

GREATER YAKIMA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Monthly News Magazine • May 2012

Action Report



CHAMBER HISTORY

Honoring our Past Presidents

The 1937 President of the Chamber Board was **Mr. C. W. Halverson**, who moved to Yakima in 1927 after graduating from Stanford Law School. The year he served as Chamber President he was 33 years old. In 1967 the President of the Chamber Board was **Mr. Fredrick. N. Halverson**, age 34. Father and son, both attorneys, loved to golf, hunt, and fish together. Fred said, "Dad never openly encouraged me to become a lawyer. He was more concerned that I do something I would be happy doing." Fred once told a reporter that his real decision to become a lawyer was "right after I passed the bar exam."

In the 1930's, Mr. C. W. Halverson served alongside Mr. Ted Robertson, for whom our valley's coveted annual Chamber award for philanthropy is named. A major project then was the Roza Canal. "Since this was during the Depression, it was hard to convince legislators in D.C. that they should be spending money on irrigation projects." But after great effort, in 1935, five million dollars was appropriated to begin the project. "This irrigation gave the Yakima Valley a tremendous boost."

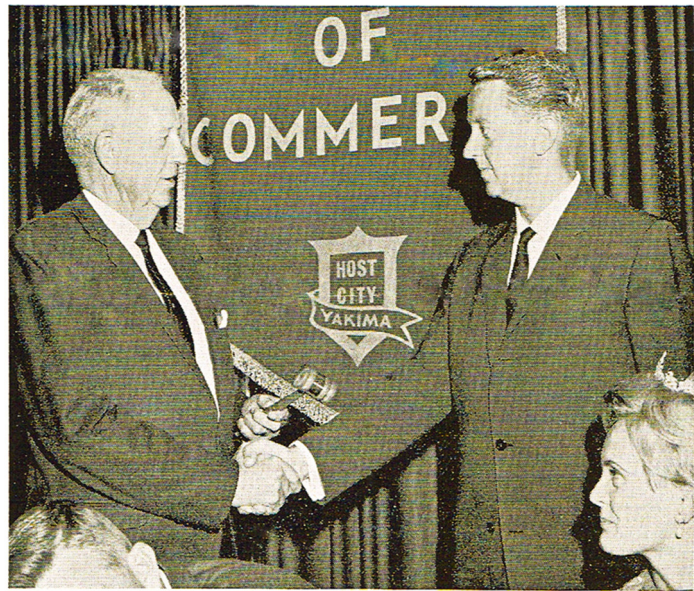
At that time the Chamber's office was located on the second floor of the Chinook Tower on East Yakima Avenue. A general manager, bookkeeper, and stenographer made up the staff. In reminiscences of his Chamber tenure, Mr. Halverson recalled, "We were always trying to find new members. Our goal was to promote the betterment of the Yakima community and secure more businesses in Yakima."

He once told a reporter at the Republic the story of the shortest and best treasurer's report, "All the bills are paid and we have \$12 in the bank." He found out five days later when the staff bookkeeper quit that \$5,000 in unpaid bills were in his desk. "I had my work cut out for me when we found those bills. We called in our good supporters such as Cascade Lumber and Yakima Hardware, attempted to collect as many unpaid bills as possible, and held fund-raisers to help reduce our debt. This was no easy task."

In 1967 the Chamber's \$65,000 project "Forward Yakima" was underway when Fred took office. The project had been launched the year before by John R. (Jack) Kelly of Pacific Power and Light, marketing Yakima as an agricultural, industrial and recreational center, including the production of a color movie of Yakima. Fred was a graduate of Gonzaga University law school and worked for the county prosecutor's office for two years, and then Fred joined his father's firm, Halverson, Applegate, McDonald and Weeks.

During this time Yakima Meadows horse racing brought 1.5 million dollars of "outside money" to our Valley. Fred was quoted in a newspaper article, titled "Forward Yakima, Yakima Meadows now in the black", saying, "Someone once called horse racing 'The Sport of Kings' only for the royal touch. Well, we have the royal touch here in the Yakima Valley available for all citizens. See you at Yakima Meadows."

Fred served the board along with Ralph (Sarg) Hubbard of Sarg Hubbard's Store, Euclid Gamache of Country Shopping Center, Don Corcoran of Central Pre-Mix Concrete, and Charles M. Holtzinger of Holtzinger Fruit Company, Robert P. Lewis of Cook-Lewis Company, and John M. Larson, Mayor, City of Yakima. Other tasks set for 1967 were the completion of I-82 between Ellensburg and Yakima, expanding our higher education facilities, and to "Exploit our enviable climate, location and reputation as a 'Host City'". C.W. once said he came to Yakima "because I wanted a place I could go and make \$125 a month. After living here many years he said, "It's the best place in the world to live." *Compiled by: E. Fitzgerald*



PASSING THE GAVEL. President Fred Halverson was completely surprised when Hal Millen, Master of Ceremonies for the Annual Banquet, announced that C. W. Halverson, his father, and Chamber President in 1936, would pass the gavel to him. Normal procedure has the outgoing president congratulating the new president but Jack Kelly gladly stepped aside — a moment which will long be remembered by both Halversons. Miss Yakima, Carol Ann Baumgartner, looks on.



