

GREATER YAKIMA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

# ACTION REPORT

Quarterly News Magazine - Jan • Feb • March 2016

Yakima



2015  
1994

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- › CREATING A PROSPEROUS FUTURE FOR YAKIMA
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*The December Chamber luncheon, "Incoming Yakima City Council Reception" was the most well attended of the Year! Congratulations to the newly elected City Council members!*



*Register for the "2015 Yakima Valley Economic Year in Review" Luncheon on February 8th at [www.yakima.org](http://www.yakima.org). Regional Labor Economist Donald W. Meseck will be our keynote speaker. Plus we'll have a presentation from Yakima County on the Yakima River Basin water enhancement project.*

## ON THE COVER

**December Larsen Building - Downtown Yakima**  
Photo by Thane Phelan

*Action Report Layout & Design by: Amy O Graphics & Thane Phelan*

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**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."*

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



**Verlynn Best**  
*President & CEO*

*January 2016*  
*Happy New Year!*

I hope your holidays were celebrated with family, friends, and blessings abound! So, put the tree away, take the lights down, but continue stay in the spirit!

Find a place to give all year long, for example, by reading to a child; helping out at the medical clinic at the mission (they need bilingual volunteers badly); Rod's House; YMCA or YWCA; the Humane Shelter; Veterans and even your Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce!

With the need so great, I'm sure you could find a place for your time and treasure! Our valley needs you to serve..... I can assure you the return on your investment will exceed the capacity of your heart!

We, also, need to support our new City Council as they learn, listen, and make decisions for the greater good. Yes, this will be their time to define themselves as the strong, caring, passionate individuals they are. They will be working for their districts, and the community at large. Their

terms will be outlined by their ability to serve all! With pending issues, we need to encourage them to lead with integrity, honor, and selflessness. Huge decisions will be made regarding the Plaza, the Sozo Arena, and the Aquatic Center. These projects need to be fully voiced with no hidden agendas or political posturing. Choosing a new city manager will be very important to our future and I'm sure these council members will be up to the challenge.

In closing, let's all work together for a stronger, united community.... thank you in advance for all that you do and will do for the betterment of our Yakima Valley!

## MESSAGE from the CHAIR



**Joe Mann**  
*Chair of the Board*

### Grown Yakima Grow

As the year-ends, and a new one begins I was reflecting on what has happened around Yakima. As you drive through town the landscape is changing, there are lots of new commercial buildings; the biggest changes I notice are Rainier Square and Tahoma Square. Both have national and regional tenants that the Valley has not seen before, bringing

our community new choices and new employment opportunities.

I have also noticed many changes downtown. Being a true downtown Yakima boy, I've spent all my life in the heart of the city and I see these changes daily. The next few paragraphs I will really show my age.

The old Harold H. Schlutz building is now the new home of Standard Paint, a longtime Yakima Valley family owned business. What a fantastic remodel they have done to this structure, wow! With the move to the new location, this opened up their previous location for the Print Guys to move downtown and continue to upgrade equipment and services for their growing customer base.

Then there's the "old" Nordstrom building owned by Monty Mills of the Mills Music family. That building is also undergoing a major remodel. It has been a quietly kept secret but has me very excited to see what it will turn into.

Right across the street the Morrier family is finishing the last stages to Yakima's newest hotel. From what I hear it will truly be Yakima's finest, a five star facility to enjoy.

Just a block down on the corner of South Naches Avenue and Yakima Avenue, a new bank building is being built from the ground up, a show case corner for the new building. Another block down, the Neighborhood Health buildings have been re-finished to attractive office buildings. I also cannot wait to see what the Memorial/Virginia Mason partnership does with their new purchase of the huge former ecology building on Yakima Avenue.

All of this is happening in just this short mile along Yakima Avenue. I'm very excited to see what else will take place in our great community in 2016. I love this Valley; it is truly my home and only continues to get better. God bless you all and I welcome you all into 2016 from our All-America City.



# Memorial's Legacy Hall: Celebrating 25 years of philanthropy; transforming healthcare for generations to come

As another new year unfolds, so also begins a new chapter for The Memorial Foundation, the nonprofit philanthropic partner of Memorial Family of Services. It is through our community's unwavering commitment that needed resources have been available to fund today's healthcare initiatives and tomorrow's promises with a mix of philanthropic and grants development.

To close out 2015, the Foundation celebrated its silver anniversary: 25 years of responding to community need and stewarding local generosity to improve health and create new models of care for those who live here in the Yakima Valley.

This celebration of community spirit was literally cast in bronze (and walnut and glass) in the form of the new Legacy Hall, a special place within Yakima Valley Memorial Hospital.

