

Action Report



In this Issue:

- Legends Casino Ground Breaking
- Encore Awards & Y.E.S Awards
- Entrepreneur Spotlight



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



JUNE						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
12	13	14	15	16	17 @ VAN	18 @ VAN
19 @ VAN	20 @ VAN	21 @ VAN	22 SPO	23 SPO	24 SPO	25 TRI
26 TRI	27 TRI	28 @ SPO	29 @ SPO	30 @ SPO		
JULY						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 BOI	2 BOI
3 7:05pm BOI	4 @ BOI	5 @ BOI	6 @ BOI	7 @ EUG	8 @ EUG	9 @ EUG
10 @ EUG	11 @ EUG	12 OFF	13 SK	14 SK	15 SK	16 SK
17 SK	18 @ TRI	19 @ TRI	20 @ TRI	21 @ BOI	22 @ BOI	23 @ BOI
24 TRI	25 TRI	26 TRI	27 @ SK	28 @ SK	29 @ SK	30 @ SK
31 @ SK						

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

AUGUST						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 OFF	2 EVE	3 EVE	4 EVE	5 EVE	6 EVE
7 @ SPO	8 @ SPO	9 @ SPO	10 VAN	11 VAN	12 VAN	13 VAN
14 VAN	15 SPO	16 SPO	17 SPO	18 @ TRI	19 @ TRI	20 @ TRI
21 BOI	22 BOI	23 BOI	24 @ EVE	25 @ EVE	26 @ EVE	27 @ EVE
28 @ EVE	29 OFF	30 EUG	31 EUG			
SEPTEMBER						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 EUG	2 EUG	3 EUG
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<----- Potential Playoff Games ----->						
<u>WEST</u>			<u>EAST</u>			
EUG	Eugene Emeralds			BOI	Boise Hawks	
EVE	Everett Aquasox			SPO	Spokane Indians	
SK	Salem-Keizer Volcanoes			TRI	Tri-City Dust Devils	
VAN	Vancouver Canadians			YAK	Yakima Bears	
AWAY						
HOME						

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)



YAKIMABEARS.COM

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!



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Executive Committee Members:

- Chair:** Verlynn K. Best, *Fairfield Inn and Suites by Marriott*
1st Vice Chair: Roy Bauerle, *Granite Construction Inc.*
2nd Vice Chair: K.L. Wombacher, *Yakima Bears Baseball Club*
Treasurer: Mike Broadhead, *Central Valley Bank*
Immediate Past Chair: Trent Marquis, *Creskide Business Park*
Chair Appointee: Mike Dooley, *Wilbert Precast, Inc.*
Chair Appointee: Jeff Louman, *Huibregtse, Louman Associates, Inc*
Legal Counsel: Don Boyd, Carlson, Boyd & Bailey PLLC

Board of Directors:

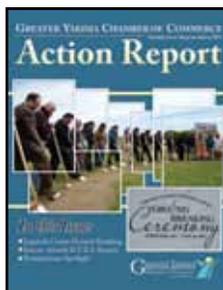
- Rich Austin, *Yakima Valley Visitor and Convention Bureau*
 Chris Brown, *Wray's Food & Drug*
 Mike Bastinelli, *Rusillo's Pizza & Gellato*
 Craig Dwight, *Yakima Valley Technical Skills Center*
 Lonnie Eaton, *KCYU TV-Fox 41*
 John Gehlsen, *Yakima Steel*
 Lanette Headley, *Re/Max Traditions*
 Alex Hodge, *Terril, Lewis & Wilke*
 Larry Hull, *Megalodon Property Management*
 Ron King, *New Northwest Broadcasters*
 Leo Lee, *Sousley Sound*
 Joe Mann, *Ron's Coin and Book*
 Jennifer Rodeen, *Joel's Tire*
 Clark Satre, *Pacific Power*
 Charlene Upton, *Yakima County Medical Society*
 Mina Worthington, *Yakima Valley Credit Union*

Administrative Team members:

- Jon Mulvenon, *Interim President & CEO*
 Scott Filkins, *Vice President of Membership Development*
 Kimberly Gunvaldson, *Director of Business Education Partnership*
 Lorri Bisconer, *Business Education Partnership*
 Lou Ann Matches, *Bookkeeper*
 Thane Phelan, *Communications & Special Events Director*
 Carolyn Gray, *Account Executive*
 MaryAbigail Dills, *Executive Administrator & Events Coordinator*

Ex-Officio Members:

