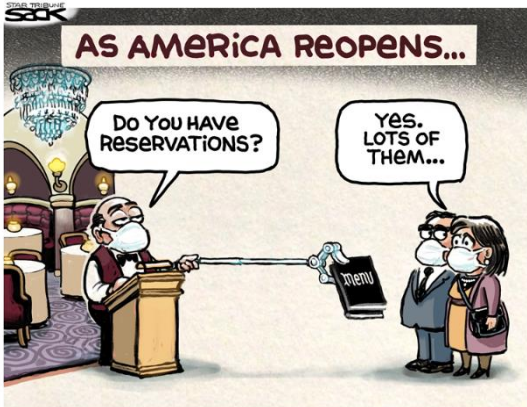




# MONDAY MORNING NEWS

Puget Sound Chapter • National Electrical Contractors Association



DECEMBER 7, 2020  
MEETINGS

12/10/2020 – NECA Board Meeting

## WASHINGTON STATE ADOPTING CDC'S NEW QUARANTINE GUIDELINES

The Washington State Department of Health is adopting the new Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines to reduce quarantine for people who have been exposed to COVID-19. Although both the Washington State Department of Health and CDC currently recommend a quarantine period of 14 days, there are circumstances that allow for a shortened quarantine. These include:

- **If a person who is in quarantine has no symptoms**, quarantine can end after Day 10.
- **If a person who is in quarantine receives a negative COVID-19 test and has no symptoms**, quarantine can end after Day 7. Get tested within 48 hours before ending quarantine.

Quarantine is used to reduce the risk that infected people might unknowingly transmit infection to others. It also ensures that people who become symptomatic during quarantine can be rapidly be tested.

Both Washington state officials and the CDC recognize that a 14-day quarantine can impose personal burdens that may affect physical and mental health as well as cause economic hardship. This change in guidelines is meant to help reduce that burden, while continuing to keep communities safe. You can view the full press release by clicking [HERE](#).

## L&I CELEBRATES VETERANS IN REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIPS

Veterans transitioning out of the military and into civilian life have a variety of career options open to them through registered apprenticeship.

It's worth noting that veterans make up 10 percent of the more than 20,100 active apprentices in our state. There are also 171 registered apprenticeship programs providing career training and education in 190 occupations.

Here's just a brief list of programs with a focus on veterans from the [Apprenticeship Program](#) of the [Washington State Department of Labor & Industries](#):

- [Veterans In Construction Electrical](#) (VICE) provides necessary training to enter into a registered apprenticeship. This result allows a veteran to enter into a registered apprenticeship as a second-year apprentice anywhere across the U.S.
- [SMART Heroes Program](#) provides sheet metal industry training free of charge to members of the military.
- [United Association Veterans In Piping Program](#) has a variety of opportunities for veterans interested in plumbing, fitting, welding, among other trades.
- [The Washington chapter of the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades](#) (IUPAT)

Of course, one other source is the [Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs](#). DVA provides information linking to even more programs.

We're proud at L&I to provide choices for veterans as they transition from military service to civilian life. Thank you for your service.

**\*\* The VICE Program mentioned above, was created by the Puget Sound Chapter, NECA and IBEW, L.U. 46 well over 10 years ago, and may be the most successful construction trades veterans' program in Washington State, providing 100's of veterans with a rewarding career path.**

## **KING COUNTY EXEC UNVEILS 11TH-HOUR PLAN TO KEEP \$1.8B CONVENTION CENTER WORK GOING**

It's nearing fish-or-cut-bait time for the Washington State Convention Center Summit addition, with 1,000 construction jobs at stake, along with completion of the massive Seattle project, which everyone agrees is key to the Puget Sound region's economic recovery. King County Executive Dow Constantine said the county will lend the project \$100 million to keep construction going. But that would fill only a third of the shortfall, [which the project team announced in the spring](#). The Covid-19 pandemic had shut down travel and tourism, causing investor interest in lodging tax-backed securities to evaporate.

Sixty-seven citywide conventions previously booked at center have canceled, resulting in a loss of \$446 million in economic impact, according to Visit Seattle. "As uncomfortable as this is, I have to admit we're in a crisis," project manager Matt Griffin said in May, seven months ahead of the December deadline to decide whether to start planning for shutdown of the \$1.8 billion project in May.

December is here. "We always knew there was a cliff ahead, and when you've got time to deal with the issues the cliff isn't that prominent," Griffin said Wednesday. "But when you're right to the edge, it's scary. We're getting close." Initially the project turned to Washington, D.C. for help. No progress was made before the election, and now it's a lame-duck government with the balance of power in the Senate still undecided, so attention turns to City Hall and Olympia.

A spokesperson for Mayor Jenny Durkan said the mayor has been working on ideas to keep the project going with a loan and would continue to do so. A spokesperson for Gov. Jay Inslee said Inslee supports working on bridge financing with the city, county, convention center and the Legislature. Constantine's office is planning a 3 p.m. Thursday press conference.

