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Notes from the Economic Symposium

Wexley School for Girls, Chamber Luncheon

Entrepreneur Spotlight
Russillo’s is an authentic New York style pizzeria. Enjoy Washington wines, a full service bar, many Russillo’s classic pizzas, pastas, sandwiches, salads, and homemade gelato in this relaxed setting on historic track 29.

Track 29 Suite 6
Yakima, WA 98902
(509) 453-0325

Dine In, Take out, Delivery, and Catering

Russillo’s is an authentic New York style pizzeria. Enjoy Washington wines, a full service bar, many Russillo’s classic pizzas, pastas, sandwiches, salads, and homemade gelato in this relaxed setting on historic track 29.

Happy Hour Monday thru Friday 4pm-6pm
Open Monday thru Saturday at 11am Sunday at Noon
Welcome New Businesses!

We are pleased to announce the following new businesses have joined your Chamber in the month of June 2011: Please support these businesses & associations who support your Chamber!!

Dr. Energy Saver  
jody@drenegyfix.com or www.drenegyfix.com  
509-895-9940

Jody Dumas - Owner

Shields Bag & Printing Company  
1009 Rock Avenue, Yakima, WA 98902  
www.shieldsbag.com  
509-248-7500

Lisa Shields Long – President / CEO

Super Cuts – Valley Mall  
2401 S. 1st Street Union Gap, WA 98903  
509-249-9926

www.supercuts.com or cutspokane@aol.com

Regina Lille – Owner

Yakima Valley Human Resources Association  
www.yvbra.org or communications@yvbra.org

Marla Arbuckle – Public Relations and Advertising Chair

On the cover:
Yakima Craft Brewing

Cover designed by: amyographics.com
Photo by: Thane Phelan

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4 General Membership Luncheon  
5 President’s Report  
6 Message from the chair  
10 Renewing Members
Yakima Craft now produces up to 15 labels per year, some of those seasonally and some year round, Jeff says, “we are reasonably successful”. The next step is growth. They opened The Yakima Craft Brew Pub attached to the Brewery at 2920 River Rd earlier this year and are now concentrating on increasing territory and production, “In a reasonable way”.

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**Wexley School for Girls**

How to make your customers into fans

Wexley School for Girls, the lead strategic advertising agency for The Seattle Sounders, Seattle Seahawks, Car Toys, Oberto, University of Washington Stadium, Taco Del Mar, and Copper Mountain Ski Resorts is presenting at the:

**General Membership Luncheon**

Monday, August 8th 2011, 11:30am–1pm
Red Lion Inn– 607 E Yakima Ave
$20 Chamber Members, Pre-registration closes 8/5
$30 Non-members and at the door

To register call: 509.248.2021 or online: www.yakima.org

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**Wexley School for Girls**

How to make your customers into fans

Exclusive Chamber University business workshop will be offered:
Wexley School for Girls, the lead strategic advertising agency for The Seattle Sounders, Seattle Seahawks, Car Toys, Oberto, University of Washington Stadium, Taco Del Mar, and Copper Mountain Ski Resorts is presenting at the:

**Tuesday August 9th, from 8:30 Noon**

Workshop includes case studies from successful brands as well as a review of select member businesses’ marketing strategies to determine new approaches to your market. Limited seating available, $100 for members, $200 non-members.

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**Business After Hours**

August 16th, 6PM
Yakima Bears vs Spokane Indians
Yakima County Stadium
Central Washington
SE entrance gate next to the BBQ

If you would like to be a host of BAH, go to www.yakima.org and download the application. Submit to maryabigail@yakima.org

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**FREE to members**

First 25 to register receive VIP tickets that include BBQ

Pre-registration Required, contact: 248.2021 x 101 or maryabigail@yakima.org

Members Only

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Jenna Weber has joined the Yakima office of Wells Fargo Insurance Services as a Commercial Sales Executive. In addition to her previous insurance experience, Weber worked as a district manager for Lamar Outdoor Advertising for over eight years. Weber’s business skills will enable her to bring the resources of the World’s fifth largest insurance broker to local businesses. Innovative insurance solutions will be her focus. Having grown up in the Tri-Cities, Jenna has lived in the Yakima Valley for over 20 years and has two children at Naches Valley High School. Jenna is a member of the Yakima Rotary Club.
These past months have given me a new opportunity to observe what is great about Yakima and why being an active member of the Chamber of Commerce has been important to me.