- Micah Cawley, *Mayor of Yakima*
 Rand Elliott, *Yakima County Commissioner*
 Jim Lemon, *Mayor of Union Gap*
 Linda Johnson, *SBDC*
 LTC Michael J. Daniels, *Post Commander- Yakima Training Center*
 Nestor Hernandez, *Hispanic Chamber of Commerce*
 Luz Guitierrez, *Hispanic chamber of Commerce*
 John Cooper, *Yakima Valley Visitors and Convention Bureau*
 Christine Cote, *Perry Technical Institute*
 Greg Stewart, *State Fair Park- Sundome- CWEA*
 Carl Rimmel, *Yakima Air Terminal*
 Doug Picatti, *Picatti Brothers*
 David McFadden, *New Vision*



On the cover:

Yakama Nation Legends Casino Ground Breaking. May 16, 2011
Cover designed by: amyographics.com
Photo by: Thane Phelan

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General Membership Luncheon

WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATORS



The Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce Proudly Presents:

The 2011 Legislative 'Wrap-Up' with Legislators:

Senator Curtis King, Representative Norm Johnson,
Representative Charles Ross, Representative Bruce Chandler,
Representative Judy Warnick, and Representative Bill Hinkle

Monday, June 13th, 2011

11:30am ~ 1 pm

Red Lion Inn ~ 607 East Yakima Ave.

New Luncheon Pricing! Register to Save!

\$20 Chamber Members Preregistered - \$30 Non-members

\$30 Members & non-members after registration closes (6/10)

\$30 at the door Members and Non-members

To register call: (509)248-2021

online: www.yakima.org

Lunch Sponsored by:





Verlynn K. Best
*Chair of the
Board Of
Directors*

The Sky is the Limit

This will be my last article for the Action Report and it is with great pride that I've had this opportunity to serve the Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce as your Chair. I'm taking with me the knowledge that with the Staff and Board that is in place ...the "Sky" is the limit. Each of the staff members has shown their dedication and belief in this Chamber's success. Each board member has shown integrity, honor and the ability to lead. And most of all, thank you "Chamber Members", this is your Chamber and it serves you!

One last time I will state to you that I want it all.....when I shut my eyes, they hold no darkness, just the light and faith that all things are possible. We deserve a water park, a hockey arena, soccer fields, horse racing, NASCAR, a float going down Main Street that shows our pride in this Valley. We need to build up tourism with the rivers that run through this Valley.

"We have so much going for us it's unbelievable that we have not tapped some of our greatest natural resources."

I will vow to continue to do whatever it takes to move this Valley forward....we cannot and must not procrastinate another day. Our time is truly now.....the "Nay-Sayers" will always be "Nay- Sayers", but with a little moxie, loud singing off key and signs on street corners we can get the message out. "Yakima is Open for Business"! And it's OK to want it all.

Now I will wrap it up....thank you for allowing me to serve you this past year again...it has truly been an honor. Mr. Roy Bauerle will be taking the helm soon and I know he's the right gentleman for the job. A special thanks to Kathy and Robyn for recruiting me many years ago, and to Trent, Mike B., and Roy for all the support and keeping it real! A special thanks to my friend our Interim President Jon Mulvenon, you are my hero! You can have friends and family anytime! To our Ambassadors, Leadership Yakima and our many members..... May God bless you and keep you always!

Bless Wishes!
Verlynn K. Best, Chair

Welcome New Businesses to the Yakima Chamber of Commerce!

AM/PM Mini Mart –
Washington & 16th Avenues
1601 W. Washington Avenue
khush_h@yahoo.com or
www. ampm.com
575-3680

Khushdip Hans - President

**Breathtaking Weddings and
Event Planning -**
509-969-3383 or
mallory@breathtakingweddings.com
www.breathtakingweddings.com
Mallory Huibregtse – Owner

Safeguard Print and Promo
222 S. 1st Street
800-735-2399 or 509-248-6600
gary@trisafeguard.com, or
dave@trisafeguard.com
www.trisafeguard.com
Gary Jones – Area Sales Executive

West Hills Memorial Park
11800 Ahtanum Road
509-966-6622 or
whmpsalesmgr@aol.com
www.eternal-memories.com
Lorrie Johnson – Sales Director



New Interim President Brings Passion for Helping Businesses Achieve Success

Background

Personal: Married to Linda for 30 years, six children, LeAnn, Sean, Janice, Kathryn, Holly and Erin. 10 grandchildren.