Legacy Hall was designed to honor our community of donors, The Memorial Foundation's thousands of philanthropic partners, and volunteers who have steadfastly supported the Foundation's mission and Memorial Family of Services programs through those first 25 years. Many of the services provided to the residents of Yakima would not be possible without the support provided through the Foundation.

The story of this work—with the goal of building and maintaining a Healthy Yakima—is easily told by the numbers:

- \$54 million has been raised to support health programs and services.
- \$17.5 million has been raised for capital improvements at Memorial Hospital and Memorial Family of Services, including at North Star Lodge Cancer Center, Cottage in the Meadow and Children's Village.
- Over \$23 million has been raised in federal and state grants secured for community health programs and services.
- Development of new models of care have resulted in Children's Village and Cottage in the Meadow, Memorial's home for hospice.
- 89% of The Foundation's total expenses go directly to health programs.

Gifts are not a contribution to The Memorial Foundation, they are investments in the future of healthcare services made available to you and your loved ones right here in the Yakima Valley.



Since The Memorial Foundation began in 1990, more than 30,000 donors have contributed; support that remains local. They have made hope, care, compassion and wellness possible for many thousands of people in our community.

But that was just the first 25 years. Work continues. And The Memorial Foundation remains indebted to our community, to those who have given and continue to give of their time, talent and treasure in support of vital healthcare programs and services across the Memorial Family of Services.

Healthy Yakima.

## YAKIMA PLAZA



### Private Pledges to Yakima Central Plaza Nearly Double

By Randy Beehler



Prominent Yakima business owners and individual community members have stepped up to provide another nearly \$2 million in private pledges to build the Downtown Yakima Central Plaza. Those pledges are in addition to a \$2 million contribution from the Plath family made earlier this year toward the plaza designed by world-renowned landscape architect and Yakima native Kathryn Gustafson.

The latest pledges to the Yakima

Central Plaza project as envisioned by Gustafson range from \$100 to \$1 million. Additional pledges are expected to be announced in the near future.

"The latest round of pledges shows that business leaders and community members see the Central Plaza as a valuable economic development tool and a key piece of the ongoing revitalization of Downtown Yakima," said City of Yakima Economic Development Manager Sean Hawkins. "Momentum has been building over the last few months and now we're seeing real results," said Hawkins. "I'm confident we'll reach the goal of \$7

million in private contributions."

The most recent pledges bring the current private contribution total to \$3,938,800. The City of Yakima has budgeted \$2.8 million in 2016 to complete the first phase of the project. The City is expecting to pay \$7 million of the cost of the \$14 million project with the private sector matching the City's portion.

The single largest private pledge made since the Plath family announced its pledge comes from Peggy Lewis at \$1 million. Lewis' husband Walter and his brothers Lester and Victor founded Yakima Pine Products in the 1950s, which after merging with another company, was sold to worldwide building products manufacturer JELD-WEN, Inc. in 1990.

Both B.T. Loftus Ranches, a major hop producer for craft breweries, and John I. Haas, Inc., the leading supplier of hops in North America, have each pledged \$250,000 to the plaza project. Poppoff, Inc., a Yakima concrete firm, has donated \$100,000. The balance of the current nearly \$4 million in private pledges is made up of contributions in varying amounts from 18 other individuals or businesses.

Pledges to the Downtown Central Plaza Project can be made online at [yakimacentralplaza.com](http://yakimacentralplaza.com) or by contacting Sean Hawkins by phone at 575-6274 or by e-mail at [sean.hawkins@yakimawa.gov](mailto:sean.hawkins@yakimawa.gov).







**Jonathan Smith**  
President  
Yakima County  
Development Association

### **Mr. Smith goes to Yakima**

It was late in the afternoon on Thursday August 6th. I was wrapping up loose ends at my office in Moses Lake when the phone rang. I did not know it at the time, but answering that phone call would set into motion a fast-paced chain of events that in less than three months would culminate in my writing this article today from my new office in Yakima.

I won't go into all the details of the past few months but do want to focus on a question that I have been asked often: "Why are you moving to Yakima County?"

As I went through the interview process and was evaluated, measured, and assessed by the board of New Vision, my wife and I were also evaluating, measuring, and assessing the greater Yakima area. I would like to share what most impressed us about Yakima County and why we are so thrilled to be here and to call this community home.

*Yakima County is serious about education*

With sixteen school districts, a Technical Skills Center, Yakima Valley Community College, Heritage University, Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences, Perry Tech, and a strong collaboration with both CWU and WSU for four year degrees available locally; we quickly envisioned our three boys, Adam, Marshall, and Anders growing up here and going through the K-12 system and pursuing their post-secondary education in whatever field they chose. Whether it's vocational and skills based training or a four year degree, they will be able to do it right here.