While visiting with all the participants of Leadership Yakima I was witness to some very special individuals who like me want to see the Yakima Valley be a special place. We get involved with whatever we have a great passion for. Creating/supporting the image of our community as a great place to live and work has been one of my passions. I am sure the present team of graduates of Leadership Yakima share my passion for the Yakima community. This next year our Leadership Yakima 2011/2012 class again has a full list of applicants who will see and learn first-hand the opportunities there are to use their skills for community service. Leadership Yakima is a great community program!

Another reason to get involved is the opportunity to network with other members of the community. This past month we had our first “Business After Hours” (BAH) after some changes to the program. The program has been on hold for several months and from the attendance we witnessed it surely was missed. Bob’s Burger & Brew as our hosts did a fantastic job. We had plenty to eat and drink but the main enjoyment was the opportunity to visit/network with old friends and also meet new friends. The event was a smashing success. I personally was quite pleased and from all those I visited with it seems they felt the same. BAH next month will be at the Yakima Bear’s game. “Business After Hours” is a great community service!

One of my favorite opportunities has been to meet and work with your staff here at the Chamber. Each of them has been very supportive of the transition. The search for a new President/CEO for the Chamber has kept all of us very busy. MaryAbigail Dills, Thane Phelan, Lou Ann Matches, Carolyn Gray, and Scott Filkins work for you, the members of the Yakima Chamber. They are all very committed to the history and the ideals of the Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce. Being an active member the Chamber is a great community service! “It doesn’t cost it pays!”

On a special note, check out the list of items that your Yakima Chamber has been involved with over the past 100 plus years. The list was compiled by Scott Filkins. A special thanks to Scott.

What has “Your Chamber” done for you?

- Created the Citizens for Safe Yakima Communities (or CSC).
- Initiated and developed the “For a Better Tomorrow” campaign to bring citizens together with the sole purpose of improving the upper valley’s quality of life.
- Initiated the “Yakima Valley – Buy into It” campaign.
- Led the $750,000 expansion of our office into a regional business resource center which houses The Chamber, YCDA (New Vision), SBDC, SCORE, CSC, BEP and the Central Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.
- Created what is now the Yakima County Development Association (New Vision).
- Helped to coordinate the creation of I-82 from Ellensburg to Yakima.
- Coordinated the local effort to build the Yakima Valley Sundome.
- Led the local effort to create Yakima Valley Community College and helped to bring the higher education resource center there.
- Created the precursor agency to what is now the Visitors and Convention Bureau.
- Created the Leadership Yakima program of which over 750 professionals have graduated.
- Hosts weekly call-ins to our legislators (while in session), and members of Congress which allows our members to connect with their elected officials.
- Worked with Doc Hastings and FEMA to correct an error in the “100 year flood-plain maps” saving local businesses and developers millions of dollars.
- Led the efforts for the creation of the Yakima Airport.
- Helped establish Mt. Rainier National Park.
- Represented local businesses with a city proposed shopping cart ordinance.
- Supported the expansion of the White Pass Ski Area.
- Supported the funding for reconstruction of the Clear Lake dam.
- Handles on average 75,000 inquiries per year by phone, walk-ins, mail and email - we’re the “front-door” of Yakima.
- Annually updates our economic data.
- Reviews business and legislative issues and make recommendations for them.
- Endorses Certificates of Origin (free to members).
- Supports numerous activities through our committees: Transportation - addresses and coordinates local and regional traffic issues; Business & Technology - hosts an annual Expo for businesses to showcase their products and services; Community Image - works on Yakima signage, graffiti ordinances; Clean-up/ Green-up campaign; Yakima entrances, Community Pride, YES awards; Diversity - attempting to build bridges between community organizations and communities; Chamber Foundation - supports funding of educational, community and economic development programs.
- Initiated three attempts to create a Port District that would stimulate economic growth.
- Provides dozens of opportunities for members to be recognized or network, i.e. through luncheons, Business After Hours, Action Report magazine, Chamber U, plus our website and Facebook page.
- Maintains a professional office with full-time staff devoted to the civic, commercial, and educational development of our area!
Message from the Chair

