• 2015 Chamber Award Winners!
• Yakima Valley Poised to Become a Craft Beverage Tourist Destination Area
• FLY YKM – Yakima’s Best Way to Travel
with a couple of growlers and a six pack!

through their growing company. He heard the concerns of local entrepreneurs and went home

Business! Meghann Quinn, Kevin Quinn, Kevin Smith and Jon Mullen led him on a tour

Chamber. He was very impressed with the growth and success of this homegrown Yakima

Washington Governor Jay Inslee made a stop in Yakima recently and visited 2014 Chamber

Miss America 1962 Maria Fletcher visited Yakima, arranged by the Yakima Chamber of Commerce. At

The pageant to crown Miss America 1962 is the highest rated Miss America telecast on record. It is also

ranked among the top 100 television events of all time.

ON THE COVER

Yakima Area Arboretum Luminaria (This years event is Dec. 11th & 12th) Photo by Thane Phelan

Mission Statement: “The Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce is an organization that promotes pride in our diverse communities through positive, active leadership aimed at creating a cohesive, successful business climate in our County.”

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As the holiday season approaches, I hope that the reflection and hope of building a better future for our families, community, and Nation are first and foremost in your hearts. I watched the introduction of the new Speaker of the House, Paul Ryan, I was deeply moved beyond the politics. When the Speaker of the House asks for prayer, that is something that I am really good at. I am very proud to be an American who can exercise my right of prayer because of the freedoms that have been fought for and won.

Often, in our political environment, we demonize others ideas, opinions, and beliefs. Yes, even in Yakima! I was deeply moved beyond the politics. When the Speaker of the House asks for prayer, that is something that I am really good at. I am very proud to be an American who can exercise my right of prayer because of the freedoms that have been fought for and won.

I work next door to newly elected City Council woman, Carmen Mendez and I love hearing her ideas for our community, concerns of her own and of others she has taken into consideration and her plans to take action! Most of all, I love her attitude when we do not agree on things. She is passionate and handles herself with integrity. The best part of our debates is when we have those teachable moments. We all need to listen, ask, and learn to really solve what is ahead of us.

I sometimes feel the forces that try and separate us by color, religion, neighborhood, economics, gender, politics, haves, have-nots, and the list goes on. We need to stop the madness and remember “WE THE PEOPLE!”

In conclusion, be thankful this Thanksgiving, give this Christmas, and celebrate the New Year by not just singing it, but believing in the words of Auld Lang Syne!

Should old acquaintance be forgot
And never brought to mind
Should all acquaintance be forgot
And auld lang syne
For auld lang syne, my dear,
For auld lang syne,
We’ll take a cup o’ kindness yet,
For auld lang syne
And we’ll take a cup o’ kindness yet
For auld lang syne
We too have run around the slopes
And picked the daisies fine
We’ve londoned many weary foot
Since auld lang syne
For auld lang syne, my dear,
For auld lang syne,
We’ll take a cup o’ kindness yet,
For auld lang syne
We too have paddled in the stream
From morning sun to night
But the seas between us broad
have roared
From auld lang syne
For auld lang syne, my dear,
For auld lang syne,
We’ll take a cup o’ kindness yet,
For auld lang syne
We’ll take a cup o’ kindness yet
For auld lang syne

Blessed Wishes for this Holiday Season!
by Dori Harrell

Just as chocolate pairs nicely with red wine, so the Yakima Valley’s expanding craft beverage industry pairs up sweetly with the valley’s well-established wine industry and its tourism base.

“The breweries and others are trying to market the Yakima Valley as a craft beverage destination. There’s no reason that shouldn’t be successful,” said Meghann Quinn, an owner of Bale Breaker Brewing Co. in Moxee. Yakima has long been considered the birthplace of modern microbrews, thanks to Grant’s Brewery Pub, which opened in the early 1980s but shut down in 2005. Microbrew production sparked in the city again with the opening of the Yakima Craft Brewery Co. in 2008, and as the demand for craft beverages climbs steeply nationwide, the Yakima area has seen a number of craft beverage producers open, including Bale Breaker, Berchman’s Brewing Co., Hop Nation Brewing Co., and Tieton Cider Works, which produces several varieties of hard ciders. Snipes Mountain Restaurant & Brewery has been long established in Sunnyside. In addition, several craft distillers have also launched in the Yakima Valley.

Washington hosts 256 craft breweries (an increase of 25 percent over 2013) that add more than $1 billion to the state’s economy, and the state ranks second in the number of craft breweries nationwide, according to the Brewers Association. In 2014, the state produced more than 405,000 barrels of craft beer, up from 370,000 barrels the previous year, and local craft brewers and marketers see that growth trend continuing.