*Yakima is in control of its destiny*

On the first trip our family made to Yakima to really look at the community I noticed a small banner on the side of the road just after we took the downtown exit. It was a simple sign with only three words; "All American City." I immediately knew that this is a community that takes charge of its future. It isn't afraid to own up to its faults and shortcomings and then pro actively come together and do something about it.

No city is perfect, and that's okay. However, in a world where it is increasingly easier to point the finger at the state, or the federal government for why things aren't the way everyone would like them to be locally, it is encouraging to see accountability, responsibility, and community leadership. Not everyone knows what that little "All American City" banner signifies. For my family though, it signified that this is a community we want to be a part of.

*Yakima is a growing and dynamic community*

The tenth largest city in Washington State and the third largest city in

Eastern Washington is Yakima. Of the more than 285 cities and towns across the state, sixty-five percent of them grew less than 10% in total population over the past ten years. Conversely, ten of the fourteen cities in Yakima County saw growth of ten percent or greater over the same time period. This is a place that is attracting people and at the same time it is offering those people a lot of activities, events and programs to keep everyone connected and involved. There is the fair, the Y, events at the Convention Center, the symphony, theatre, sporting events, cultural festivals, concerts, and more. These activities are spread throughout the entire County. What a great place to live and learn from all the area has to offer.

*Yakima County equals outdoor recreation*

Its location against the Cascade Mountains gives quick access to multiple national forests and wilderness areas including the Goat Rocks Wilderness, Mount Adams Wilderness, and William O. Douglas Wilderness. These areas along with the Snoqualmie, Gifford Pinchot, and Wenatchee National Forests provide easy access for hiking, backpacking, geocaching, skiing, camping, and whole host of other outdoor activities. The Tieton, American, Bumping, Naches, and Yakima Rivers makes it a great place for fly-fishing, canoeing, and kayaking. The many lakes and reservoirs offer opportunities for boating, water skiing, and more.

In short, Yakima County has all of the qualities that my family and I appreciate in a community. We are so excited to be here and to call the Valley our home. We look forward to making new friends and becoming involved in all the area has to offer.



**Thane Phelan**  
Vice President  
Greater Yakima Chamber  
of Commerce

### **"Recruit or Attract?" Creating a Prosperous Future for Yakima**

Over the past three years I've had the honor of attending the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Institute for Organization Management as I work toward my "IOM" designation for Non-Profit management. Through this program I've had the great pleasure and privilege to work with, learn from, and be mentored by some of the most successful Chamber, Community, and Economic Development minds from all over the country.

The education that I've received has given me a more confident and qualified ability to bring the processes of their community success back home to the work I do here with the Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce. It has, no doubt, changed how I assess, promote, and assist with the community building projects here in the Yakima Valley. It's also vastly changed my mind on how and why we should even consider projects like the; Sozo Sports Complex, Aquatics Center and Downtown Plaza.

In the 2014 "Citizen Survey" of Yakima area residents, 87% of respondents indicated that it was essential or very important for the City of Yakima to invest in economic development. Public gath-

ering spaces, sports complexes, etc. are the new face of economic development.

Creating a city where people want to visit and live is vital to economic growth and success in our region. The "quality of life" improvements will be a key indicator to businesses wishing to relocate to our area that they'll be able to recruit and retain qualified employees. I was told by a City Council member that these projects will only create minimum wage retail jobs... but it is so much bigger.

Last year I attended a presentation in Tri-Cities by Roger Brooks, the consultant that helped to make Whistler a world class destination. He and his team were hired to do an analysis of the city's ability to attract events, tourism, and new business. His recommendation was that the Tri-Cities lacked public gathering spaces, and encouraged each city to invest in them. His team recommended an arts district, a year round public mar-

*"It became obvious to me that before we could talk to anyone about coming to town and building a plant, we had to make it a place where they would want to live and where they would want their employees to live."*  
**Oklahoma City Mayor Ron Norick**

ket, downtown core districts, and programmed gathering places. Millennials he offered want and express three things that they need to be happy in a community, a place to live, a place to work, and a place to gather. He noted that Starbucks has created a very successful business model on this concept.

The new model of economic development is based much more on "attract" than "recruit". When community leaders and economic development professional work on economic vitality projects they must take in to consideration the changing lifestyles of the demographics they want to recruit, and/or keep in a region. Millennials are much more likely than the generations before them to want to live in "close-in urban neighborhoods".

