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The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual  
 One World One Valley  
**festival**  
 A celebration of heritage

WHO WE ARE  
 WHAT WE DON'T LIKE  
**RACE**  
 in the Yakima Valley  
 HOW WE GET ALONG  
 HOW WE'VE CHANGED

*Do you have some news?*

Under the bailout, growers were given 68 cents for each box of apples sold. Young said the checks won't come close to covering the losses of growers, who lost as much as \$3 per box.

"It is a temporary bandage to a bigger problem," said Miles Kohl, spokesman for the Yakima Valley Growers Shippers Association, which represents area fruit packers.

Kohl said a variety of market conditions, ranging from oversupply to foreign competition, led to the economic problems plaguing apple growers. Although a bigger payoff could come next year under a proposal before Congress will help, it still won't solve all of the industry's troubles, he said.

Based on the payout for the \$100 million program, growers could expect \$1.70 per box under a similar \$250 million proposal now before Congress.

The latest bailout plan, being pushed in the House by Hastings and in the Senate by Sen. Patty Murray, a Seattle Democrat, would cover losses sustained in last year's harvest.

"The goal is more money for a shorter period of time," Young said.

Kraig Naasz, president of the U.S. Apple Association, which lobbies Congress on behalf of growers, said the industry has lost \$1.5 billion in the past five years.

Kohl said those losses will leave many growers using their government checks to pay off debts, rather than buying new equipment or improving their orchards.

And because the cash came late in the growing season, growers who couldn't afford to prune their trees or apply pesticides won't catch up, Kohl said.

Hastings and Murray have said that if a new aid package passes Congress this year, it will be distributed to growers sooner.



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