

# THE CHAMBER VOICE



**Greater Yakima Chamber of  
Commerce**

10 N. 9th St.  
Yakima, WA. 98901  
[www.yakima.org](http://www.yakima.org)  
509-248-2021

**September - October 2019**

## **Message From The Chair Bob Gerst**



### **Community Service**

This year, members of the Chamber of Commerce and others are excited to participate in “Make a Difference Day”, on Saturday, October 26th. This unofficial “holiday” emphasizes community service and volunteerism, and has been celebrated every fourth Saturday of October since 1992. Every year, scores of people across Yakima and the US volunteer and perform projects for their community, individuals in need, and charitable organizations. Examples of such activities include painting a room in a local school, delivering food to the elderly/house bound, building community playgrounds, and cleaning parks.

The importance of “giving back” is what our Ted Robertson event highlights on November 7th. The Ted Robertson Community Service Award was established in 1989 by the Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce Past Presidents/Board Chairmen to annually honor individuals that have contributed to the betterment of the Greater Yakima area. As the former publisher of the Yakima-Herald Republic, Ted Robertson held a strong belief that good fortune earned in a community should be shared with that community, through community services. We can think of no one who displays this devotion to community service more than this year’s recipient, John Baule. John has been instrumental in his work with the Downtown Association, Yakima Valley Visitors & Convention Bureau and the Yakima Rotary Club.

Community service is vital to a safe, healthy, and fun community. It also has many personal and community benefits including teaching compassion and understanding to people of all ages and backgrounds. And keep in mind, volunteering has no time limit! You can donate whatever time you have available and it WILL make a difference. It is also a great way to become introduced to new areas of interest and help you network and gain professional experience. We bet you would even learn new things about our community and its resources! Volunteering and community service are also great family activities as it promotes time together, “giving back”, and can deepen the understanding our children have of the world around them. There are many opportunities to contribute and leave a positive impact in our valley, so we challenge you to get together with others and take action.

Bob Gerst



**Business After Hours - Habitat for Humanity**

## Board Profile

### Sue Price-Scott Alegria & Company, P.S.

Sue Price-Scott has been a member of the Chamber board since July 2013.

She was born and raised in North Central Washington. She moved to Anchorage, Alaska to work for Touche Ross

(now, known as Deloitte) after receiving her Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration from Washington State University.

Sue has experience working in private industry accounting as the Chief Financial Officer for a heavy duty truck dealership and engine and transmission distributorship and as the Chief Financial Officer for a construction company in Spokane.

Sue received a Master of Business Administration degree from Gonzaga University and a Master of Science in Taxation degree from Golden Gate University. Sue joined Alegria & Company in early 2002. Her clients include closely held businesses and their owners as well as individuals. Sue is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Washington State Society of Certified Public Accountants and is accredited in Business Valuation services by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. She is a member of and is currently President-Elect of the Yakima Sunrise Rotary Club.

Sue's love for the Yakima Valley grew with developing relationships within the community and the beautiful four seasons we get to enjoy. Sue loves the outdoors and lives an active lifestyle with her husband.



## Welcome, New Members!

Anytime Fitness - Summitview  
5611 Summitview Ave.  
Yakima WA 98908  
509-965-0900

Cuddles and Cream Lactation  
1312 N. 16th Ave.  
Yakima WA 98902  
509-480-0544

Downtown Association of Yakima  
14 S 1st Street  
Yakima WA 98901  
509-571-1328

Healthy Eats Classroom  
1101 W Yakima Ave.  
Yakima WA 98901  
509-607-6862

Health Alliance Northwest  
1701 Creekside Loop STE 100  
Yakima WA 98902  
800-851-3379

Heritage Distilling Co. Roslyn  
101 Pennsylvania Ave.  
Roslyn WA 98941  
509-904-0957

Norm's of Yakima  
5 N Front Street  
Yakima WA 98902  
509-902-1505

NW Business Development Association  
20 S 4th STE E  
Yakima WA 98902  
509-469-5040