As an example with a 20 year head start, look to Oklahoma City. In the early 90's a major airline bypassed Oklahoma City to build a huge refurb plant that would have brought hundreds of jobs to the city, despite Oklahoma City offering much higher incentives. The CEO of the company basically said, "at the end of the day he couldn't see his employees living there" and Oklahoma City was not chosen. Oklahoma City Mayor Ron Norick stated at the time "It became obvious to me that before we could talk to anyone about coming to town and building a plant, we had to make it a place where they would want to live and where they would want their employees to live."

Since the 90's Oklahoma City has become a city that in recent years has been named the No. 1 job market in the U.S., based on unemployment rates from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, best place to start a business, and one of the top 10 places to live in the country, according to RelocateAmerica.

"Quality of Life" factors are the determining qualities for city success, Oklahoma City has learned. By addressing these problems head on, OKC has changed its future. In the past 12 years Oklahoma City has seen population increase of

about 50 thousand. Amazingly the biggest jump has been residents age 25-34 with college degrees, jumping from 25% of the population to 32%...millennials. They have also seen a demographic change in their downtown neighborhoods; people aged 25-34 with a college degree has jumped to 40%.

One of my favorite articles this year from [www.freeenterprise.com](http://www.freeenterprise.com) run by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce was an article about Oklahoma City and how they have achieved such tremendous success. You'll find it on the following pages; I hope you'll be inspired as I have been about the possibilities for our region if we understand how and why the decisions we make now will create a better future for the Yakima Valley.



# BEHIND OKLAHOMA CITY'S BOOMING ECONOMY, LESSONS FOR UP-AND-COMING CITIES



Presented by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Free Enterprise Staff | February 20, 2015

Oklahoma City is something of an enigma. Located in the Great Plains, the city doesn't benefit from a temperate climate or a lush natural landscape. Even so, young people are continuing to move there in large numbers, a trend that has only accelerated over the past decade.

What's attracting them? Depending on whom you ask, you'll likely hear any range of responses. It has a nice feel. It's laid back without being sleepy. It's the perfect compromise between the bustle of places like Chicago and the placidity of smaller towns like Tulsa.

Anecdotal tales notwithstanding, there are some hard facts that are undeniable. Between 2004 and 2014, Oklahoma City's population expanded by roughly 50,000. Yet unlike other cities that grew at a steady clip thanks to an influx of older retirees, Oklahoma City has become a go-to place for young, educated workers, whose share of the overall population increased over the same period of time.

According to a report from the City Observatory think tank, the share of Oklahoma City residents aged 25 to 34 who had a four-year degree increased from 25% in 2000 to 32% in 2012. Oklahoma City's downtown neighborhoods also changed dramatically between 2000 and 2010, the report found, with its population of "young and restless" millennials—people aged 25-34 with a college degree—jumping 40%.

So, what's driving this migration? Well, to a certain extent, success begets success. If most of your college friends are moving to a certain city or region, chances are greater that you'll also consider relocating along with them. Yet there's more at play in Oklahoma City, where both the government and the business community have teamed to actively transform the city into a more walkable, enjoyable place to call home.

Among the most vocal proponents of this movement has been the city's mayor, Mick Cornett, who has been in office since 2004. Throughout his tenure, his government has trumpeted and instituted numerous modernization and quality-of-life programs such as MAPS 3, a standout initiative Cornett described in a 2013 TED talk.

Conceived as a 10-year, city-wide construction and development initiative, MAPS 3 sought to remake Oklahoma City into a healthier place for residents by creating more walking spaces, parks, and recreational areas. "Along with the traditional economic development tasks like building a new convention center, we added some health-related infrastructure to the process," the mayor said.

"We added a new central park—70 acres in size—to be right downtown. We're building a downtown streetcar to try to help the walkability formula for people who choose to live in the inner city. We're in the final stages of developing the finest venue in the world for the sports of canoe, kayak, and rowing. We have Olympic-caliber events coming to Oklahoma City, and athletes from all over the world are moving in."

The effort, which helped lower Oklahoma City's dangerously high obesity rate, also enhanced the city's allure for millennials, who value walkability and convenience when choosing where to live. The city's efforts in this space have even landed them in a U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation's Corporate Citizenship Center research report highlighting the efforts of four cities working to prevent obesity.

Additionally, these kinds of initiatives led to a revitalization of Oklahoma City's urban core, creating the kinds of neighborhoods that—once again—young people want to live in. Millennials are, in fact, more than twice as likely as other age groups to live in such "close-in urban neighborhoods," according to City Observatory researchers.

As a result of this kind of demographic migration, more and more businesses have similarly incorporated in Oklahoma City's innermost neighborhoods. The growing number of companies has had a kind of compounding effect, drawing more young, educated residents hoping to take advantage of the metro area's robust job market. (Favorable state and city regulations have also helped.)

