housing to build a better community for all of our families." Angel's current position is a great fit that allows him to work with individuals and families who struggle navigating the complex systems and institutions, like housing. Angel is currently the Assistant Director at Villa Comunitaria, a non-profit organization serving Latinx populations in South Seattle and South King County where he oversees and manages the day-to-day administration of the organization. Prior to this role, Angel managed the Seattle Housing Program where he strategized and implemented methodologies to mitigate the resource gap for Tenant's Rights across the state. In reflection, Angel recalls his years at MHS. "The experience of community, opportunity and accountability that is present at Manson High School is unparalleled. I thank all Manson teachers and staff for influencing my personal and professional development; these people helped me at different times in my life, whether they knew it or not, which helped me persevere and overcome challenges at hand while gifting me a piece of themselves that I have carried ever since." Angel encourages all Manson students to be adaptable, resilient and malleable. "Life will forever throw you curveballs, so you must be prepared to adjust to new challenges and stay on your feet!"



Bailey Stevens: Project Engineer, Atkinson Construction

The Stevens family has lived in the Chelan Valley for three generations. Bailey grew up on his family's apple orchard and loved the outdoors and helping his father with the apple crop. Bailey was involved in the Boy Scouts, FFA, church youth group and played basketball, baseball, track and band.

"Growing up in Manson is one of my most treasured life experiences as there is nothing like living in a community where you know everyone by name and there is always someone willing to lend a hand." After graduating from Manson High School in 2012, Bailey attended Washington State University where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering. While at WSU, he joined the Steel Bridge Team, a club sponsored by the American Society of Civil Engineers. While on the team, Bailey learned about different career paths within his degree and discovered the field of construction engineering and management. After some research and networking, he decided he wanted to work for a general contractor and found Atkinson Construction through a WSU career fair. During his first years with the company, Bailey worked under a manager who became the mentor whom he frequently turned to for advice, an asset for a young professional. Now Bailey is a Project Engineer for Atkinson, a heavy civil construction company where he builds, and improves transportation infrastructure such as bridges, tunnels, roads and railways. "My responsibilities consist of developing/turning plans on paper into reality, along with solving technical issues that arise within the construction process." Bailey is also heavily involved in the direct management of the day-to-day construction activities including scheduling, materials, crews and subcontractors. One of the highlights of his career was being tasked as the engineer to build the feature structure for the Sound Transit East Link Extension which is a "long span" light rail bridge spanning over I-405 into downtown Bellevue. When reflecting on his time at MHS, Bailey says he was fortunate to have Mrs. Kamie Kronbauer as his math instructor from 7th–12th grade. "She fostered a learning environment that allowed me to thrive and enjoy my love for math." Mr. Kevin Amsden made learning fun and allowed Bailey to grow and refine the technical skills that he uses to this day. "These skills have allowed me to excel in the management of field work." Bailey believes taking one day at a time and concentrating on the task at hand is the key to success. "As you tackle each task, break it down into little steps and focus on each step, then before you know it, you will have a finished product."