Attending the recent Past Presidents Breakfast — front row L to R - Chris Brown 2012, Verlynn Best 2010, Jon Mulvenon 2005, Robyn Heilman 2007 - back row L to R — Stan Pratt 1994, Fred Halverson 1967, Ron King 1985, Don Jordan 2002, Brad Christenson 2008

Robyn Heilman Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce Board Chair 2007-2008

As your 2007-2008 Chair of the Board, one thing was very apparent - "Change was in the air"! I am one of a small handful of Board Members that served on the Board during the "change of command" from Gary Webster to George (what was his last name again?) and Mike Morrisette. As we all know, when there is a change at the top, there is usually an adjustment of staff and Board as well. I feel that change is always a good thing, even though it doesn't always feel so at the time. And I always feel an organization that weathers storms and change will stand stronger and more unified as they move forward.

I feel confident that we have an excellent person leading the Chamber in Verlynn. Working beside her on the Board, I know she always gives 110%!

One of my fondest memories is when Gary and I went to the Northwest Chamber Conferences. We attended two in Missoula, MT, and two in Couer d'Alene, ID. Not only were they VERY informative on how Chambers work, we had a chance as Board and staff members to bond outside of the daily Chamber activities, whether it was doing an organized "after hour" function, or just goofing off on our own (see photo).



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We are pleased to announce the following new businesses have joined your Chamber in the month of March 2012:

Achieve Health & Fitness

Rob Brown – Owner / Operator
2105 W. Lincoln Avenue #2, Yakima, WA
98902 rb.achieve@gmail.com
www.achievefitnessyakima.com
509-406-6030 - Health and Fitness Clubs

Advocare

Bob & Jeanette Rhea – Nutritional Advisors
advocare_rn@yahoo.com www.advocareriv.com 509-845-4419
Nutritional Supplements

Ay Caramba!

Salvador & Adriana Rubio – Owner
1300 N. 40th Avenue Ste 107 (across the parking lot from Fred Meyer) 509-248-1383
Mexican Restaurant

Fast-teks Onsite Computer Repair

Ryan Hatfield – Owner
rhatfield@fastteks.com www.fastteks.com/yakima 509-965-3278
Computer Systems Repair

Gone Fiddlin Again

Cheryl A. Hall – Director
Cherylhall570@gmail.com
www.gonefiddlinagain.com 509-949-2100
Entertainment - Band

K & K Custom Furniture

Jose Torres – Owner
16 N. 3rd Street, Yakima, WA 98901
kandkfurniture@aol.com
www.kandkfurniture.com 248-5545
Furniture Stores & Manufacturers

Soelberg & Associates

Steve Soelberg – President
taxman@soelbergcpa.com
901 Summitview Avenue, Yakima, WA
98902 654-7777 Accounting Firms / CPA's

Staci's Catering

Staci Sainsbury – Owner
cateringbythebest@gmail.com
480-2084 - Catering

The Massage and Lash Image, LLC

Laura Paullin – Co Owner
Laura.p@msn.com www.massagelashimage.com - 3512 ½ Tieton Drive, Yakima, WA
98902 - 509-248-2995
Beauty Products & Services

Yakima Valley Business Times

Bruce Smith – Owner
www.yvpub.com
416 S. 3rd Street, Yakima, WA 98901
509-457-4886 - Newspapers



Executive Committee Members

Chair: Roy Bauerle, *Granite Inc.*
1st Vice Chair: Chris Brown, *Wray's Yakima's Food Stores*
2nd Vice Chair: Mike Dooley, *Wilbert Precast, Inc.*
Secretary/Treasurer: Mike Broadhead, *Central Valley Bank*
President/ CEO: Verlynn Best, *Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce*
Appointed by Chair: Jeff Louman, *Huibregtse, Louman Associates, Inc.*
Legal Counsel: Don Boyd, *Carlson Boyd & Bailey PLLC*