**"WE ADDED A NEW CENTRAL PARK—70 ACRES IN SIZE—TO BE RIGHT DOWNTOWN. WE'RE BUILDING A DOWNTOWN STREETCAR TO TRY TO HELP THE WALKABILITY FORMULA FOR PEOPLE WHO CHOOSE TO LIVE IN THE INNER CITY."**

And robust it is: According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the December metro area unemployment rate of 3.6% was two percentage points below the national average. It's this kind of jobs growth

that has propelled the city's economy forward, earning it recognition from policy institutes, economists, government officials, and organizations like Kiplinger's, which recently declared Oklahoma City the top U.S. city to start a business.

As Kiplinger's noted in its assessment, Oklahoma's state capital has a singular entrepreneurial economy, even when compared to such traditional economic powerhouse cities as Boston and Chicago: "Oklahoma City is home to more than 18,600 small businesses, nearly double the national average for all metro areas," according to the news organization. "It also sports the second-highest number of small businesses per 10,000 people on this list."

Unquestionably, another factor contributing to Oklahoma City's mounting economic and civic momentum is how affordable it is for residents—a fact recently recognized by Forbes, which ranked it as one of the most affordable places to live in the U.S. According to Zillow, the median home value in Oklahoma City is \$121,000. For comparison, that figure stands at slightly more than \$1 million in San Francisco and roughly \$554,000 in New York City.

So, as it turns out, there is no single variable responsible for Oklahoma City's emergence as an up-and-coming hub for millennials, but rather an amalgam of factors. It's an enthusiastic mayor and an agreeable local government; it's the public-private partnerships that have transformed formerly neglected neighborhoods; it's the new public works projects that have created a more vibrant downtown; it's an affordable housing supply; and it's also a fair bit of luck.

To a certain extent, there will always be a certain degree of mystery to the age-old question of why some cities, states, and countries modernize and economically thrive while others languish. In Oklahoma City, government officials, business leaders, and residents recognize this, but they're nonetheless working together to ensure they improve areas they can control. It's a strategy that's worked thus far, and probably will moving forward.



For links to the original story and links to items referenced in this story scan the QR code to the left with your smart phone or tablet or use the link below.

<https://www.freeenterprise.com/behind-oklahoma-citys-booming-economy-lessons-for-up-and-coming-cities/>





### *Legends is Accepting Yakama Cares Fund Applications Now!*

A committee of employees from Legends Casino undertakes the daunting task each year of evaluating over 700 grant applications for the Yakama Cares fund. As the committee gears up for the 2016 review, we visited with three of the 2015 recipients to learn more about their impact on the Yakima valley.

We started with a first-time recipient—Lieutenant Shawn Boyle from Yakima SWAT. He learned about the opportunity from the canine unit last year, and now, he and his team are anxiously awaiting delivery of the ballistic shields that they were able to purchase with their grant. These hand-held shields will be used for extra protection of both law enforcement personnel and our citizens during a rescue or armed situation. “We review our needs and evaluate what we can purchase with our budget,” noted Lieutenant Boyle, “Then, we determine what will help not only our department but patrol and other agencies.”

His department will apply for a grant again in 2016, and he recommends that others in the law enforcement community consider applying as well. “With limited budgets, these grants are a way to subsidize our efforts,” explained Shawn, “We greatly appreciate that Legends is willing to partner with the law enforcement community.”

With 700 applications and 200 grantees last year, the committee must make hard decisions on funding year after year, and serving the most people with the greatest need is at the top of the funding list. North Star

Lodge and Children’s Village have proven repeatedly that they’re up for the challenge.

North Star Lodge receives a grant for the cancer patient’s travel fund. According to Ann Caffery, “Our social worker, Megan, works with patients to use the funds to the best advantage with people of the highest need, and still, funding is flying out the door. We’re in the midst of receiving 700 new patients in 6 weeks due to the closure of a wonderful cancer practice in town, and we’re helping people who struggle to get to those appointments.”

North Star Lodge has received the Yakama Cares fund grant several years in a row, and their request is not only for the same program each year but for more. Ms. Caffery shared, “We tend to stay with the same request because the need is relatively endless, and we’ve noticed that Legends does not move away from need. We see over 1,000 patients each week for cancer care.”

North Star Lodge and others express many of the same recommendations for new applicants, and the committee wholeheartedly agrees with their assessments:

- Determine the biggest need you can address for our community.
- How will you help alleviate the most suffering?
- How will you work with the casino to create a lasting partnership that benefits the people in the valley?