Roy Bauerle  
Chair of the Board of Directors

One of the most frequently asked questions that I’ve heard lately as the Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce Chair of the Board is “What do I want to accomplish this year?” The simple answer is plenty. However, a year comes and goes quickly and we need to be realistic. Our financials at the Chamber need some work. We need to focus on bringing revenue in and be careful in making spending decisions. Simply said we need to get the best bang for our buck so that we can serve our membership wisely. We have a strong finance committee who will be watching our finances closely. We also have a great opportunity this year to hire a new CEO. To date we have narrowed our choice of candidates to the final four. This is one of the most important things we will be doing this next year. It is absolutely critical that we get it right. We will narrow our choice down to two in early August, do some “meet and greets” and have our final person selected by September 1st. Having said that, we are in very good hands with Jon Mulvenon, our interim CEO. Jon has been making a huge difference and is getting the place ready for a smooth transition. Thanks for all the hard work Jon! Soon after the new CEO is on board we will have a strategic planning session to plan our focus for the remainder of the year.

One of my hopes is that we will reinstate our trip to Olympia to visit our State Representatives in order to ensure that our Yakima Valley voices are heard.

I would like to acknowledge our board of directors. We have a board made up of dedicated people who are not afraid to speak out. A board made up of people who have a history of being involved in the community, a board where people are asking tough questions. We need that.

And finally, though this term has just begun, I have already felt challenged, a bit humbled, but mostly well supported by the board, the Chamber Staff, and random acts of kindness throughout the community. We are going to have a great year. Thanks for this opportunity.

ENTREPRENEUR SPOTLIGHT...

Jenny Mae’s Gluten Free Bakery

DATE: Wednesday, August 17th  
TIME: 5:30-7 p.m. (Networking 5:30-6 Program at 6)  
LOCATION: Central WA Business Resource Center, 10 North 9th Street, Yakima 98901  
COST: Free to Chamber and New Vision Members, $5 Non-Members, pay at the door.  
Light hors d’oeuvres and beverages provided.  
Register online or call 248-2021 (space limited-reserve your seat now!)

Sponsored By:

Edward Jones  
Making Sense of Investing

Rob McKenna – Keynote Speaker

Washington State Attorney General will be the keynote speaker at the 4th Annual Sun City Strikers Soccer Club dinner and auction. The Strikers along with their recreational affiliate Yakima Youth Soccer is one of the largest youth soccer groups in the state. This year’s dinner and auction will be held at the beautiful Cascade Gardens, 5704 W. Washington Avenue, on Friday August 12th starting at 6:00pm. The meal will be catered by Outback Steakhouse, and there will also be music and dancing from the band One Up Two Down! Along with a great speaker, food and music, there will be many items to bid on at the auction! The cost is only $35.00 for an individual and $60.00 for a couple. For more information or to purchase tickets please contact Sally at 452-1392 or yysaoffice@yvn.com or you can contact Orfa via email at lopezroal24@msn.com.
Notes from the 2011 Yakima and Central Washington Economic Symposium

The 2011 Economic Symposium held July 8th at the Yakima Valley Community College gathered economists to navigate the economic landscape for attendees. While nationally the recession is considered over, in our region continued declining employment rates and a decline in manufacturing over the last 5 years continues to plague the economy.