Board of Directors

Rich Austin, *Yakima Valley Sports Commission*
Mike Bastinelli, *Russillo's Pizza & Gelato*
Craig Dwight, *YV Tech*
Lanette Headley, *ReMax/Traditions*
Alex Hodge, *Terril, Lewis, & Wilke Insurance, Inc.*
Ron King, *Radio Yakima*
Joe Mann, *Ron's Coin and Book*
Jennifer Rodeen, *Joel's Tire*
Charlene Upton, *Yakima County Medical Society*
K. L. Wombacher, *Yakima Bears Baseball Club*
Mina Worthington, *Yakima Valley Credit Union*
Christine Cote, *Perry Tech*
Jon DeVaney, *Yakima Valley Growers and Shippers*
Ryan Smith, *Petersen CPA's and Advisors*
Julie Grieb, *Treveri Cellars*

Ex-Officio Members

Micah Cawley, *Mayor - City of Yakima*
Mike Leita, *Yakima County Commissioner*
Jim Lemon, *Mayor - City of Union Gap*
John Gawlick, *Mayor - City of Selah*
LTC Michael Daniels, *Post Commander - Yakima Training Center*
Nestor Hernandez, *Hispanic Chamber of Commerce*
Luz Gutierrez, *RCDR - Rural Community Development Resources*
John Cooper, *Yakima Valley Visitors and Convention Bureau*
Greg Stewart, *State Fair Park-Sun Dome - CWFA*
Linda Johnson, *SBDC - Small Business Development Center*
Doug Picatti, *Picatti Brothers*
Carl Remmel, *Yakima Air Terminal*
David McFadden, *New Vision/YCDA*
Moe Broom, *Yakima School District*

Administrative Team members:

Verlynn Best, *President & CEO*
MaryAbigail Dills, *VP of Operations*
Scott Filkins, *Account Executive*
Elizabeth Fitzgerald, *Development Director*
Carolyn Gray, *Account Executive*
Amy Lopez, *Information Coordinator*
Thane Phelan, *Communications & Marketing Director*

Mission Statement: "We exist to be an advocate for our members and our business community to strengthen the development of our economy".

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

ON THE COVER

"Spring in the Yakima Valley" *Thane Phelan*

Action Report Layout & Design by: amygraphics.com & Thane Phelan

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PRESIDENTS REPORT



Verlynn Best
President & CEO

Eight months into my career at the Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce and we are going strong! The staff here continues to amaze me with their dedication and talents. The Executive Board and Board of Directors are working with me for the continued growth and success of your Chamber. Rememberyou the Members are the greatest!

As we start the spring season let's get out and do something that says "Pay It Forward". Let's start with a home re-

model project by shopping the Home Depot or Ace Hardware for your flowers or garden tools. Make a date and celebrate your birthday at Joy Garden Restaurant or Gasperetti's with the crab saladthese are two of my favorites. Do not forget to pickup something special for Mother's Day or knock it out of the ball park with an anniversary gift from Parry Jewelers or Dunbar's - remember: "Diamonds are a girl's best friend"..... although I may be a little biased here! I have a Grandbaby on the way and I love the selection of things offered at Fiddlesticks in pink or blue! Graduation is just around the corner- how about a new car from Bob Halls (oh, yeah) or a Visa gift card from Central Valley Bank, Solarity, or HAPO. By now, you have picked up on my point....."Pay It Forward"! When we spend our money locally, it is cycled throughout our community. It keeps jobs, creates jobs, and supports the infrastructure that keeps our commerce healthy.

Pay It Forward!
Verlynn K. Best

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATORS



*The 2012 Legislative 'Wrap-Up'
with Legislators:*
*Senator Curtis King,
Senator Jim Honeyford, Senator
Janéa Holmquist Newbry
Representative Bruce Chandler,
and Representative David Taylor*

*Monday, May 14th, 2012
11:30am ~ 1 pm
Red Lion Hotel ~ 607 East Yakima Ave.
\$20 Chamber Members Preregistered
\$30 Non-members
\$30 at the door Members and Non-members
To register call: (509)248-2021
online: www.yakima.org
Lunch Sponsored by:*



A Human Resource Management Company

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON

The Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce Proudly Presents: 



Congressional Update

"Congressional Update"
Congressman
Doc Hastings

LUNCH SPONSORED BY:



Monday, June 11, 2012

11:30am ~ 1 pm

State Fair Park ~ State Fair Room

\$20 Chamber Members Preregistered

\$30 Non-members

\$30 at the door Members and Non-members

To register call: (509)248-2021

online: www.yakima.org

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Roy Bauerle

Chair of the Board of Directors

One of the things that I really enjoy about Yakima is how it seems to exceed my expectations over and over again. For such a small community, compared to where I come from, we seem to do things very well. We, as a community, come together and work together well. I think of the efforts to make downtown better, the recent effort to erase graffiti across town. How businesses support local non-profits. The Wellness House and The Cookie Beam Golf tournament fund-raiser which is coming up May 11th. The things they do as a nonprofit for cancer patients. I am impressed, when over and over, I hear that something was funded by private donations. We live in a great community, and have a lot of folks who do much to keep it that way. I have learned a great deal about this community during my term as Board Chair and I like what I have learned.