The committee began accepting applications on January 1st for the 2016 grant cycle, and the grant cycle closes on March 31, 2016. Please encourage non-profit organizations making a difference in our community to apply this year!



## We exist to build community pride, enhance quality-of-life and strengthen the business environment of the Yakima Valley.

**Yakima**



**2015  
1994**

For membership information please call 509.248.2021



Leadership Yakima - Over 700 Graduates!



Chamber All-America City presentation team returns home!



## MEMBER PROFILE



### Community Resource Group

Empowering children and families to achieve lifelong success is the mission of Community Resource Group (CRG). CRG accomplishes this mission by contracting with the State of Washington Department of Children and Family Services as a Child Placing Agency (CPA) to license foster homes and place children in need of care in those homes; and by providing professional staff to work with licensed foster families and children & youth placed in CRG foster homes.

CRG is licensed to work with children and youth from 0-18 years of age and includes Behavior Rehabilitation Services (BRS) and for non-BRS foster children. BRS is a temporary intensive wraparound support and treatment program for youth with extreme, high level service needs used to safely stabilize youth and assist in achieving a permanent plan or a less intensive service. The desired outcomes for this service are to increase the child's behavioral stability, school stability, placement stability and potential to reach permanency. A major focus is to develop necessary supports which would allow the child to maintain or develop a permanent family connection and to reside in his/her own community in an identified permanent resource.

Non-BRS children are often not able to remain in their family home due to an unsafe environment, or risky parenting practices by the adults in their home. Families that have more than one child and younger children are usually placed in this level of care. This allows time for the parents to work in collaboration with Social Workers and other professionals towards the correcting of issues and behaviors that led to the separation of the family and placement of their children in foster care. Reunification of the family is the priority; however there may be times when it is determined that reunification is not in the best interest of the child. In the case a child or children are not returned, they may become available for adoption.

CRG is currently serving an average of 16 non-BRS youth and 30-BRS Youth. BRS youth have needs that are related to various mental health challenges such as aggression, depression, various types of acting out, alcohol and drug abuse/dependence, poor peer relations, and deficiencies in the arenas of social, work and coping skills as well as issues of self-esteem.

In addition, the agency started with eight foster homes in Yakima County. CRG continues providing

services in Yakima County and has expanded services to Chelan/Douglas Counties; more than doubling the number of foster homes previously licensed. All of our foster parents receive training to become Therapeutic Foster homes so they have the skills to work with BRS children & youth. CRG staff and Foster Parents work closely together to insure the needs of the children and youth are being met by developing and implementing appropriate long and short range goals.

In addition to the many services we provide, the agency also realizes the importance of awarding and recognizing individuals and families in a variety of ways. Each foster child receives a gift, card and cake for their birthdays; activities such as participation in the Seattle Mariners' Family Day and Yakima Pippins & Wenatchee Applesox Non-profit Nights; end of Summer BBQ for all of the foster families; and Christmas parties, supported by local businesses and individuals, in Yakima and Wenatchee complete with gifts for every child.

CRG is fully vested and passionate about all of the families, foster children & youth that we serve and will continue to work hard on behalf of foster children in our community.

*Community Resource Group opens new facility August 2015 with Chamber Ribbon Cutting and Open House*



To submit a "Business Brief", announcements, staff changes, awards etc. E-mail brief copy and picture to [thane@yakima.org](mailto:thane@yakima.org) (copy may be edited for space) Include "Business Brief" in subject line.



Northwest Harvest has announced their Central Washington Advisory Committee members for the 2016 year. Sharon Allen ESD 105, Crystal Bass Confederated Tribes & Bands of the Yakama Nation, Mel Brink HomeStreet Bank, Patty Dion Community Volunteer, Cris Hales Tree Top, Greg Knoebel US Bank, Ignacio Marquez WA State Dept. of Agriculture, Keith Mathews First Fruits Marketing of WA., Michael Rollinger Rollinger Transport Solutions/Giltner Logistics and Jennifer Tangeman KNDO/KNDU/SWX TV. This committee works under the direction of Sheri Bissell, Northwest Harvest Community Engagements and the two Yakima Board of Directors, Kay Bassett Heritage University and Naomi Lule First Fruits Marketing of WA.

### *Acquisition Expands Hayden Homes in 2 new Cities, 10 new Neighborhoods*

A new homebuilder is entering the Yakima market, but the company has deep roots throughout the four state Northwest Region. Hayden Homes LLC, recently acquired 325 lots from Sullivan Rowell Homes as it phases out of the homebuilding business. This expands Hayden Homes' operation to the city of Yakima (Yakima Ridge and Washington Heights communities) and to the city of Ellensburg (Greenfield Estates).