"It was clear to me we had to do something to make sure the project is done on time, that those construction workers stay employed and that our visitor industry benefits from this asset as soon as possible," Constantine said in an interview.



[Enlarge](#)

The Washington State Convention Center is in the midst of building the 1.6-million-square-foot Summit addition shown here. The 11-story project is rising on the former site of King County Metro's Convention Place transit station.

He has staked much of his political career on the project, starting with the unsuccessful effort to get the Legislature to approve development of the 1.6-million-square-foot addition. The county eventually persuaded Olympia to give up control of the center, now run by a county public facilities district. Lending the money is "extremely low risk, high reward," Constantine said, adding the money would be paid back from future lodging tax revenues.

One possibility is a \$100 million loan from the county's available cash in its investment pool, which is currently about \$3.4 billion. The loan would likely carry an interest rate of about 1%, or about the current earnings rate for the investment pool. Constantine said the county also could guarantee additional debt placed by the convention center in the private market.

Like most everything else in 2020, it's a complicated situation with economic justice considerations. Griffin said the project "worked hard" to hire a diverse workforce, 30% of which are people of color. A quarter are priority-hire workers from economically distressed ZIP codes. Seventeen percent are apprentices. And around \$100 million in contracts were awarded to women- and minority-owned businesses.

"These are the people who would get their lives upset, people that frankly in this community we need to help," Griffin said. The Summit addition – the region's sixth-largest construction project, according to Business Journal research – is expected to be completed in 2022.

## TOYS FOR TOTS – HELP BRING JOY TO KIDS THIS CHRISTMAS



NECA is partnering with the Toys for Tots program again this year, and we need your help more than ever. 2020 has placed many families in a tough position. To help give those families a better Christmas, NECA is asking our Contractor and Associate Members to participate in this wonderful program.

**You can make a gift or money donation directly to NECA, and we will deliver your donation to the Toys for Tots Center.** Please donate only new, unwrapped toys. **If you donate money, we will use it to buy toys for the program.**

We are excited to participate in this wonderful program this year, as there are many families that depend on the Toys for Tots program to give their kids a great Christmas. **Justin Thayer, NECA's Director of Safety, will be responsible for coordinating the program.** If you plan on donating a gift or making a monetary donation, please email Justin at [justin@necaseattle.org](mailto:justin@necaseattle.org).

## ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY - 1941 - PEARL HARBOR BOMBED

At 7:55 a.m. **Hawaii** time, a Japanese dive bomber bearing the red symbol of the Rising Sun of Japan on its wings appears out of the clouds above the island of Oahu. A swarm of 360 Japanese warplanes followed, descending on the U.S. naval base at **Pearl Harbor** in a ferocious assault. The surprise attack struck a critical blow against the U.S. Pacific fleet and drew the United States irrevocably into **World War II**.

With diplomatic negotiations with Japan breaking down, President **Franklin D. Roosevelt** and his advisers knew that an imminent Japanese attack was probable, but nothing had been done to increase security at the important naval base at Pearl Harbor. It was Sunday morning, and many military personnel had been given passes to attend religious services off base. At 7:02 a.m., two radar operators spotted large groups of aircraft in flight toward the island from the north, but, with a flight of B-17s expected from the United States at the time, they were told to sound no alarm. Thus, the Japanese air assault came as a **devastating surprise** to the naval base.

Much of the Pacific fleet was rendered useless: Five of eight battleships, three destroyers, and seven other ships were sunk or severely damaged, and more than 200 aircraft were destroyed. A total of 2,400 Americans were killed and 1,200 were wounded, many while valiantly attempting to repulse the attack. Japan's losses were some 30 planes, five midget submarines, and fewer than 100 men. Fortunately for the United States, all three Pacific fleet carriers were out at sea on training maneuvers. These giant aircraft carriers would have their revenge against Japan six months later at the **Battle of Midway**, reversing the tide against the previously invincible Japanese navy in a spectacular victory.

The day after Pearl Harbor was bombed, President Roosevelt appeared before a joint session of Congress and declared, “Yesterday, December 7, 1941—a date which will live in infamy—the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan.” After a brief and forceful speech, he asked Congress to approve a resolution recognizing the state of war between the United States and Japan. The Senate voted for war against Japan by 82 to 0, and the **House of Representatives** approved the resolution by a vote of 388 to 1. The sole dissenter was Representative **Jeannette Rankin** of **Montana**, a devout pacifist who had also cast a dissenting vote against the U.S. entrance into **World War I**. Three days later, Germany and Italy declared war against the United States, and the U.S. government responded in kind.

The American contribution to the successful Allied war effort spanned four long years and cost more than 400,000 American lives.

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***If you cannot do great things, do small things in a great way.***

*Napoleon Hill*

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As of Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, there are 346 JW on Book 1 and 181 JW on Book 2. There are currently 60 Commercial Apprentices, 3 S&C Apprentices, and 0 Residential Apprentices available for dispatch. There are 15 First Period Commercial Bootcamp graduates available for dispatch. There are also 5 Limited Energy Bootcamp graduates and 4 Residential Bootcamp graduates available for dispatch.