JOHNATHON'S HELICOPTER

Children's WISHES & DREAMS

A few weeks ago, a mother of a critically ill young man called the Children's Wishes and Dreams office in Yakima asking to fulfill a wish for her son, Johnathon. He wanted a remote controlled, gas-powered helicopter he could fly outside. Heidi Anderson, executive director of Children's Wishes and Dreams, began her research. She contacted hobby stores and a gentleman who could spend some time with Johnathon to teach him to operate the helicopter beginning with a battery powered unit to practice indoors.

Monday, February 13th, Heidi received a call from Johnathon's mother informing her that Johnathon was in the hospice unit at Memorial Hospital. Johnathon asked if he could see a real helicopter land and then lift off again. Heidi realized the urgency of the mother's request and immediately called the Yakima Firing Center. She was referred to Fort Lewis, then referred to other military and hospital contacts. After many calls and referrals by Heidi and her assistant, she was notified that the Army had a helicopter in the air and could be at the hospital in twenty

minutes. She was able to talk to the flight commander and told him of the specific circumstances with Johnathon's situation.

Fortunately, Johnathon's room in the hospital provided a view of the helicopter landing pad on the roof of the hospital. The Army helicopter landed on the hospital roof and the flight commander and crew went into the hospital and into Johnathon's room to say hello and present Johnathon with his very own flight wings. The flight crew then left and lifted off from the landing pad only to then inform the mother that Johnathon should continue watching out the window as they honored him with a "fly by" to complete his wish.

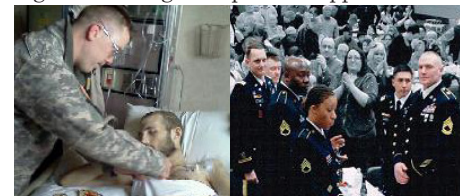
All of these actions to fulfill Johnathon's wish came to be in a very short period of time, less than an hour. Nobody knew just how timely and special this event would be to everyone involved, especially Johnathon.

He passed away shortly after the helicopter flew by his window. They had given him his wings so he could fly.

The story continues.....

Children's Wishes & Dreams had their Annual Dinner Auction on the following Saturday. Johnathon's mother said she wanted to donate back to us the helicopter that was purchased for Johnathon. We decided that we would auction this off in memory of him. In appreciation and recognition for the tremendous efforts put forth by the U.S.

Army Air Ambulance Detachment, we invite those who were involved in this special wish to be our guests at the dinner. We reserved a special table for them at the front of the room and they were all there in dress uniforms giving a true feeling of respect and appreciation.



Before the auction the Sevigny Sisters, our evening's entertainment, ended the program by singing a tribute to all branches of the military. It was especially moving when our special guests stood to their song. Following this the auction began with Johnathon's helicopter being the first item. Heidi told Johnathon's story and the standing ovation for these officers was an awe-inspiring moment. It was enhanced even further as the auction began with one of the officers bidding on the helicopter, as well as someone else in the crowd. As the bid got beyond the officers limits, a local business owner, Brent Hodson, stepped forward to continue the bidding to ensure the helicopter would go home with the officers. Another applause broke out as this transpired and they received the helicopter.

This was truly the most touching and moving event we ever had!

Cottage in the Meadow Nears Completion

by Mark A. Young, Hospice Development Director

As Cottage in the Meadow moves closer to its July 14 open house for the community, those of us associated with hospice are excited about the benefits patients and families will gain from the Cottage as Central Washington's first residential hospice care home. Some of those most excited are the hospice volunteers who dedicate hundreds of hours in service to our hospice patients and their families. Recently several volunteers toured the Cottage construction site and caught the vision for how hospice patients and their families will be served in the Cottage setting.



Mary Moore serves as a hospice volunteer delivering medications from the hospital to patients' homes. After touring Cottage she remarked, "Having had my mother in hospice, I can see how the Cottage will be great for the family those last few days. It will be such a fabulous place for families to gather and be with their loved ones." Tony Sagare who volunteers at both hospice and North Star Lodge stated, "Cottage in the Meadow is such a wonderful new resource for our community – it is like a gift to our patients and their families." Carol Loudon, who has had two hospice experiences, volunteers by speaking to community groups about the virtues of hospice. After touring the Cottage she commented, "It is thrilling to see that after working on the project for years that it is even beyond what we anticipated. As it becomes a reality I am happy that patients and families from Yakima and Kittitas Counties will benefit from this wonderful new home for hospice care."