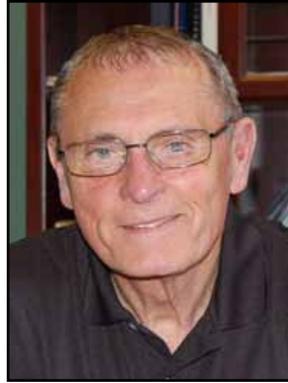
Education: Graduated from Camelback High School, Phoenix, Arizona 1961. Attended Phoenix Junior College and Yakima Valley Community College.

Chamber experience: Board Member at Yakima Chamber 1970-71, Member at Kennewick Chamber 1988-1996, rejoined Yakima Chamber in 1996 on my return to Yakima. I accepted a position on the Board in 2000 and served as Chairman of the Board in 2005-06.

Business Philosophy

Guiding principal: Each of us have written on our forehead "Make me feel important". Every person I work and volunteer with, I try to share with them the value of their ideas and make them feel important.

Yardstick of success: Each of us will have different ideas of our measure of success. For me, my success is a great family and a career with the same business for over 45 years. January of 1963 I came to Yakima from Phoenix, AZ. I accepted a position with Cascade Natural Gas Corporation as a Utility Laborer. 1984, moved to Bellingham WA as District Superintendent. 1988, moved to Kennewick WA as District Manager. 1996, moved back to Yakima as District Manager. 2000, became Region Director for Eastern WA. Retired August 2008 after 45 plus



Jon Mulvenon
*Interim President
& CEO*

years with the same business. This gives me a wee bit of pride.

Advice to others: Set goals and work the action plan for achieving your goals. The advice I gave to my children was you only need to work half a day and it doesn't matter which 12 hours that is.

Judgment Calls

Best business decision: Consolidate Yakima District Operations to one location. The use of City of Yakima Renewal designation.

One word description of you: Dependable, I'll show up!

True Confessions

Like best about the job: The variety of the job, each day was a different situation requiring creative thinking for successful solutions. We loved the challenges.

Interest/hobbies: Sports, reading, volunteering. Each year my bride and I volunteer at Winter Special Olympics in Wenatchee. We loved seeing all the athletes and their excitement at the competitions. I love to attend high school sporting events. Although my children are grown, I have grandkids who compete in various sports and we try to attend as many of those as possible. I also have raised money for the Special Olympics by participating in the Polar Bear Plunge (THAT'S COLD CASH).

Pet peeve: Outside doors left open so you don't know what is in and what is out. I live in the country.

Things to work on: Staying healthy and new technology. I use a flip phone, how old is that?

Predilections

Favorite book: How can you have just one favorite? Several I have read recently are: "The River of Doubt by Candice Milland. It is the story of Theodore Roosevelt's darkest journey. "The Forgotten 500" by Gregory Freeman and is a story of how the Serbs saved 500 US Airman in World War II. My most recent read was "Onward" by Howard Schultz. It is the story of his rescue of Starbucks. I recommend all of these books. One more, "Wins, Losses and Lessons", an autobiography by Lou Holtz.

Favorite movie: Again, how do you pick just one? "The Quiet Man" with John Wayne and Maureen O'hara; "The Searchers" with John Wayne; "Grease" with John Travolta and Oliva Newton-John; "The Way We Were" with Robert Redford and Barbara Streisand; "Westside Story" with Natalie Wood.

Favorite quote: I have two; "Pro and con are opposites, the fact is clearly seen, if progress means to move forward, then what does congress mean?" by Nipsy Russell. My favorite Irish quote is "May those who love us, love us and those who don't, may the Lord turn their heart. If he can't turn their heart may he turn their ankles so we will know them by their limping."

Favorite song: "Memories" from "The Way We Were"; "Somewhere" from "Westside Story".

Favorite vacation spot: Northshore Lake Tahoe. 4th of July is a really great time with the biggest fireworks you will ever see. Also, there is a really good parade in Truckee. Another site my family enjoys is the Red Rock Country of Sedona Arizona (Slide Rock).

Favorite way to spend time: On those days when it is cloudy/rainy/snowy, I like to sit by a warm fire and read a good book (maybe name some, too). We also, like to travel to visit family.

Person of inspiration: Reverend Billy Graham (the Autobiography of Dr. Graham "Just as I am" which is a very good read). I was in Alanta, Georgia in 1973, attending the National Jaycee Convention. Dr. Graham was the guest speaker. I believe that was the most inspirational speech I've been privileged to hear.