This lot acquisition and another

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

in March combine to make Hayden Homes the largest privately held homebuilder in the Northwest. Hayden Homes has built more than 10,000 homes since the company was established 25 years ago.

Dennis Murphy, Hayden Homes Chief Executive Officer says the transfer of Sullivan Rowell Homes means a strong tradition will continue, "We share many of the same core values and lengthy experience.

Yakima and Ellensburg home buyers will admire Hayden Homes' continued attention to detail and community spirit."

The addition of the 325 lots also expands Hayden Homes' existing market share in the Tri-Cities area, where the company will begin building in five new neighborhoods. Lots in two Walla Walla communities are also part of the expansion.



*Leading Force Energy and Design Center - Ribbon Cutting in December  
Leading Force will be the host of Business After Hours  
on February 16th from 5-7.  
Join us at 17 N. 3rd St. in Yakima*



*Community Health of Central Washington  
Highland Clinic ribbon-cutting on Dec. 2nd at 915 Wisconsin Ave, Tieton.  
Pictured: Dr. Maria Verduzco - Clinical Site Director, Dr. Mike Maples - CEO, Elizabeth Herres Miller - Board Chair, Judy O'Neal - RN COO, Juan Figueroa - Director of Environmental Health, Claudia Rojas - Medical Assistant, Stan Hall - Mayor of Tieton, (behind the mayor, Mireya Galvez - RN, Clinic Manager)*



## RENEWING MEMBERS

*Chamber Members who renewed their Memberships in October & November 2015  
Please support these businesses that support your Chamber!*

### Members for 1- 4 Years:

Absolute Comfort Technology – 1 Year  
Friendly Automotive & Tires – 1 Year  
Gray & Osborne Inc. – 1 Year  
Hyperbaric Centers of Washington – 1 Year  
The Yoga Practice – 1 Year  
Westside Pizza – 1 Year  
Abeyta-Nelson, P.C. – 2 Years  
Assurance Healthcare and Counseling Center – 2 Years  
Inklings Bookshop – 2 Years  
Law Office Sonia Rodriguez True – 2 Years  
Office Max – 2 Years  
Twigs Bistro & Martini Bar – 2 Years  
Yakima Valley Pippins – 2 Years  
Human Resources & Management Solutions – 3 Years  
Northwest Medstar – 3 Years  
Robinson Drilling & Development Inc. – 3 Years  
Washington Federal – 3 Years  
Yakima Humane Society – 3 Years  
Yakima Symphony Orchestra – 3 Years  
AT&T Yakima – 4 Years  
Cornerstone Home Lending – 4 Years  
Edwards Jones – Scott Holt, Financial Advisor – 4 Years  
Liberty Tax Service – 4 Years

### Members for 5- 9 Years:

Anytime Fitness- Summitview Avenue – 5 Years  
Community Living – 5 Years  
Lincoln Avenue Medical-Dental Center – 5 Years  
M Seigny Construction Inc. – 5 Years  
Canyon River Ranch Lodge – 6 Years  
Tom Froula- Individual Member – 7 Years  
Charter Spectrum Business – 8 Years

Naches Medical Clinic- 8 Years  
OHANA Mammography Center – 8 Years  
Stokes Lawrence Velikanje Moore & Shore – 8 Years  
Ummelina Yakima Valley Spa Retreat – 8 Years  
Wheatland Bank – 8 Years  
Washington Fruit Place & Gift Shop- 9 Years

### Members for 10 -14 Year

Johnson Insurance – 10 Years  
D2 Communications- 11 Years  
Harmony Hills U-Pick Raspberries & Lavender – 11 Years  
Storage Court- 11 Years  
Abbott's Printing, Inc. – 12 Years  
Fairfield Inn & Suites By Marriott – 12 Years  
Meredith Furniture, Inc – 14 Years  
Yakima Ambulatory Surgical Center – 14 Years

### Members for 15-19 Years:

Advanced Digital Imaging – 15 Years  
Camp Prime Time- 15 Years  
URM Cash and Carry – 15 Years  
Bruner Painting, Inc. – 16 Years  
Glenmoor Green Apartments- 16 Years  
AAA Washington – 17 Years  
Akland Pump & Irrigation Co., Inc. – 17 Years  
All American Self Storage – 17 Years  
Columbia Asphalt & Gravel, Inc. -17 Years  
Columbia Ready-Mix Inc. – 17 Years  
Englewood Garden Villas- 17 Years  
Joe Park Construction Inc. – 17 Years  
Miller Glass Corp. – 17 Years  
MSI Construction Inc. – 17 Years  
Sound Mart Satellite TV – 17 Years  
Yakama Nation Legends Casino – 17 Years  
3 W Trucking – 18 Years  
Orchard-Rite, Ltd. – 18 Year