Dottie Hildebrand, who coordinates the hospice volunteer program, said, "The Cottage is opening up 42 new volunteer positions. I think the Cottage will be a warm and rewarding environment to serve in. This is a unique and exciting time to be in on the ground floor of something which will most likely be serving our community for many years to come. Community members interested in becoming a trained hospice volunteer can contact me at 574-3655 to sign up for one of the next training seminars on May 17-18 or June 18 and 21."

As Cottage in the Meadow moves closer to its July 14 open house, businesses, chamber and community members interested in touring the facility can contact The Memorial Foundation RSVP line at 575-8008 and leave a message to join one of the regularly scheduled tours each week on Tuesday (11 AM), Wednesday (5:15 PM) and Thursday (2 PM). Hospice volunteers conduct these tours of the Cottage and are happy to share this exciting new offering in our community with others. *Continued next page....*

MILITARY CORNER



LTC Michael Daniels
Commander, Yakima Training
Center

Did you know YOUR Yakima Training Center was a valuable national defense resource? Just this month we have hosted the Canadian Army, the Special Forces unit based in Okinawa, and currently an Army Chemical Brigade from Fort Hood, Texas. This doesn't include the hundreds of local service members to our State and Oregon.

The Washington National Guard will conduct its largest exercise in over three years this June, as thousands of soldiers and hundreds of contractors descend on YTC and our Valley. Expect to see more uniforms downtown and in your places of business!

Thanks!
LTC Mike Daniels

How would you like to hire an employee with that "Military Work Ethic" that we all talk about, someone that will be "on time, every day" and take PRIDE in the job they do. Have your Applicant pre-screened for your specific Job description. Take advantage of possible "Work Opportunity Tax Credits" or "OJT" programs that help train the Veteran.

Contact - Jon Ison
Local Veterans Employment
Representative WorkSource Yakima
306 Division
Yakima WA 98902
509-574-0153
509-480-2450 Cell
jison@esd.wa.gov

Cottage in the Meadow Nears Completion



Hospice Development Director Mark Young performs weekly tours. For more information contact The Memorial Foundation at 575-8008



Sunrise Rotary Pavilion at Franklin Park

Vision Becomes Reality

Rotarians and other community members are already stepping up to make this dream a reality. We need your help to make this dream a reality. While we expect to utilize volunteer labor and in-kind support from local business we will need community donations to make the project happen. We hope we can count on you to make a difference for the community.

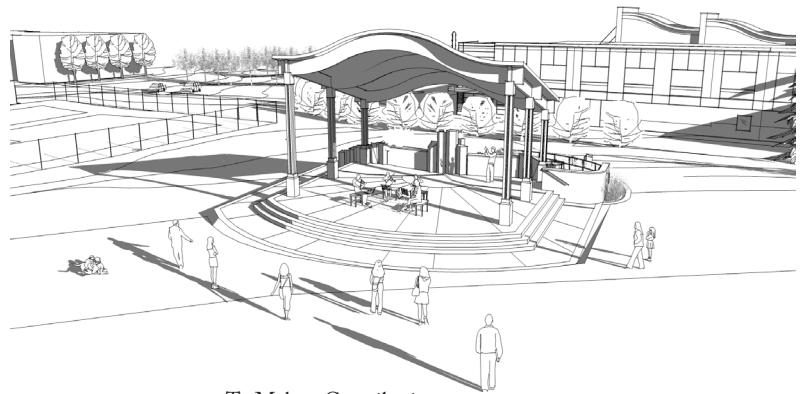
A Quiet Gem

City parks are arguably the most significant social spaces of any municipality, enhancing greatly the quality of life for everyone. At 21st and Tieton Drive and sitting next to the Yakima Valley Museum, Franklin Park is a quiet gem in the center of Yakima and has become one of the main cultural and activity hubs for Yakima.

Every year thousands of Yakima residents and visitors from the Yakima Valley, the State and beyond enjoy a wide range of recreational, cultural and arts related activities at the Park. The park is home to Folk Life, the summer Concert in the Park series, the Sunfair cross country race, swimming, tennis and, in the winter, sledding down the wonderful hill. Groups hold picnics and other gatherings there. All of this occurs with very little infrastructure to support it.

Imagine the Possibilities

Imagine the possibilities, then, if a state of the art pavilion were in place to make the kinds of activities already occurring in the park more convenient and more enjoyable. See in your mind's eye a Folk Life concert where the performers could be under cover in hot sun or sprinkles and have the benefit of an acoustically designed venue. Imagine a new, larger shelter for park users. Picture an award ceremony for the Sunfair cross country race in which the best of Yakima shows through to visitors from around the State.



