

Meeting news

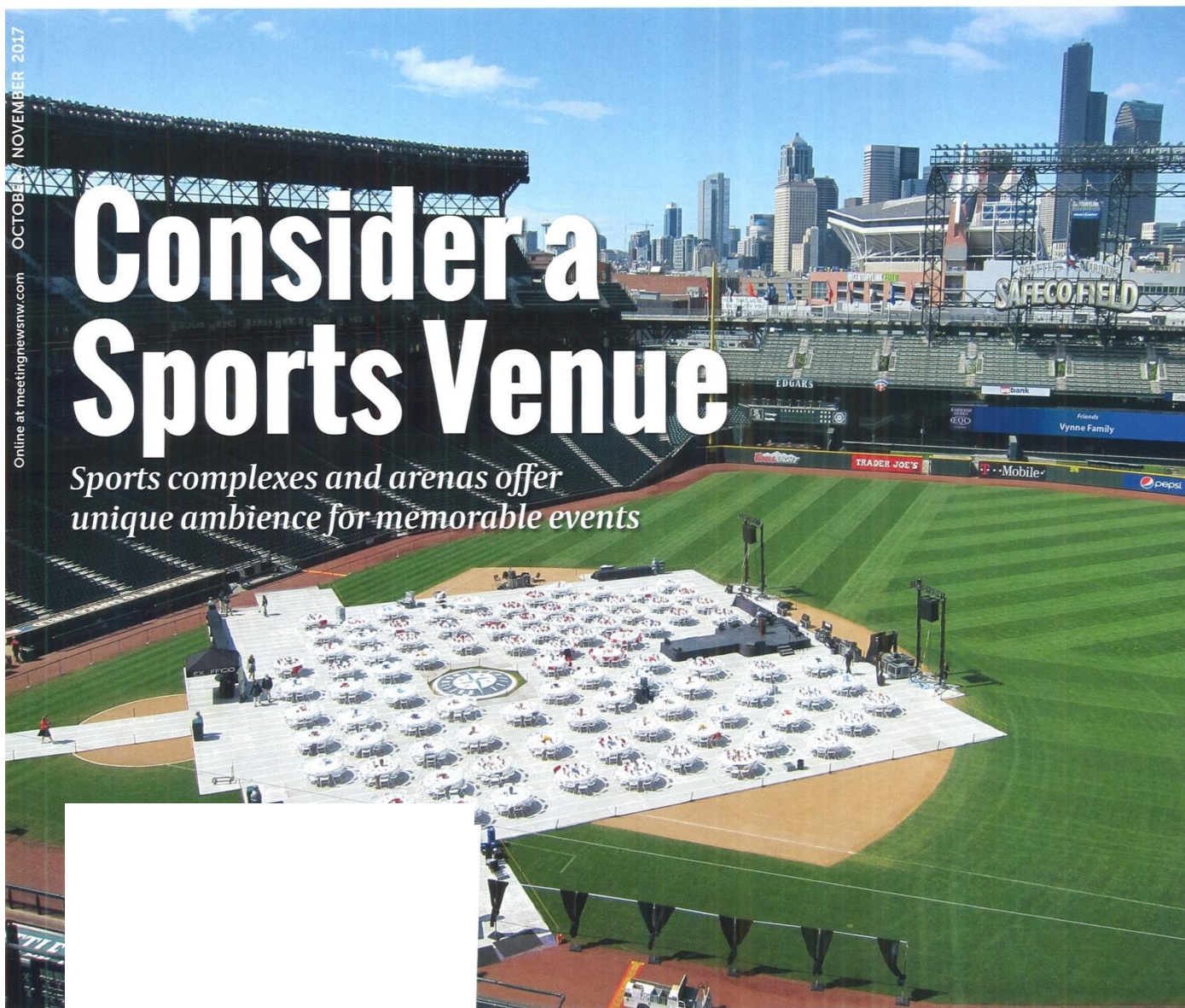
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NORTHWEST

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Consider a Sports Venue

Sports complexes and arenas offer unique ambience for memorable events



MEET HERE Northwest Washington

Scenic and welcoming, Northwest Washington has excellent facilities and warm hospitality that await your next meeting or event. **Page 28>**

FEATURE Distinguished Northwest Hotels

With a notable history and classic décor, these hotels offer superior service and modern amenities. **Page 18>**



+ 30 Budget Saving Tips

Creative ways to trim event costs without affecting the attendees' experience. **Page 16>**

New in the Northwest

Albion Air started the first scheduled service between the Portland, Oregon, area and the San Juan Islands on Friday, June 16, offering Oregon visitors a direct air connection.

Owner of Albion Air, Mark Hills, is a Royal Air Force-trained pilot. "In 27 years of flying, I have never flown a more beautiful route than the one from Portland to the San Juan Islands. I started this service because I love making this flight and wanted to share it with others," says Hills.

Hills says he wants to make it easier for Portland area passengers to enjoy the one-of-a-kind experience that is the San Juan Islands. At the same time, he wants to give San Juan area residents the opportunity to experience the eclectic, urban delights of Portland, all without the added flight time and inconvenience of commercial flight lines.