Erin (Williams) Colladay: Owner, Colladay Leather

In 2003, a very talented graduate entered the world. Erin was born and raised in Manson, right next door to the house where her father was born and raised. For most of her childhood, her parents ran the apple orchard her grandfather planted. "I learned so much from them about running a business and working successfully as a family—lessons I had no idea would turn out to be so useful later in life." Erin spent her summers swimming and exploring and winters sledding and skating. "The natural beauty of the Lake Chelan Valley fostered in me a love of the outdoors, as I am sure it does for most folks who live here." Erin played softball for four years and sang in the school choir; writing and photography were her hobbies. In 2007, she graduated from Trinity Western University in Langley, B.C where she received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Human Services. The following year, Erin set off to pursue a long-held dream of attending the Rocky Mountain School of Photography in Missoula, MT. She also attended the Great Commission Bible Institute in Sebring, FL and completed their year-long program in 2010. Erin recalls, "I took a long and winding road to get where I am now, and I really couldn't have predicted the outcome when I first began my post-high school journey." The only training that applies to her current work was that which she received from the Rocky Mountain School of Photography. The rest of her schooling helped shape her as a person and sharpened her communication skills, goal setting, ability to meet deadlines, stress management and perseverance. These traits are an asset for Erin today as she and her husband, Jeremiah, own and operate Colladay Leather, a small artisan leather company in Spokane. "Our mission is to build beautiful and useful leather goods, preserve a disappearing artisan tradition and inspire creativity in our community." Jeremiah is an incredibly talented artist and is their primary craftsman. Erin handles most of the other features of the business and can be found writing content or photographing products for their website or social media. Corresponding with customers, bookkeeping, managing inventory and chasing an active sixteen-month-old fill Erin's busy days. "I can't think of anything I would rather be doing. It's challenging, but rewarding. It calls on my creative side while utilizing my propensity towards details." Colladay Leather has allowed Erin to connect with an amazing community of artists and designers in Spokane, and best of all, she gets to work from home with her favorite people. When asked which Manson staff most impacted her life, Erin struggled with the question, but not because she couldn't think of anyone, rather because there were so many. "There is something beautiful about being part of a community like Manson where you are known and seen by your teacher, your school secretary, and even the custodians. It's the thing we squirm against when we're 18 and ready to fly out of the nest, yet it is the firm foundation that gives us confidence to strike out on our own." Erin went on to say Mrs. Kelly Bell pushed her to think harder and go beyond the obvious answer. Mrs. Kamie Kronbauer knew that the development of her character was as important as her academics. "Mrs. K cared enough to hold me accountable when either was lacking." Lastly, Mr. Ron McClure recognized Erin's creativity and championed that superbly. Erin hopes all Manson students will always search for the truth. "Let reason and logic guide you and kindness and empathy motivate you—i.e. use your brain to steer and your heart to push the gas pedal. Ask good questions. Listen when people answer. Talk to folks who think differently than you, but don't be afraid to stand for what you believe in OR change your mind altogether; you'll need to do both throughout your life."



Dean Adams: Head Athletic Trainer University of Hawaii and University of Oregon, Three-time Hall of Fame Inductee, Retired



Growing up in an isolated, rural community like Manson was a unique reward for Dean Adams who grew up in the family homestead his parent's built in the 1930s. Sterling and Laura Adams were orchardists who taught their sons, Dean and Norman, to be hard-working, honest and respectful gentlemen who had confidence and self-belief. Dean was instilled with a love for athletics as a child. While in the Cub Scouts he played his first game of organized basketball; Dean was hooked! In high school, he played four years of football, basketball and track. Dean's team was the first Manson basketball team to make it to the State 'B' Tournament. Dean is thankful to his teachers and coaches, especially Mr. Bernie Averill and Mr. Ron Huffer, whose leadership, guidance and emotional support were of great influence. After graduation in 1962, Dean attended Wenatchee Valley College where he played football and track. He then transferred to Eastern Washington University, playing football and track for another two years. Dean and his team won the conference title in 1965 and he placed fifth and second in the triple jump in 1964-65 at the National Track & Field Championships. After experiencing several sports-related injuries, Dean realized he had an interest in treatment and rehabilitation for quick return and recovery—and from there he pursued his career path. Dean graduated EWU with a B.S in Health and Physical Education with a Pre-Therapy Option. That summer, he was recruited by the Denver Broncos for a summer try-out. "It had been a dream of mine to play football in the NFL, unfortunately, it only lasted two weeks, but what a great experience it was!" Dean returned to EWU to complete his Master's Degree and was shortly thereafter offered the Head Athletic Trainer position at the University of Hawaii, a position Dean held for twelve years. In 1980, he accepted the Head Athletic Trainer position at the University of Oregon where he stayed on for twenty-four years until he retired in 2004. "Thirty-six years working as a certified athletic trainer kept me close and involved with the world of sports. I felt this gratification knowing I was helping injured athletes return to their competitive sports."

In 1999, Dean was inducted into the Northwest Athletic Trainer's Association "Hall of Fame;" the Oregon Athletic Trainer's "Hall of Fame" in 2007 and the Eastern Washington University Athletic Department "Hall of Fame" in 2015. Dean encourages Manson students to live and believe in their dreams. "Think long and hard about where your true interests lie; think about how your school and life experiences have influenced your goals for the future. Your final career choice may be unsure at this time, but let your heart and dreams lead the way!" In 2014, Dean and his wife Jan moved back to Manson. They currently live across the street from the house where he was born and raised.