Bale Breaker is the dream child of Meghann Quinn and her husband, Kevin, and Meghann Quinn’s brother, Kevin Smith (head brewer). The Smith family has owned hop farms in the Yakima Valley since 1932, and the three opened the 11,000-square-foot brewery in spring 2013 on one of the family’s hop fields, Field 41, featured in its logo. In its first nine months, working with four fermentation tanks, Bale Breaker produced 2,000 barrels of craft beer. It added ten more fermentation tanks and in 2014 more than tripled its production. In 2015, Bale Breaker expects to reach 10,000 to 12,000 barrels, and Meghann Quinn said expansion plans are in the works. Bale Breaker produces three year-round beers, including Field 41 Pale Ale, and a seasonal beer.

Bale Breaker uses only hops from the family’s 900 acres of hop fields, but the company purchases the hops from Yakima Chief-Hopunion, a hop supplier. “It was important to us to keep the businesses separate,” Quinn said. “We didn’t want to negatively impact another business.” The company’s products can currently be found in Washington and northern Idaho. Besides grocery stores and local restaurants and bars, its beers are sold in Safeco Field, CenturyLink Field and Sea-Tac Airport.

Bale Breaker also set up a taproom so customers could enjoy its beers. When the taproom opened, Bale Breaker owners expected to see a
Congratulations to the 2015 Annual Chamber Award Winners! With a record 1637 votes this year, here are the businesses and individuals you have honored with awards.

2015 Business of the Year
John I Haas Inc.

2015 Member of the Year - Rich Austin of Yakima Valley Tourism / Yakima Sports Commission

2015 Emerging Business of the Year
Cowiche Canyon Kitchen and Icehouse

2015 Non-Profit of the Year
YWCA of Yakima

2015 Chamber Volunteer of the Year
Carmen Mendez of Safe Yakima Valley

2015 Ted Robertson Community Service Award Recipients
Dr. Linda Kaminski & Ron King

2015 Non-Profit of the Year
YWCA of Yakima

Photography by Andy Sawyer at Vireo Photography 509.941.3338

Scan to watch the 2015 Ted Robertson Awards presentation

Watch the 2015 Chamber Awards Winners Video

Bob Gerst accepts on behalf of John I. Haas

Kiley DiPietro accepts on behalf of Cowiche Kitchen

Chelsea Snodgrass accepts on behalf of YWCA
FLY YKM

FLY YKM – Yakima’s Best Way to Travel
By Sean Hawkins

The Yakima Air Terminal now hosts four daily flights to Seattle’s SEATAC Airport where travelers can connect to over 80 cities. The effort to add an additional daily flight to the Yakima/Seattle rotation was made possible by the Yakima City Council’s 2013 choice to invest in a marketing program to improve the performance of the three flights that were leaving the Yakima Air Terminal daily. After the City’s comprehensive FLY-YKM marketing program began, load factors (the number of people flying between Yakima and Seattle) improved immediately. Consequently, the City began a discussion with Alaska Airlines and Seattle) to improve the performance of these three flights. The ability to catch a 6:20 a.m. flight home from Seattle means more time with my family and not being so tired the next morning,” my friend said.

As a Louisville, Kentucky native, I’ll be the first to tell you that flying from Yakima works sometimes, but other times it simply doesn’t. It’s nearly impossible and totally unaffordable to get to from Yakima to Louisville from the Yakima Air Terminal, so I either have to drive to Portland or Seattle. However, I attended a retail conference in San Diego in September and my roundtrip fare from Yakima was $218. Flying from Yakima works best when you are connecting to one of the 80 cities Alaska Airlines flies to from Seattle. And if you haven’t checked in a while, you may be surprised to find out there are numerous connections and fares to those cities.

Continued from page 6.
Darigold, an economic driver in the Yakima Valley for decades, is about to become even more so with a $100M project targeted for completion this spring. The expansion of their Sunnyside plant will increase milk processing capacity from approximately 5.0 million pounds to 8.5 million pounds a day.

Currently there are 150 family wage jobs at the plant, and that will grow to 180 when the expansion is fully operational. The facility brings in significant revenues to the local and regional tax base, helping support critical services like fire, police, and education. In addition, the milk processed at Darigold's Sunnyside plant comes from approximately 50 farm families in Yakima Valley. These families help to make up the Northwest Dairy Association (NDA) cooperative, and Darigold is the milk processing and marketing arm of that cooperative.

“The expansion will enable more of the local milk to be processed locally. Current milk volume in the Yakima Valley is significantly more than our current processing capacity and will continue to be even when the Sunnyside plant expansion is completed. We are currently trucking milk to Western Washington and Oregon for processing. Our plant expansion will allow us to be more efficient by allowing us to process more milk locally, which will reduce the number of trucks on our highways. This is not only good for our member-owners but also for the community,” says Steve Matzen, senior vice president for Northwest Dairy Association.