By: Jon Mulvenon

Why Become a Member of the Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce?

The Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce is a not-for-profit organization and is owned and operated by local business leaders who work to promote business growth in the community. The goal of the chamber is to conceive, inspire and influence public policy decisions that will benefit the local community.



**For membership information
(509)248-2021
www.yakima.org**



Carmen's Comedy Club owner, Carmen Garrison, welcomes a full house of Chamber members.

Carmen's Comedy Club



Thanks to the Chamber members who joined us for a great night of conversation, networking and comedy!



Comedian Kermet Apio entertains the Chamber "Business After Hours".



Scan this with your smart-phone to be directed to the Chamber website.



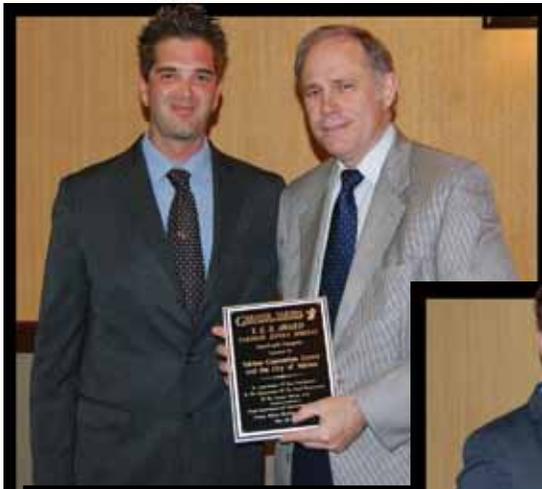
Watch for more "Business After Hours" and "Business After Hours- Limited Edition" events. To stay updated, sign up to receive Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce emails at www.yakima.org and follow us on facebook, www.facebook.com/greateryakimachamber.

Awards

Fall 2010 Y.E.S. Awards

The Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce proudly presented the Fall 2010 Y.E.S. Awards (Yakima Extra Special) Monday, May 23rd, at the The General Membership Luncheon. Awards Committee presenter, Aaron Arndt of the Yakima Bears, made the presentations.

The Y.E.S. Awards recognize businesses that have visually enhanced the surrounding community by their construction project, renovation, or remodel, thus improving the overall look of an area. Congratulations from The Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce.



Non-Profit Category
Yakima Convention Center
& City of Yakima
Accepting: Dick Zais



Large Business Category
Noel Canning & Bottling
Accepting: Justin Noel



Small Business Category
The Historic Pacific Hotel
Accepting: Joe Mann

Encore Awards Luncheon

Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce staff participated in the Yakima Visitor and Convention Bureau's "Encore Awards Luncheon". "Survivor" was the theme...we brought our torches! Congrats to the Encore award winners - Dick Zais, White Pass Ski Resort, and Committee For Downtown Yakima Clean and Safe Ambassadors!



More on the Encore Awards on page 12.

Using your Chamber page

By: MaryAbigail Dills

In a time where every business has a website, Facebook, and Twitter, managing all of your “pages” can become overwhelming. Through ChamberMaster®, members have access to a simple and useful page, which can simplify your life, not complicate it. Using your Chamber page, you can register for events, look up other Chamber members, update your staff changes and company information, pay invoices and view the Chamber calendar.

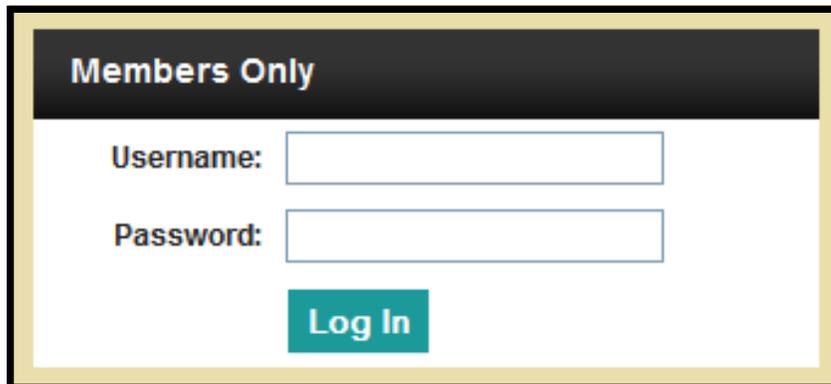
A screenshot of a login form titled "Members Only". It features two input fields: "Username:" and "Password:". Below the password field is a teal "Log In" button.