To Make a Contribution:

Name: _____
 Amount: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____
 Special Acknowledgement (in Memory of, on behalf of, etc.) _____



Sunrise Rotary Pavilion
 PO Box 959

Yakima, WA 98907

Phone: 509-575-4024

E-mail: RotaryPavilion@hotmail.com



RENEWING MEMBERS

Chamber Members Renewing their Memberships in March 2012

Please Support These Businesses that Support Your Chamber!

Members for 1-4 Years:

Chukar Cherries – 3 Years
E/Step Software – 2 Years
Famous Burger & Teriyaki – 2 Years
HAPO Community Credit Union – 3 Years

Members for 5-9 Years:

Boy Scouts/Grand Columbia Council #614 – 8 Years
Campbell & Gwinn Storage – 9 Years
Hilton Garden Inn – 5 Years
Kroner Chiropractic – 8 Years
Yakima Battery & Auto Electric – 9 Years

Members for 10-14 Years:

Better Business Bureau – 10 Years
Casino Caribbean – 10 Years

Home Care Services – 10 Years
Red Lobster – 11 Years
Trailer Inn of Yakima – 12 Years
Valley Lock & Key – 13 Years
Yakima Ambulatory Surgical Center – 11 Years
Yakima Grocery Outlet – 11 Years

Members for 15-19 Years:

DEP Properties – 15 Years
MacroPlastics – 15 Years
Olive Garden Italian Restaurant – 19 Years
RBC Wealth Management – 18 Years

Members for 20-24 Years:

H & R Block – 20 Years
KCYU/FOX 41 – 22 Years
The Memorial Foundation – 20 Years

Members for 25-29 Years:

Central Washington Home Builders Association – 27 Years

Edward Jones / Gary Lackey – 29 Years
Yakama Nation Museum & Cultural Center – 26 Years

Members for 30-39 Years

Chalet Dental Clinic – 35 Years
Lyon, Weigand & Gustafson – 30 Years
Standard Paint & Flooring – 33 Years
Tomas Holbrook, DDS, PS – 31 Years
Warninger Chiropractic Clinic – 31 Years
Yakima Co-op – 33 Years

Members for 40-49 Years

Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel – 43 Years
Moss Adams – 41 Years

Members for 50-59 Years

Terrace Heights Memorial Park – 57 Years
US Bank – 52 Years

Members for 70-79 Years

Key Bank – 72 Years

BUSINESS BRIEFS

News From Treveri Cellars

Owners of Treveri Cellars of Yakima, Julie and Juergen Grieb have been busy for the last month with several projects. On March



4-7 Treveri attended ProWein in Duesseldorf, Germany. The winery attended with the Washington Wine Commission, and a handful of other wineries from the State of Washington. The event, which was held in the Event Center (Messe), and is known as one of the premier wine business events in Europe, hosted 3,700 wineries from 45 countries.

April 15th, Treveri Cellars traveled with the Washington Wine Commission to Washington D.C. to pour at the Kennedy Center Rooftop Restaurant. The event, attended by about 45 Washington wineries, with over 300 trade people in attendance, was a major event for those wanting to do business on the East

Coast. This visit also included a meeting with State Department Chef Jason L. Larkin and a personal tour from him of the State Department Diplomatic Reception rooms, where Treveri was served last December. Jason is Hillary Clinton's chef and recently prepared dinner in her private home hosting some of the G8 leaders.



An important culinary event took place recently as Treveri's sparkling Gewuerztraminer was served April 17th at the James Beard Foundation dinner in New York City. The menu was focused on Pacific Northwest cuisine.

Treveri will be attending the Moyer Foundation Fundraiser on May 23rd. Jamie Moyer, who was recently in the news for pitching a winning game in Major League Baseball at the age of 49, has a foundation he established in Seattle while playing for the Mariners. His foundation assists children in severe

emotional, physical or financial distress. This year's honorees are John and Kelly Olerud, and Treveri sparkling wine will be the toast at the VIP pre-event.

And finally, Treveri announces the opening of Treveri Wapato, the second location is at the former Sagelands Winery.

Hours for May:
Closed Mondays
Tues-Thurs 12-5:00
Friday-Sat 12-7:00 p.m.
Sunday 12-4:00
509-248-0200



LtoR - Barry Madsen, Juergen Grieb and Jason L. Larkin at the State Dept. in the Diplomatic Reception rooms.

New Vision, Yakima Valley Human Resource Association Partner to Assess the Region's Talent Attraction Issues They Invite You to Participate in a Short Survey



One of the biggest business retention issues facing our Valley surrounds talent attraction. Local employers express consistently that they have difficulty filling technical and professional positions with their companies. Businesses often have to put lots of energy towards recruiting skilled employees from outside the community and work diligently on retaining them.