Peach Tree Retirement Center  
2800 W Viola Ave.  
Yakima WA 98902  
509-248-1766

PJ's Music Box  
13 S 1st Street  
Yakima WA 98901  
509-426-2206

Real Food Advocate w/ John Maxwell Team  
5420 Woodring Canyon Rd  
Cashmere WA 98815  
509-885-0181

## Save the Date

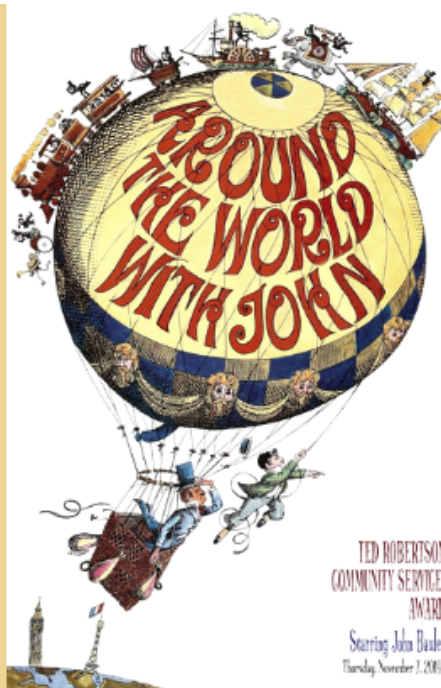
Ted Robertson  
Community Service  
& Chamber Awards

**11.7.19**

Starring John Baule  
The 2019 Ted Robertson  
Award Recipient



The Event is  
brought to you by  
PayneWest  
Insurance





# BUSINESS BRIEFS



## Gesa Credit Union Donates Over \$155,000 to Local Schools

RICHLAND, WASHINGTON – Gesa Credit Union presented \$155,087.05 to representatives from their school partners on Thursday, August 15. The funds from this donation are a part of an exclusive partnership agreement between Gesa and the Kennewick, Richland, Pasco, Yakima, College Place, Moses Lake, Finley, and Columbia School Districts along with Delta High School and Liberty Christian School.

This announcement was made at a reception held at Castle Event Center in Richland. Gesa's High School Co-Branded Affinity Debit Card Program supports local schools by earning money for school districts to use toward student programs. The total awarded today was generated by Gesa members during the 2018-2019 school year. Gesa announced that beginning in September, supporters of Eisenhower and Davis High Schools in Yakima will be able to take part in this valuable program. Gesa currently offers 13 Affinity Debit Cards which to date have raised over \$300,000 for Washington schools and youth sports.

"This program is a way for our members to join us in making an impact in our community. Our members have embraced this program which is why we are able to make this contribution today," said Don Miller, President and CEO of Gesa Credit Union. "Our education programs and support for schools is at the heart of what Gesa stands for. We are proud to partner so closely with our schools, working together to provide valuable learning opportunities for local students."

## Executive Board

**Chair:** Bob Gerst, John I Haas

**Immediate Past Chair:** Rich Austin,  
Yakima Sports Commission

**First Vice Chair:** Kristi Foster,  
Wheatland Bank

**Past Chair Advisor:** Joe Mann,  
Ron's Coin & Collectible

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Sue Price- Scott  
Alegria & Company, P.S.

**Legal Counsel:** Jon L. Seitz  
Lyon, Weigand & Gustafson PS

**Second Vice Chair:** Tami Cain  
Central Pre-Mix Concrete Co.

**President/CEO:** Verlynn Best

## Board of Directors

Jon DeVaney, Washington State  
Tree Fruit Association

Jack "JD" Bewley, McDonalds of Yakima

Steve Mercy, Yakima Theatres

Natasha Trudeau, Triumph

Actuation Systems

Bertha Alicia Garza, Centro de  
Servicios Comunitarios

Terry Wheat

Kathy Rheaume, HUB International

Jamon Rivera, Virginia Mason Memorial

Jamie Cuevas Jr., Stokes Law

Linda DiLembo, Valley Mall

Ron L. Cardey, Kwik Lok Corp.

