

October 2020 | Washington • Idaho

Ready for winter?



Avista partners with local community action agencies throughout our service territory to help qualified residents save on heating expenses by weatherizing their homes at no cost.



After eligibility is determined by the agency, an energy audit is performed to determine what upgrades need to be completed to make the home more energy efficient, comfortable, and safe.

To find out more, please visit myavista.com/assistance or call us at (800) 227-9187 for your local agency's telephone number.

October is National Energy Awareness Month

Energy conservation is good for all of us. Using energy wisely can help reduce costs and conserve our natural resources. And, there are many steps you can take to cut down your energy consumption.

We've assembled energy-savings advice to help you— visit myavista.com/waysosave.



Fly away to the Historic Flight Foundation

They may sputter, putter and hiss a little when they start, but every single one of the vintage airplanes at Historic Flight Foundation's new museum at Felts Field is airworthy.

"They are real planes. They all fly, every one of them," said Historic Flight Foundation founder John T. Sessions. Sessions is almost done moving his collection of vintage planes from Everett's Paine Field to a newly constructed hangar at Felts Field in Spokane.

The museum was ready to go full steam ahead with exhibits, learning programs, children's camps and events when COVID hit, and all the best laid plans crashed.

But with the recent change in COVID restrictions the museum is finally open: On September 3, the Foundation hosted its grand re-opening and the museum will be open on Thursdays through Sundays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sessions is not deterred by the slow start in Spokane.

"This is a great home for us," Sessions said. "There is a very active vintage flying community here and that's important to us."

Sessions, who's an active pilot, was part of a squadron of restored WWII C47 warplanes that flew from the United States to Britain and on to Normandy on the 75th anniversary of D-Day.

"What can I say?" Sessions said. "We are a flying museum — we fly everything."

You can visit www.historicflight.org/feltsfield for more information on the museum and myavista.com for more stories like this.

Together, Avista and the Avista Foundation have given more than \$1.5M in charitable gifts across all five states in our service area this year and the Historic Flight Foundation is one of them.



At the drop of a pen

Katie learns the importance of carbon monoxide detectors.

Katie has always been a safety-minded person so of course she knows what to do if she smells natural gas in her home. Despite all her know-how, it took a morning at her sister's house to realize she was missing something important.

On that Saturday morning, Katie and her sister Miranda sat at the kitchen table. As they discussed a movie they'd both recently seen, Katie accidentally knocked a pen to the floor. As she knelt down to grab it, she noticed a small device plugged into an electrical outlet. It almost looked like a smoke detector, but she didn't quite recognize it.

"What is that?"

"Oh, it's a carbon monoxide, or CO, detector. Your house doesn't have them?"

Miranda went on to explain how carbon monoxide, or CO, is odorless, colorless, and toxic for humans and animals. Carbon monoxide detectors are required on new homes, and quite essential for any home that uses natural gas, wood stoves, or propane. Early symptoms of carbon monoxide exposure often resemble the flu, but without the fever, and can quickly get worse after that.

On the way home, Katie stopped and bought two carbon monoxide detectors — one for each floor of her home. For the cost of about \$40, Katie also got some peace of mind.

Visit myavista.com/safetyvideos to learn more and watch a short video.



It's that time of year again

Here in the northwest, October marks the beginning of fall. Many of us haven't touched our thermostats yet, but we're often surprised — and even confused — when we open our energy bills.

During colder months, home heating can account for 40% to 60% of our monthly energy bills. Here are a few things you can do to gain some energy savings this season:

- Check your thermostat. Reducing the temperature by just three degrees can result in approximately 10% energy savings.
- Set your water heater at no more than 120 degrees. Water heaters have to use more energy to produce hot water in cold weather. Water heating can account for nearly 14% of our monthly energy bills.
- Swap out older incandescent or CFLs for new, energy efficient LEDs. LEDs use far less energy and can put out even brighter light than other lighting options.

Visit myavista.com/winterbill to prepare your home for the coming months and avoid surprises on your heating bill.

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