Monica Sanchez: Human Resources & Accounting Administra- tor for Northwest x Southern Hospitality

Monica grew up in a close-knit family with her parents, two sisters and brother. She loved spending time outdoors and participating in community events. "I've always had a drive to learn and knew what college I wanted to attend after graduation so I could follow in my sister's footsteps." After graduating from Manson in 2010, Monica did just that and headed off to the University of Washington where she obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Spanish and completed intense training in accounting and accounting software. After college, Monica spent time exploring different areas from teaching to the business sector which led her to the hospitality industry. Her first position was with Campbell's Resort where she gained exposure to various aspects of the industry. Monica is currently the HR and Accounting Administrator for Northwest x Southern Hospitality at the Hilton Garden Inn in Wenatchee. Her position involves bookkeeping, settling credit card disputes and completing end of the month and year-end closing duties. She also processes bi-weekly payroll and creates, posts and monitors advertising for her company's job openings on social media and the company websites. "I also tackle team member onboarding and new hire orientations, followed by the organization of individual trainings and reviews." When thinking back on her days in Manson, Monica truly thanks every individual who touched her life, but one teacher stands out. "I give special thanks to Heather Teague, who saw my potential and never gave up on me; she continuously pushed, helped and guided me." Monica advises Manson students to always focus on being a better you. "Try new things, get involved and be willing to be vulnerable. Always live in the present, but look towards your future!" Monica and her husband started their family during the pandemic, welcoming their son, Ezra, September 20, 2020.



Stacy Byquist: Owner, Shoreline Watercraft & Boat Rental

When it comes to loving your hometown, Stacy Byquist is a prime example of home grown. Born and raised in Manson, Stacy attended Manson schools until he graduated in 1997. Stacy enjoys the small town vibe of Manson and the winter months spent up lake in Lucerne and Stehekin. As a kid, Stacy enjoyed the lake, swimming and spending time with family, including his younger brother Scotty. Always eager to earn a paycheck, Stacy listened to anyone who gave him advice on becoming an entrepreneur; he began working at the Chelan Municipal Golf Course at the age of thirteen. After that, he began working for Manson Parks and renting jet skis at age sixteen. During his first three years of training, Stacy learned a great deal about business management and operations. His boss taught him how to run a business, the importance of communication skills, general mechanical workings, customer service skills and a vast overview of watercraft rentals. That year, Stacy was employed with RSI Sports as the only hired employee. Stacy's boss took him under his wing and after his third season, he was running the company and at the age of eighteen he bought RSI Sports. Today, Stacy and his wife Jenifer, own Shoreline Watercraft & Boat Rentals that feature five locations on Lake Chelan. They also own the Shoreline Beach Grill, located at Wapato Point Resort. "The business booms during the summer season and Shoreline boasts the largest watercraft fleet on the lake. I am so thankful to employ over fifty great employees during the summer months." Reflecting on his years in the business, Stacy's progression has taken him from rental service to overseeing his five locations from the main office and the shop. Most days Stacy can be found ordering parts, fixing mechanical problems, scheduling employees, advertising and ensuring his workers have everything they need to be successful at Shoreline. Stacy gives a great deal of love and appreciation to his parents for their guidance, support and unconditional love. "For me, school wasn't the best form of learning; I needed hands on experiences and my parents did everything to provide other ways for me to learn, thrive and be successful. The list of community members and teachers who have helped me over the years is long and is one of the things I love most about living in this small community." Mr. Buddy McClellan Jr. was a huge source of encouragement, support and guidance during Stacy's adolescence and early years establishing his company. Many community members believed in him and through their expertise, Stacy learned how to run a family business and especially how to treat his employees and customers. "I am forever grateful to Mr. Kevin Amsden, Mr. Joe Teague, Mr. Tom Alexander, Mrs. Susie Bennet, Mr. Bob Johnson and Mr. Brad Soliday. These teachers recognized I wasn't a traditional book learner; they had a positive influence on me, were patient, kind, caring and understanding and pushed me to be my best—even when it didn't look like everyone else. These teachers took the time to change how they taught me, this one kid, this one dyslexic kid, and didn't make me feel different than the others and I am thankful for each of you." Stacy encourages Manson students to take risks in life and to learn from their mistakes. "Don't be afraid to ask people from our community about their experiences and history. The knowledge in this valley is extensive and they have a great deal to share with all of us."



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