

Depot Report of September 2026

Preparations are being made for our 2026 fundraising campaign. Although it focuses on the train car project, donors will also be able to give toward the restoration of the interior of the building.

Allied Rail consultants are now planning to arrive in early October to assess the caboose and passenger car and offer possible solutions for their restoration. PDHC project manager, Rick Cherf, has contacted local vendors who have offered some alternative plans. It looks like nothing will happen until 2027.

Meanwhile, work continues the sidewalk and vault repairs. We hope to have the vault lights installed and operational by November. Boyd & Boyd will be building more rock retaining walls in October before new asphalt is added to cover the areas disturbed by trenching.

The Washington Historical Society announced the recipients of the 2027-29 Heritage Capital Projects grants. WCHS's submission for the depot ranked 16th out of 62 applications. The \$258,500 grant will go toward the restoration of the interior of the main part of the building, including removing two false ceilings and some temporary walls, refashioning the restroom area and ticket office, repairing the terrazzo floor, interior woodwork, plaster, etc. A new HVAC system will be placed in the attic.

Linda is working with the Innovia Foundation to assist them in acquiring local interviews for their "Story Table Project" in celebration of America 250. It involves individuals making taped five-minute recordings of stories and photos using a phone app and sharing memories and important values – all designed to reflect the influences of America, family, and the community on their lives.

Director's report

Thank you to Janet, Carol, Mark, Krista, Marj, Greg, Sharon, Nancy and Kim for helping and covering shifts. The storm hit hard on Saturday night, so we cleaned up by 1pm to shut down the schoolhouse.

Perkins house has been getting lots of customers on the weekends and for special events. Frank and Nancy are the best! They have covered when I can't be there. We had a group from Lewiston use the building for their annual meeting on a Friday night. The Baptist church is borrowing some vintage clothes for a fashion show also. I scheduled the sprinkler system to be blown out at the beginning of October this year.