New Vision and the Yakima Valley Human Resource Association (YVHRA) are working together to identify key factors affecting local employers' ability to attract and retain technical and professional employees from outside the area. They have developed an electronic poll to generate input on workforce recruiting and placement issues. The survey takes 5-10 minutes to complete and we are asking Chamber members who employ technical or professional employees to take the poll. Your input can be confidential. New Vision and the YVHRA plan to compile the results in June and hope the input generated will help them pinpoint company and community issues that affect professional employee recruitment and retention. The ultimate goal is to identify core issues affecting "talent attraction" and identify some options or strategies to address these challenges.

<http://conta.cc/InLLLc>

Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce Community Calendar at www.yakima.org



The GYCC Community Calendar includes events from all know community calendars, which makes it your one stop events calendar. Yakima Nonprofits can use our calendar to schedule their events, to avoid scheduling simultaneous events. To schedule your event use your Chamber login information and login at www.yakima.org if you need help email thane@yakima.org

Professional Women's Tennis is Coming to the Yakima Tennis Club July 8th – 15th!

The YTC Board and Senior Management are pleased to announce that we will be hosting a Women's USTA Pro Circuit \$50,000 Challenger event the week of July 8th to the 15th. The Pro Circuit has thrived and grown from a handful of regional events, to become the largest professional developmental tennis circuit in the world, now featuring more than 90 tournaments throughout the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico. Female athletes competing in these events are all eager to prove that they have what it takes to succeed in the professional tennis world. Indeed many of the biggest names got their start on the pro circuit, including Christina McHale, Irina Falconi, Sloane Stephens, and Bethanie Mattek-Sands. The Pro Circuit has become the ultimate tennis proving ground and because of that it has become a big hit for tennis fans coast to coast. The caliber of player at this premium event is close to that of the WTA tour, and it could feature women ranked as high as 40th in the world!

The first step in launching any event is securing sponsorship. Sponsors serve as the life blood of the USTA Pro circuit, with local businesses connecting the tournament to the community while also supporting the next generation of tennis champions. We have put together an Annual Sponsorship Proposal which includes sponsorship for this Pro Circuit event as well as 21 other local and regional tournaments. If you are interested in becoming an annual sponsor of the



Yakima Tennis Club, contact me or Stephen Welt.

If sponsors are the life blood of the USTA pro circuit event, then volunteers are the driving force behind these events. Whether they are providing transportation, replenishing food or water, or serving as ball kids, trusted volunteers are an invaluable resource for any Tournament Director. If you are interested in volunteering and helping us put on this incredible event please contact me.

THANKS!

AnnElise Anderson
Director of Marketing and Membership
Yakima Tennis Club
(509)248-2938

14th District Legislators Announce Reelection Plans



4/18/12 - At a press conference held at the Yakima Convention Center, Washington State's 14th District Senator Curtis King, Representative Norm Johnson, and Representative Charles Ross announced that they will be seeking reelection.



Watch the announcement at www.yakima.org and at www.youtube.com/greateryakimachamber



BUSINESS BRIEFS

Central Washington Family Medicine Residency Program



The Central Washington Family Medicine Residency Program, a service of Community Health of Central Washington, is dedicated to the development of excellent family physicians.

Residency is the last component of physician training following medical school and prior to specialty certification and entry into independent practice. Since its inception in 1993, the program has graduated 106 family doctors. 30 have remained in the Yakima Valley to practice in response to the area's primary care shortage. We are proud of the role the residency continues to play in improving the health of our communities.

Announcing the Class of 2015



SAM HIRTLE - In January, Sam completed a Sub-Internship with CWFMR. Sam was born in Canada. He enjoys spending time with his family, going fishing, golfing and camping.

Sam earned his Bachelors of Science degree in General Studies from Excelsior College. He also earned his Chiropractic degree from the Western States Chiropractic School, located in Portland, Oregon. In May, he will graduate with his Doctor of Osteopathy degree from Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine.

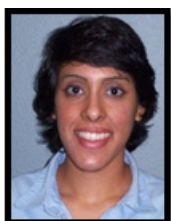
JASON NGUYEN - Jason was born in Auburn, Washington. He earned a Bachelor's of Science degree in Biochemistry from Seattle University located in Seattle, Washington. He will graduate with his Medical Degree from the Medical University of the Americas (Nevis) located in Charlestown, Nevis, West Indies. Jason knows conversational Vietnamese. He enjoys spending time with his wife Joanna, swimming, jogging and most athletics. He also enjoys catching up on the latest movies, current events and history.