Darigold’s Sunnyside plant opened in 1991. Expansions in 1995, 1999 and 2006 brought it to its current capacity, producing over 500 thousand pounds of cheese and over 300 thousand pounds of whey powder daily. The products are shipped throughout the U.S. and to more than 32 countries, helping improve the nutrition and health of millions of people every day. The new capacity will produce Non-Fat Dry milk in a “high care” environment used for infant formula and other nutritional applications.

The plant also produces many different cheeses for the wholesale market, shipped to Asia, the Middle East and North Africa. In 2014, Darigold produced 28% of the total U.S. American Style Cheese Exports coming from the U.S.

Dairy farmers and plant employees alike are excited about their newest product, on grocery store shelves, which is a premium white cheddar. “We are proud of this great cheese, produced right here by people who live in the valley. It is a product that we can all be proud of,” said Clay Powell, senior director of operations for Darigold.

Halverson Northwest Welcomes New Associates
Halverson Northwest Law Group is pleased to welcome Jonathan Rue and Juliana VanWingarden to our firm as associate attorneys. Jon joined the litigation group in the Yakima office at Halverson. His practice focuses on assisting businesses and individuals navigate all phases of litigation. He also counsels business, education, and water use clients on pre-litigation matters. Prior to coming to Halverson, Jon worked as a Deputy District Attorney for four years. His professional experience includes more than sixty jury trials, countless bench trials, and significant motion work at the state court level.

During law school at the University of Oregon, Jon completed an externship with in-house counsel at Vestas’ North American headquarters. While at Vestas, he worked on contractual terms for large scale wind energy installations. During law school he also worked for a Northern California non-profit legal organization on agricultural water rights and land use issues.

Juliana, a lifelong Yakima Valley resident, has joined our Sunnyside office. Her professional experience includes assisting clients in real estate transactional matters, business entity formation and commercial transactions. Juliana also has experience in private lender foreclosures. While attending Seattle University Law School, she interned for the Hon. Lommy R. Suko and the Hon. James P. Hurton of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Washington. She also completed her final law school semester at a Rule 9 licensed legal intern for the Federal Defenders of Eastern Washington & Idaho. As a Rule 9 licensed legal intern, Juliana gained valuable supervised federal practice and federal courtroom experience. After graduation, Juliana clerked for the Hon. James P. Hurton of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Washington.

Yakama Cares, an annual event, donates funds to create positive impacts throughout the community served by Legends Casino, and it is financed through the Charitable Contribution Fund. Program distributions have increased each year since 2008 with the 2015 contribution of $419,953. Legends Casino invites non-profit organizations to start preparing now for the 2016 distribution that will take place in May. Acceptance for Yakama Cares applications begins January 1, 2016 and runs through March 31, 2016. The application can be accessed under the Community heading at www.legendscasino.com.

Grant recipients included schools, senior services, veteran services, law enforcement, food banks, shelters, and many more in Benton, Franklin, Kittitas and Yakima counties over the years, and their requests incorporate items such as books, iMacs and other educational programs for schools to uniforms or equipment for sports teams and survival materials for homeless. Funding has also been provided for Night Out events, K-9 programs, vaccines for pet shelters and assistance for seniors.

The committee of community members and Legends Casino employees reviews an average of 500 to 800 applications annually to evaluate. The applications undergo three to four rounds of cuts before the final selection. Historically, applications addressing a youth/educational need, medical benefit to the community or assistance to senior citizens are given preference.

According to the committee, “We look for applications that not only fill a need but involve minimal overhead, and we’re also reviewing the overall community needs in our effort to find programs where we can make a significant impact for the community.”

Find the application on the Legends Casino website today, and share it with your community!”

Jonathan Rue

Juliana VanWingarden

Visit our website at www.yakima.org/yakama-cares for the community!

To submit a “Business Brief,” announcements, staff changes, awards etc. Email brief copy and picture to thane@ yakima.org. (copy may be edited for space) Include “Business Brief” in subject line.

Include “Business Brief” in subject line.
RENEWING MEMBERS

Chamber Members who renewed their Memberships in August & September 2015
Please support these businesses that support your Chamber!