Dr. Christopher Boggess

Anchored Chiropractic LLC

## Ex-Officio Members

Ron Anderson, Yakima County  
Commissioner

LTC Roger Gavriluk, Base Commander  
Yakima Training Center

Mike Daniels, Deputy to the Garrison  
Commander

John Cooper, Yakima Valley Tourism

Greg Stewart, State Fair Park

Dennis Matson, YV Tech

Johnathan Smith, YCDA

Christine Cote, Perry Technical Institute

Haddia Nazer, Central Washington

Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Dulce Gutierrez, City of Yakima



# Working toward a healthy community *and* a healthy planet

**Earlier this year, Virginia Mason Memorial became one of just more than two dozen health care systems across the country to be recognized for its commitment to protecting the environment as a recipient of the Top 25 Environmental Excellence Awards.** The award, the most prestigious environmental achievement for health care, is given annually by Practice Greenhealth, the nation's leading organization dedicated to environmental sustainability in health care.

VMM received this award along with four others in the state: Virginia Mason Hospital & Seattle Medical Center, Seattle Children's, Harborview Medical Center and the University of Washington Medical Center. Other winners across the country include Cleveland Clinic, Boston Medical Center and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, N.Y.

Practice Greenhealth chose the top 25 honorees because, "these facilities have formal commitments to address climate change, are avoiding chemicals of concern and reducing meat served, have engaged staff supporting their sustainability programs, and show leadership in their local communities and across the health care sector."

"We are very proud to be named one of the top 25 hospitals in the entire country for our work toward sustainability," said Memorial CEO Russ Myers. "This work aligns with our mission to 'achieve health with you in new ways. Measures to keep our planet healthy also serve our patients, families, staff and our entire community.'"

In addition, Virginia Mason Memorial received the Circle of Excellence Award for Safer Chemicals, a Circle of Excellence Award for Food and a Greening the OR Recognition Award.

Virginia Mason Memorial's work toward sustainability also includes staff and transportation to and from our hospital and clinics. We encourage bicycling as an easy transportation option that creates a fun and healthy work culture. Biking to work also helps decrease our carbon footprint and reduces health care costs. To encourage biking to work, VMM provides amenities such as indoor bike storage and shower facilities, and incentives such as a \$20 monthly reimbursement for bike-related expenses such as a new tire tube.

The League of American Bicyclists recognized VMM for these efforts earlier this year with a Bronze Bicycle Friendly Business award. This honor has earned us a place alongside 1,266 bike-forward businesses across the country in a commitment to building a more bicycle-friendly America.

Virginia Mason Memorial joins local businesses, government agencies, and Fortune 500 companies in all 50 states and Washington, D.C., in transforming the American workplace to be more welcoming to customers and employees who bike.



Virginia Mason Memorial



# 2019 TED ROBERTSON RECIPIENT JOHN BAULE



The Past Chairs of The Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce are proud to announce John Baule as the 2019 recipient of the Ted Robertson Community Service Award.

The Ted Robertson Community Service Award was established in 1989 by the Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce Past Presidents/Board Chairs to honor individuals each year that have made major contributions to the betterment of the Greater Yakima area.

John Baule graduated from the University of Dubuque with a B.A. in Mathematics & Physics. John also has a MA in History Museum Studies from Loras College and a Mini- MBA in Non-Profit Management. John moved to Yakima in 1992 to become the Director of the Yakima Valley Museum. John has served on boards for; Downtown Association of Yakima, Yakima Valley Visitors & Convention Bureau, and the Yakima Valley Rotary Club. He has also provided leadership to many local organizations. John is known as the No. 1 volunteer at the Downtown Association of Yakima.

"To me, we have a sense of responsibility to make it a better place to live," Baule said at the press conference.

The Ted Roberson Community Service & Chamber Awards will be held November 7, 2019 at the Yakima Convention Center. For more information and to purchase tickets visit our website or call 248-2021.

