Walla Walla Union-Bulletin

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They're Flying Higher

Cascade Airways has announced an expansion of its Walla Walla service that merits both community appreciation and patronage.

It is young, it's a non-jet service in a jet age, but it shows an eagerness to provide an ever-improving "commuter" service for the state's smaller cities. It is developing steadily increasing traffic in a field that has provided economic pitfalls previously in this state and around the nation.

It was reassuring to hear from Vice President Phil Guidice here yesterday that the firm's aim is to expand and improve that type of inter-community service, not to grow too big for its commuter-line britches.

The addition of service to and from Portland (via the Tri-Cities on two flights and via Yakima on a third) will provide a valuable missing link, both for passengers and expedited freight.

One of the line's planes now "overnights" here and four of its pilots now live here.

The new schedule, effective at the end of April, shows 13 flights will be leaving the airport here each weekday, compared with nine on the existing schedule. It is a significant step forward.

Cascade may be small on today's airline scale but it is showing it has big ideas for service and developing new business.