### Members for 20-29 Years:

Triumph Treatment Services – 21 Years  
Central Washington Family Medicine Clinic – 23 Years  
Community Health of Central Washington – 23 Years  
Design Service Corporation – 25 Years  
CenturyLink Communications – 26 Years  
Valley Marine, Inc. – 28 Years  
Vintiques of Yakima Car Club – 28 Years  
Cascade Eye Center – 29 Years  
Terrace Heights Development, LLC – 29 Years

### Members for 30-39 Years:

DSHS - Division of Vocational Rehabilitation – 30 Years  
Gray Surveying & Engineering, Inc. – 31 Years  
OIC of Washington – 31 Years  
United Business Machines of Washington – 32 Years  
Yakima Valley Museum & Historical Association – 32 Years  
Stephens Metal Products, Inc. – 37 Years

### Members for 40-49 Years:

All Seasons Heating & Air Conditioning – 40 Years  
Dunbar Jewelers – 46 Years  
Smith, Phillips & DiPietro Advertising – 48 Years

### Members for 50-59 Years:

Clifton/Larson/Allen – 50 Years  
Smith Law Firm – 52 Years  
KNDO TV – 56 Years

### Members for 70-79 Years:

Burrows Tractor, Inc. – 70 Years

### Members for 80-89 Years:

Town Square Media – 80 Years

## NEW MEMBERS

*We are pleased to announce the following new businesses have joined the Chamber during the months of October and November*

AS Plumbing & Water Heaters  
(509) 901-0892  
[ASplumbingandwh@yahoo.com](mailto:ASplumbingandwh@yahoo.com)

Better All Auto Sales  
914 S. 1st Street  
Yakima, WA 98901  
(509) 452-7789  
[www.betterall.com](http://www.betterall.com)

Central Washington RV  
913 S. 18th St.  
Yakima, WA 98901  
(509) 248-2978  
[www.cwrv.net](http://www.cwrv.net)

Darigold  
1130 Rainier Ave S.  
Seattle, WA 98144  
(800) 333-6455

Day Spa Academy  
30 N 3rd St.  
Yakima, WA 98901  
(509) 574-8492  
[www.dayspaacademy.com](http://www.dayspaacademy.com)

Digital Design and Development (3D)  
1200 Chesterley Dr. Ste. 140  
Yakima, WA 98902  
(509) 833-8552  
[www.3dyakima.com](http://www.3dyakima.com)

Enigma Marketing Research & Design  
402 E. Yakima Avenue Ste. 830  
Yakima, WA 98901  
(509) 853-2867  
[www.enigmamarketing.com](http://www.enigmamarketing.com)



*Kyoto Japanese Steakhouse & Sushi - Ribbon Cutting at 2405 W. Washington Ave. Yakima. Yakima's premiere sushi and steakhouse, featuring 12 hibachi grills, sushi bar and full bar.*

Hayden Homes  
2464 SW Glacier Ave  
Redmond, OR 97756  
(541) 923-6607  
[www.hayden-homes.com](http://www.hayden-homes.com)

Kyoto Steakhouse  
2405 West Washington Ave  
Yakima, WA 98903  
(509) 971-1919  
[www.kyotoatyakima.com](http://www.kyotoatyakima.com)

Love INC of Yakima  
226 S. First St.  
Yakima, WA 98901  
(509) 453-2942  
[www.loveincyakima.org](http://www.loveincyakima.org)

The End Zone Sports Bar & Grill  
1023 N 1st St.  
Yakima, WA 98901  
(509) 452-8099

The Entrepreneur's Source  
530 N Lyle Ave.  
E. Wenatchee, WA 98802  
(509) 888-0863  
[www.theesource.com/wdalpez](http://www.theesource.com/wdalpez)



*Yakima's newest hot spot for sports, music and karaoke, The End Zone Bar & Grill - 1023 N. 1st St. Yakima*

The Little Soapmaker Inc.  
302 W. Yakima Ave Ste. 103  
Yakima, WA 98902  
(509) 972-8504  
[www.thelittlesoapmaker.com](http://www.thelittlesoapmaker.com)

WSU Spokane College of Pharmacy  
Yakima, WA  
200 University Parkway  
Yakima, WA 98901  
(509) 368-6605  
<http://www.pharmacy.wsu.edu/prospectivestudents/pharmacyaboutyakima.html>



*Meet the new owners of The Little Soapmaker, downtown at 302 W. Yakima Ave. Find out more about them online at [www.thelittlesoapmaker.com](http://www.thelittlesoapmaker.com)*



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\*As voted by the Yakima Valley Business Times