**Presented by PayneWest Insurance.**

## Past Ted Robertson Community Service Award Recipients:

Bea Noel  
Greta Bryan  
Melvin Wagner  
Bob DiPietro Sr.  
Marvin Sundquist  
Senator Curtis King  
Ester Huey  
Eugene Shields  
Senator Alex Deccio  
Sid Morrison  
Bob Hall  
Dale Carpenter  
Gary Lukehart  
Bob Brown  
John Gasperetti  
Greg & Jan Luring  
Ken Marble  
Bill Dolsen  
Al DeAtley  
Dr. Linda Kaminski  
Ronald King  
Dr. Lloyd Butler  
Rick Pinnell  
Jack & Connie Bloxom

# BUSINESS BRIEFS

## Yakima Valley Community Foundation

Funding for a More Vibrant and Resilient Yakima Valley

\$1.83 million has been granted by the Yakima Valley Community Foundation to 54 organizations working to create a more vibrant and resilient community.

The Foundation's (YVCF) focus is on education, health and wellness with a particular interest in those organizations serving people who are frequently left out or left behind. We recognize civic vitality and civic engagement as key components of a vibrant community so we also support arts and culture, economic drivers, outdoor spaces, built environment and community leadership.

We recently completed all three of our grant funding cycles including strategic grants available to organizations for a 3-year period up to \$150,000; annual grants up to \$25,000; and our Jewett Youth Leadership Council grants up to \$25,000 each. In total YVCF awarded \$1,829,907 year to date.

## Bale Breaker and Jameson Irish Whiskey? Two Limited-Edition Caskmates !

CALLING ALL CRAFT BEER AND JAMESON® IRISH WHISKEY ADMIRERS: SIP THE SPIRIT OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD WITH TWO LIMITED-EDITION CASKMATES

Jameson finished in Bale Breaker and Revolution Brewing beer barrels, crafting two new limited edition products, inspired by local tastemakers  
NEW YORK, NY – (August 21, 2019) – One brewery from Logan Square, Chicago, IL. One brewery from the hop fields in Yakima, WA. One whiskey from Midleton, Ireland. That's the intercontinental collaboration Jameson unveiled today with the launch of Jameson Caskmates Bale Breaker Limited Edition and Jameson Caskmates Revolution Brewing Limited Edition.

"Going to Ireland to collaborate with Jameson is a brewer's dream. Our Topcutter IPA embodies where we're from, and bringing a taste of our neighborhood to the Jameson distillery to create our very own Caskmates Limited Edition was quite incredible," said Kevin Smith, the head brewer at Bale Breaker Brewery.



Healthy Eats Ribbon Cutting



Freehand Cellars Ribbon Cutting



PJs Music Box Ribbon Cutting



# Chamber Members who renewed their Memberships.

## Please support these businesses that support your Chamber!



### Members for 90-99 Years:

First American Title of Yakima  
Helliesen Lumber & Supply Co.  
Horizon Distribution, Inc.  
Yakima Herald Republic

### Members for 70 - 79 Years:

G.H. Moen, LLC  
Wray's Market Fresh IGA

### Members for 60 - 69 Years:

AmSan Yakima  
QBSI - A Xerox Company  
Washington State Tree Fruit Association

### Members for 50 -59 Years:

Harvest Auto  
Noel Canning & Bottling Corporation  
Noel Transportation & Warehouse

### Members for 40 - 49 Years:

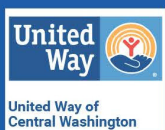
Alegria & Company  
King Beverage  
Star Rentals & Sales, INC  
Tree Top  
Valley Title Guarantee

### Members for 30 - 39 Years:

American Independent Marketing  
Aubrey's R.V. Center  
CWI Security  
Dr. Carbery's Oasis Dental  
Leonard Rickey Investment Advisors  
Noel Communications  
People for People  
Roy's Hardware  
Russell Crane Service  
Yakima Heart Center  
Yakima Neighborhood Health Services  
YMCA of Yakima  
YWCA of Yakima