JAY PATEL - Jay graduated in January with his Medical Degree from St. James School of Medicine. He earned his Bachelors of Art's degree in Anthropology from the University of Florida located in Gainesville, Florida. Jay was born in London and is fluent in Gujarati and Hindi. He enjoys documentary films, photography and outdoor activities such as: skiing, hiking, surfing, rock climbing, rafting, kayaking and swimming. Jay also likes to attend various community events which promote wildlife and habitat conservation.

FATIMA AHMED - In January, Fatima completed a Sub-Internship with CWFMR. She was born in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Fatima earned her Bachelors of Science degree in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from Pennsylvania State University. She will graduate with her Doctor of Osteopathy degree from Touro University College of Osteopathic Medicine; located in California in June 2012. She is fluent in Urdu and enjoys exercising, yoga and cooking Indian food.



HEATHER BERGSTROM - Heather earned her Bachelors of Science degree in Bio-medical Sciences from Marquette University located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She will earn her Doctor of Oste-

opathy degree from the Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Midwestern University; located in Glendale, Arizona this May. Heather was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She enjoys a lot of outdoor activities such as: hiking, camping, rock climbing and canyoneering.

AMRIT DHANOTA - Amrit graduated in October of 2011 with her Medical Degree from the Medical University of Lublin, located in Poland. She was born in San Jose, California. Amrit earned a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Exercise and Science from the University of San Francisco, located in California. Amrit is fluent in Punjabi, Hindi, and Spanish. She enjoys dancing, music, her two dogs, hiking, thriller-horror movies, watching baseball and playing softball.



VAUGHAN BULFINCH - In November, Vaughan completed a Sub-Internship with CWFMR. He was born in Mount Vernon, Washington. Vaughan graduated from Central

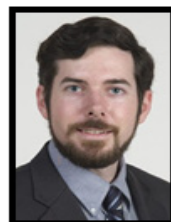
Washington University with his Bachelor of Art's degree in Biology. He currently attends Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine and will earn his Doctor of Osteopathy degree in May. Vaughan enjoys spending time with his family, playing sports, working out, skiing, sailing and coaching youth athletic teams.



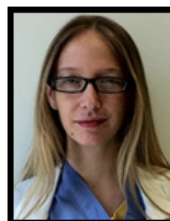
CORINNE GLASGOW - In September, Cori completed a Sub-Internship with CWFMR. She was born in Port Angeles, Washington. Corinne earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Behavioral Sciences

from Northwest University, located in Kirkland Washington. In May, she will earn her Doctor of Osteopathy degree from Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine. Cori enjoys traveling, fitness and spending time with her family.

PAUL YELL - Paul likes playing the piano, playing tennis and reading literature that ranges from fiction to popular science to ancient contemporary and philosophy. He was born in Corpus Christi, Texas.



Paul graduated from Baylor University with his Bachelors of Art degree in the University Scholars Program in Biology and Philosophy. He was an active tutor and involved with Phi Beta Kappa in 2008 at Baylor University. He will graduate this spring with his Medical Degree from the University of Texas Medical School at Houston.



KATHERIN SCHMITZ - Kate was born in Brighton, Colorado. She earned a Master's Degree in Fine Arts and Digital and Electronic Media from Brooklyn College of the City University of

New York. She will graduate with her Medical Degree from the American University of Antigua College of Medicine, located in Coolidge, Antigua. She speaks medical and conversational Spanish and enjoys documenting her international life experiences by text, photography and video. Kate also spent time in South Korea teaching English to children.

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Pictured left to right: Mike Broadhead Sally Meredith and Steve Luten

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Sharon Prill
Yakima Herald Republic



AMBASSADOR PROFILE

Juanita Brown

Having lived in the Yakima Valley for most of her life, Juanita has deep-rooted connections to the community and a commitment to help make the Yakima Valley be all that it can be!

Juanita Brown has over 12 years experience as a Multi-Media Marketing Specialist. She specializes in developing and building partnerships, connecting buyers and sellers through creative marketing solutions, and bridging gaps one business at a time. She is currently employed with KNDO-TV as a Marketing Specialist.

Juanita has taken great pride and enjoys her work as an Ambassador for the Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce. Being an Ambassador, as well as meeting weekly with the Chamber Coffee Club, has allowed Juanita the opportunity to network and meet some of the most incredible business owners in the Yakima Valley.

Juanita is involved in the business community, volunteering, networking, meeting new business owners and building new partnerships and friendships.

Juanita is the mother to 3 wonderful children and a grandmother to a beautiful 1-year-old granddaughter. In her spare time she enjoys playing and watching soccer, traveling to the beach, hiking, and scrapbooking.



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