Albion Air offers non-stop flights every Friday and Sunday between the Portland area and Friday Harbor on San Juan Island. Flight time is about an hour and fifteen minutes in a spacious twin engine Piper aircraft. Free parking at Aurora State Airport, near Portland, and competitive "by the pound" rates for passengers and luggage, make this a convenient option for travelers. Albion Air also offers on-demand charters throughout the Pacific Northwest.

Kenmore Air now offers Fly + Stay Packages that make getting to the islands fun. Whether you're looking for a weekend getaway or a longer vacation, Kenmore Air's Fly + Stay packages to the San Juan Islands offer flexible fare options combined with preferred lodging and activities, including Earthbox Inn & Spa and Tucker House Inn.

Kenmore Air provides daily seaplane service connecting Seattle's Lake Union with various locations on the islands. Daily wheeled-aircraft flights service San Juan Island airports from Seattle's Boeing Field. Shuttle service from Sea-Tac International Airport to Boeing Field are synchronized with Kenmore Air's arriving and departing flights, offering an easy connection to all major national and international destinations.

Barbara Merritt, communications and stewardship manager for the San Juan Islands Visitors Bureau, says, "There is another cool air service that started recently. It's called Point to Point and is super convenient and very affordable." Point to Point is a charter service that serves the San Juan Islands from airports throughout Washington.

Merritt adds, "I just returned from a trip using them and it shaved around four hours off my trip each way because I didn't have to connect with a ferry, bus or plane schedule." Point to Point picks you up on your schedule from any island and drops you at Sea-Tac Airport. "The other air services are on set schedules

that connect to Boeing Field and then shuttle you to SeaTac," adds Merritt.

CONNECT

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Kenmore Air
866-435-9524
kenmoreair.com

Point to Point Air
425-530-5518
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Seattle Native Emily Cantrell Named Director of World Trade Center Seattle

The World Trade Center Seattle (WTCSE) has named Emily Cantrell as its new director, bringing a wealth of knowledge in business development, strategic planning and marketing to the organization. She will collaborate with the Board of Governors and members to drive efforts to grow and diversify WTCSE memberships and sponsorships across a range of industries. Additionally, she will develop compelling programming and provide opportunities for leaders to network and advance economic development in the region.

Before arriving at the World Trade Center Seattle, Cantrell served as director of communications and marketing for Seafair, an annual nonprofit festival that reaches more than two million people through 75 sanctioned summer events. Prior to her time at Seafair, she was tourism manager for Visit Seattle where she managed their offices in China and South Korea, organizing the annual China Mission in addition to overseeing all public relations, communications, sales and marketing efforts for the initiative.

"The World Trade Center Seattle is the ultimate gathering place for regional business leaders, as it provides invaluable opportunities for growth, innovation and



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networking," says Cantrell. "I am thrilled to be joining a team that is focused on fostering connections among local thought leaders and creating exceptional experiences for its members who help make Seattle thrive."

Cantrell previously worked as a sales manager for Columbia Hospitality, a Seattle-based hospitality management company that manages WTCSE. She is a graduate of the University of Washington with a degree in mass communications.

A gateway for commerce, trade and opportunity, WTCSE is a gathering place that provides access, collaboration and networking for business leaders throughout the region. WTCSE is part of the World Trade Center Association that has more than 1.5 million member companies. The Association provides members with access to over 330 World Trade Centers in 90 countries. Located on the Seattle waterfront at 2200 Alaskan Way, WTCSE offers members complimentary valet service, no-charge meeting rooms and no minimum expenditures. Meeting and event space offering stunning views of the Seattle waterfront is also available to the general public. The WTCSE is owned by the Port of Seattle and operated by Columbia Hospitality.

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wtcseattle.com

Boise Centre Completes \$47.5 Million Expansion Project

Boise Centre, Idaho's premier convention venue recently finished a three-year expansion project that added 36,000 square feet of meeting and event space in an effort to accommodate larger regional and national conventions and multiple events simultaneously. In total, Boise Centre now offers 31 meeting

rooms and 86,000 square feet of highly flexible space, all featuring a modern and contemporary design.

On the heels of completion in early June, Boise Centre welcomed 1,500 public health officials to the Annual Conference of the Conference of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE). Registrants included representatives from the U.S. and from several countries including China, India and Sudan. Beverly Christner, senior director of operations for CSTE, applauded Boise Centre's expansion. "We have heard only positive comments on the accommodations at Boise Centre and the friendliness of its staff," says Christner.

"It has been exciting to see our expansion in use right away. With 1,500 delegates, CSTE is the largest multi-day convention in Boise Centre's 27-year history," says Pat Rice, executive director of Boise Centre. "With the proven capability to accommodate conventions with over 1,000 attendees, we look forward to welcoming more national and international events of this size in the future."

New spaces added during the expansion include, a 14,000-square-foot ballroom with a spacious two-story glass-enclosed lobby overlooking the city's civic plaza and fountain, nine additional meeting rooms and a concourse to provide attendees convenient access between spaces. Many of the newly added rooms feature beautiful views of the nearby Boise Foothills or the city skyline.

Custom chandeliers crafted from hand blown Italian glass were chosen to add dramatic features to the new ballroom and two lobby spaces. A second 6,000 square-foot commercial kitchen was added during the expansion to serve a growing number of events and guests. High-efficiency lighting, a new sound system and wireless internet were installed in the expanded areas.

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