### Members for 20-29 Years:

American Medical Response  
Avail Home Health  
Bartons Center Pharmacy  
BORArchitecture  
Concord Construction, Inc.  
Conley Engineering, Inc.  
Jaenicke & Company  
PayneWest Insurance  
Rural Community Development Resources  
Valley Septic Service  
West Coast Plastics, Inc.  
Yakima Association of Realtors



## INTRODUCING UNITED WAY OF CENTRAL WASHINGTON'S 365 SMALL BUSINESS CIRCLE!

Small businesses play a critical role in maintaining a thriving local economy. Our Small Business Partners are an important, growing family of donors, who are vital to helping us meet the needs of our community. We realize that small businesses have limited time and resources to devote to charitable giving. That's why United Way of Central Washington has created a giving program tailored to small businesses. Small businesses form the backbone of Yakima and Kittitas county economy. For the first time, you are now invited to participate in a unique campaign to unite and create better opportunities for all.

### 365 SMALL BUSINESS CIRCLE MEMBERSHIP

#### Giving Levels for 365 days

- .50 cents per day = \$182.50
- .75 cents per day = \$273.75
- \$1 per day = \$365
- \$2 per day = \$730
- \$3 per day = \$1,095
- \$5 per day = \$1,825

#### Member Benefits

- 365 Small Business Circle Member decal and logo in a format for online or print media
- Recognition on United Way website
- Recognition at United Way annual campaign events
- Listing in United Way print and newsletter when featuring the 365 Small Business Circle
- Recognition through United Way's Social Media avenues, including: Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram

#### Return on Investment

- Raised business visibility:** Your community investment is visibly recognized in a variety of ways throughout your membership term.
- Brand identity:** Your business is aligned with the strong United Way brand. Attract and maintain customers by displaying your commitment with an exclusive 365 Small Business Circle decal.
- Community Commitment:** As a 365 Small Business Circle member, your business benefits from the trust, good will and emotional connection the United Way of Central Washington has built over the last 65 years.
- Efficient and effective community support:** Rather than writing checks out to the numerous organizations throughout the year, give one contribution to United Way's annual campaign, combined with thousands of others, and it will support numerous United Way local agencies

For more information contact:

Neiri Carrasco, President & CEO  
Neiri@uwcw.org  
509.248.1557

Or

Brian Rackley, Resource Development Director  
Brian@uwcw.org  
509.248.1557



**Chamber Members who renewed their Memberships.  
Please support these businesses that support your Chamber!**



**HUB International Ribbon Cutting and Open House**

**Members for 15 - 19 Years:**

2nd Street Grill  
Baker Boyer Bank  
Clark Jennings & Associates, INC  
H.E.B Mini Storage  
Living Care Retirement Community  
SCORE  
Waffles Cafe  
Yakima Valley Libraries

**Members for 10-14 Years:**

Advanced Mechanical & Electrical, Inc.  
Ahtamum Ridge Family Medicine  
Fiesta Foods of Yakima  
Fred Meyer  
Gilbert Cellars  
Hometown Ace Hardware  
Peopleworks  
Yakima Rock & Mineral Club, INC

**Members for 5 - 9 Years:**

Aladin Limousine  
A-L Compressed Gases, INC  
Chukar Cherries  
Famous Dave's  
Get Air Yakima  
Interstate Battery of Apple Valley  
MB Designs  
Thompson Audiology & Hearing

**Members for 1 - 4 Years:**

ActNow Automotive  
All American Discount Flooring  
Ashby Law PLLC  
Baxter Construction LLC  
Caliber Home Loans, INC  
Cummins INC  
Five Guys Burgers and Fries  
Freightliner Northwest  
GESA Credit Union  
Hummel Agency Farmers Insurance  
Jacobs Engineering Group  
Michael Latimer  
My Hearing Centers  
Old Mill Country Store  
Panera Bread  
Pexco Aerospace  
Ramsey Companies, INC  
Studio 16 Salon & Spa

**Chamber Staff**

Verlynn Best, President & CEO  
Amy Lopez, Operations & Marketing  
Trena Cloyd, Director of Member Services  
Citlali Mason, Office Assistant

**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."