Members for 1-4 Years:
- A.L. Compressed Gases, Inc. – 3 Years
- Bear Trade Show Services, Inc. – 3 Years
- Family Vision Care, PS – 3 Years
- KC Penney – 3 Years
- Kronstadt Consulting – 3 Years
- Larson Gallery Guild – 3 Years
- Melody Lane Dance, Music & Drama Academy – 3 Years
- MB Designs – 3 Years
- Yakama Nation Legends Board of Directors – 3 Years
- Yakima Valley Conference of Government – 3 Years
- Auto Art & Collision Repair – 4 Years
- Designs Limited – 4 Years
- Don’s Donuts & Julie’s Java – 4 Years
- Liberty Bottle Works – 4 Years
- Magic Metals, Inc. – 4 Years
- Mighty Tieton – 4 Years

Members for 5-9 Years:
- Miller & Associates Wealth Management, LLC – 5 Years
- Primerica – 5 Years
- Service Alternatives, Inc. – 5 Years
- Canyon River Ranch Lodge – 6 Years
- Chuker Cherries – 6 Years
- Invisible Ink – 6 Years
- Baird – 6 Years
- Walmart #5098 (West Valley) – 6 Years
- Belu Salon – 7 Years
- Hometown Ace Hardware – 7 Years
- Ahtanum Ridge Family Medicine – 9 Years
- Durrett & Associates, PLLC – 9 Years

Members for 10-14 Years:
- Delaney Lost Sock Laundromat – 10 Years
- Yakima Rock & Mineral Club – 10 Years
- DaVita Dialysis Center (Union Gap) – 11 Years
- Peopleworks – 11 Years
- Re/Max Traditions – 11 Years
- Storage Court -11 Years
- AB Transmission, LLC – 13 Years
- Valley Hills Funeral Home – 13 Years
- SCORE (Counselors to America’s Small Business) – 14 Years
- Tube Art Signs & Sports Displays – 14 Years

Members for 15-19 Years:
- Advanced Digital Imaging - 15 Years
- Camp Prime Time – 15 Years
- Eagle Signs, LLC – 15 Years
- Fort Simcoe Johns Corps Center - 15 Years
- Living Care Retirement Community - 15 Years
- 2nd Street Grill – 15 Years
- Casey Family Programs – 16 Years
- Radio Yakima – 16 Years
- West Coast Plastics, INC. – 17 Years
- Graphic Label – 18 Years
- Home Street Bank – 18 Years
- Wellness House – 19 Years

Members for 20-29 Years:
- Brockway Opfer Raab Architecture, PLLC – 20 Years
- Yakima Association of Realtors – 20 Years
- ALISCO – 21 Years
- Bustos Media, LLC – 24 Years
- Fort Simcoe Johns Corps Center – 24 Years
- Gibbons Pharmacies, LLC – 24 Years
- Edward Jones – 25 Years
- Sprague’s – 25 Years
- Summit Leasing, Inc. – 29 Years

Members for 30-39 Years:
- Oxford Inn – 30 Years
- Golden Wheel Restaurant – 32 Years
- Engravings Unlimited, Inc. – 34 Years
- Keeler’s Medical Supply – 35 Years
- McDonald’s of Yakima County – 35 Years
- Peopleworks – 35 Years
- Re/Max Traditions – 35 Years
- Storage Court – 35 Years
- AB Transmission, LLC – 38 Years
- Valley Hills Funeral Home – 38 Years
- SCORE (Counselors to America’s Small Business) – 38 Years
- Tube Art Signs & Sports Displays – 38 Years

Members for 40-49 Years:
- Central Pre-Mix Concrete Co. – 48 Years

Members for 50-59 Years:
- Bob Hall’s Honda – 54 Years
- Cintas Corporation – 54 Years
- Fruit Packers Supply, Inc. – 54 Years
- Sunfair Chevrolet, Inc. – 54 Years

Members for 60-69 Years:
- Yakima School District #7 – 68 Years

Members for 70-79 Years:
- G.H. Moen – 76 Years

Members for 90+ Years:
- H.R. Spinner Corporation – 92 Years

New Members – August & September:
- Farmers Insurance – Tasha Huffman
- 1340 N 16th Ave STE A
- Yakima, WA 98902
- (509) 574-0624
- The Cellular Connection
- 6500 W Nob Hill Blvd. STE.101
- Yakima, WA 98908
- (509) 858-7780
- www.tccrock.com
- Send out Cards – Mike Anthony
- (509) 424-1972
- creeksideanthony@gmail.com
- Blue Dog Business Services
- (509) 225-9360
- Mack.Hendrick@Blue-Dog.com
- www.Blue-Dog.com

Closed businesses from yesteryear:
- Keeler’s Medical Supply – 35 Years
- McNally’s Cafe – 35 Years
- Sav-A-Suit, Inc. – 35 Years
- Superior Laundry – 35 Years
- William’s Ace Hardware – 35 Years
- Yakima Coin Laundry – 35 Years
- Yakima Company Clothing – 35 Years
- Yakima Company Drug – 35 Years
- Yakima Company Furniture – 35 Years
- Yakima Company Grocery & Meat Market – 35 Years
- Yakima Company Hardware – 35 Years
- Yakima Company Milling & Elevator – 35 Years
- Yakima Company Paper Company – 35 Years
- Yakima Company Printing & Lithography – 35 Years
- Yakima Company Wholesale Drug – 35 Years