Quite a few things of note from the symposium, Lance Carey Economist for Washington State said, “Officially the recession ended in June of 2009 even though currently there are 14 million unemployed nationally.” Dave Wallace acting Chief Economist for WA St Employment Security Department, notes that employment rates in Washington remain below the national recovery rate, while states like Oregon are above and North Dakota leads all states in recovery.

Charles Wassell Ph.D. Associate Professor of Economics at CWU presented the economic impact study that the Yakima Training Center (YTC) has on our area. In that study they found that employment at YTC leads to an additional 184.6 extra jobs in Yakima and Kittitas counties, and about 6.5 million dollars in labor income. YTC employs 540 in Yakima County and an undetermined amount at the NSA.

Donald W. Meseck, Regional Labor Economist for Employment Security, broke down statistics in jobs and industry growth for Yakima County. Agriculture accounts for 24% of jobs, local government and the health industry both contribute about 13% of the employment in Yakima County. The annual average income for Yakima County is $31,805.

The industries with the biggest gains over the last 5 years in Yakima County are, at number 1. agriculture (agriculture, forestry, and fishing), 2. health services, and at 3. the “other” categories.

The “biggest losers” according to Employment Security over the past 5 years are; 1. manufacturing, 2. construction, and 3. information (radio, television, and newspapers).

For more detailed information and to view the presentations from the symposium visit; http://www.workforceexplorer.com/article.asp?ARTICLEID=11265

The Yakima Chamber will proudly present the Annual Chamber Awards at the Black & White Gala. Limited Sponsorships are available.

Along with the 26th Annual Ted Robertson Award, The Yakima Chamber will proudly present the Annual Chamber Awards at the Black & White Gala. Limited Sponsorships are available.
Lisa Krous has been appointed Assistant General Manager of the Yakima Convention Center. Krous has worked for the center as Senior Convention Sales Manager since 2002. As Assistant General Manager, Krous will be responsible for the scheduling of conventions, meetings and events at the center plus assist the General Manager in overseeing operations of the facility. She is a 2008 graduate of Leadership Yakima, serves as co-president of the Wellness House Board of Directors and is a member of the Washington Society of Association Executives. Prior to working at the Yakima Convention Center, she worked for Irwin Research and Development in Yakima for 16 years.

Brynn Kloster has been promoted to Director of Convention and Group Sales for the Yakima Valley Visitors & Convention Bureau. Brynn has been with the bureau since 2006 as their Senior Sales Manager. As Director of Sales she will be responsible for planning and executing convention and group sales for the organization. Kloster has served as a board member for Washington Chapter of Society of Government Meeting Professionals and the Washington Society of Association Executives (WSAE). In recognition of her service, WSAE named her Associate Member of the Year in 2009. A graduate of Central Washington University, Brynn previously worked as a teacher in the Yakima area.

The American Health Care Association and its National Center for Assisted Living has selected Ponderosa Retirement Community in Yakima for its National Quality Award.

The retirement community earned the award for excellence in programming, community outreach, and staff and resident satisfaction.

Ponderosa’s administrator Lori Crow, marketing director, Marilee Ramos, and activities director Annie Oord were also selected for the 2010 National Assisted Living Week Programming Award, for activities organized in September including a ladies spa day, a men’s day out, and a “Sundaes and Sunshine” event.

The awards will be given in September during the association’s annual convention in Las Vegas.

Standards changing for fluorescent lighting courtesy of Pacific Power

Changes to federal efficacy standards for fluorescent lamps and ballasts may help businesses considering fluorescent lighting upgrades decide to act sooner rather than later. Efficacy is a measure of the amount of light delivered per watt of energy consumed (lumens/watt). New national efficacy standards for the manufacture of linear fluorescent lamps will become effective on July 14, 2012. Most types of T12 linear fluorescent lamps (and some T8 lamps) will not meet the new efficacy requirements and cannot be manufactured after this date.

Revised federal standards also require the use of electronic ballasts instead of magnetic ballasts for all new fixtures. These standards do not permit magnetic ballasts to be manufactured for sale as replacement ballasts as of October 1, 2010.

What changes mean:

The new federal standards will limit the availability of replacement parts for T12 lighting systems as manufacturers cease production of most T12 lamps and magnetic ballasts. Upgrading to T8 or T5 lighting systems generates significant energy and cost savings, provides better quality light, and prepares facilities for the phase-out of most T12 lamps in 2012.

Pacific Power offers incentives for retrofitting T12 light fixtures to newer, more efficient premium T8 or T5 fluorescent technologies. These incentives help reduce project payback. Incentives for upgrades could change, and may not be available for standard T8 lighting systems once they become standard equipment.

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Take advantage of current incentives:

Pacific Power’s FinAnswer® Express program provides pre-calculated cash incentives when customers install high-efficiency lighting, HVAC and other equipment at their facilities. The accompanying table gives some examples of incentives currently available for replacing T12 lights with more efficient T8 lighting technology.

Before starting a lighting upgrade or other energy efficiency project, customers should contact their account manager, inquire online at pacificpower.net/inquiry or call toll free at 1-800-222-4335

Ponderosa Wins Assisted-Living Awards

Standards changing for fluorescent lighting courtesy of Pacific Power

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Before starting a lighting upgrade or other energy efficiency project, customers should contact their account manager, inquire online at pacificpower.net/inquiry or call toll free at 1-800-222-4335
We have five amazing fireworks shows this year!
Opening Night - Wed., June 22nd
Independence Day Celebration - Sun., July 3rd
Autism Awareness Night - Sat., August 6th
Saturday, August 13th
Fan Appreciation Night - Sat., September 3rd

2011 YAKIMA BEARS BASEBALL SCHEDULE

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Home Game Times: Monday - Saturday 7:05pm, Sunday 5:35pm
Sunday, July 3rd game will begin at 7:05pm for Independence Day Celebration

**SINGLE TICKET PRICES**

Reserved Box Seat ................. $9.50
Reserved Bleacher Back Seat .... $8.00
General Admission ............... $6.50
Child/Senior/Military GA ....... $5.50

Child 3 - 14 years, Senior 60 & over
Military must show current military I.D.

Save $1 on all tickets by purchasing in advance at the Bears office or call (509) 457-5151!

**UNDATED FLEX PLANS**

Save money over gate pricing and use vouchers when it works with your schedule!

20 Box Seat Plan $140 (save $50)
20 Bleacher Back Plan $110 (save $50)
20 General Admission $75 (save $55)
Dinnerware Point of Sale system from Yakima Networking is an easy to use restaurant point of sale system that supports kitchen displays and printers, splitting guest checks, on-line ordering and many other features. Automating the sales process reduces employee and kitchen errors, helping you manage guest checks and tips, and it also monitors your staff. The touch-screen system is easy to use, reliable and many operators find that the system pays for itself in a short time. And the one of the best things is, no more paying someone big bucks just to change a menu item or table layout.

For information call or email John at Yakima Networking (509) 961-3050 john@yakimanetworking.com
I love KYVE for its travel programming like Globe Trekker that takes me a world away without leaving my living room.”

Retail Sales Manager, Yakima Herald Republic

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“Tami helped us find just the right banking services to meet the needs of our unique organization”

Al Brown

Customer: Al Brown
Yakima Greenway Foundation
(509) 453-8280
111 South 18th St.
Yakima, Wa 98901

Banker: Tami Ramirez
Downtown Branch
(509) 453-1172
301 W. Yakima Ave.
Yakima, Wa 98902

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Disaster Prevention & Recovery Solutions

• 7 out of 10 small firms that experience a major data loss go out of business within a year. (DTI/Price Waterhouse Coopers)

• 50% of all tape backups fail to restore. (Gartner Group)

• 30% of all businesses that have a major fire go out of business within a year and 70% fail within five years. (Home Office Computing Magazine)

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