Figure 1.1

To log into your account, put in your username and password in the Members Only login (figure 1.1) located on the right on www.yakima.org. If you do not know your username or password, contact MaryAbigail at 509.248.2021 x 101 or maryabigail@yakima.org. Once you login, you can navigate your main page as shown below in Figure 1.2, using the menu on the left. If you need any help, there are tutorials available under User Manuals or you can contact the Chamber staff for assistance.

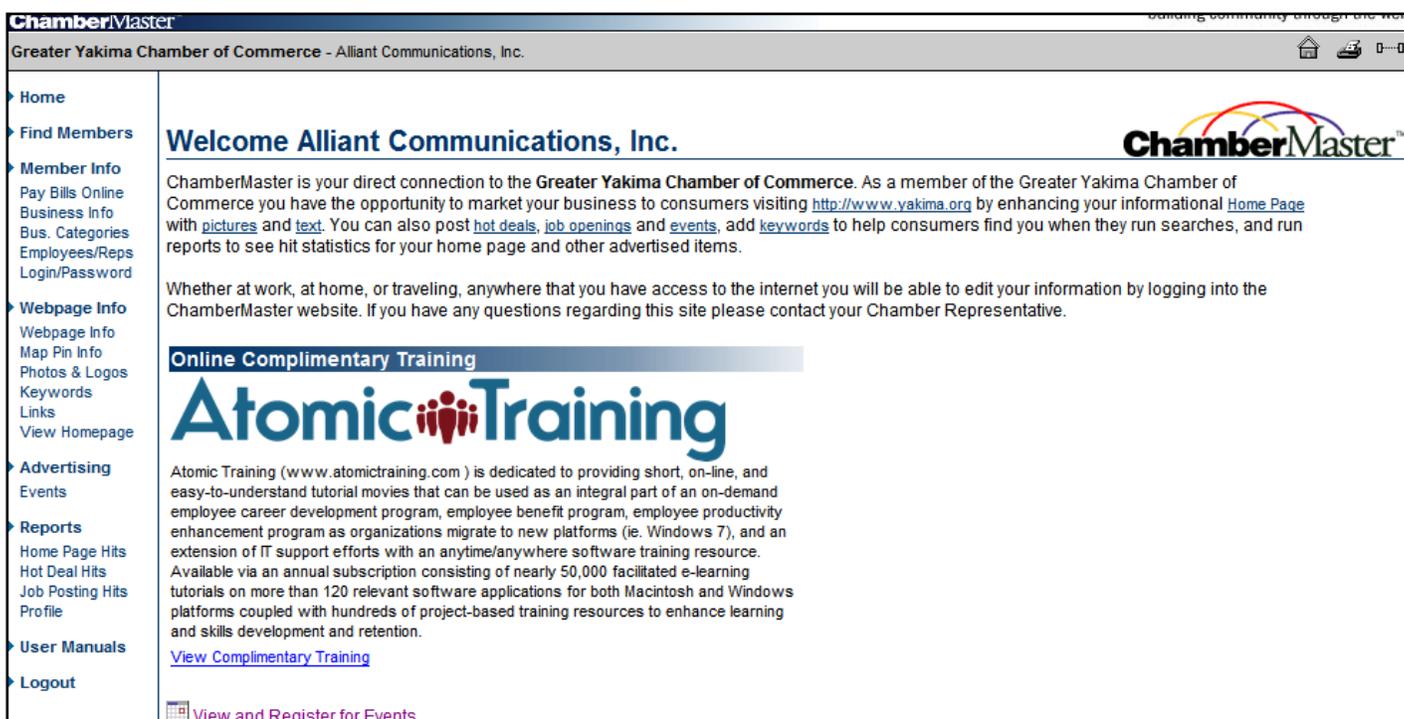
A screenshot of the ChamberMaster website. The browser title is "Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce - Alliant Communications, Inc.". The page features a navigation menu on the left with options like Home, Find Members, Member Info, Webpage Info, Advertising, Reports, User Manuals, and Logout. The main content area displays a "Welcome Alliant Communications, Inc." message, a "ChamberMaster" logo, and an advertisement for "Atomic Training" with a "View Complimentary Training" link. At the bottom, there is a link to "View and Register for Events".

Figure 1.2

Networking is an important part of business. If you meet someone and only catch their first name or where they work, it can be hard to contact that individual. ChamberMaster® can help with the Find Members option. Click on Find Members on the menu on the left, the search box (Figure 1.3) will pop up. Use the drop down menu in filter type to decide how you want to search. If you

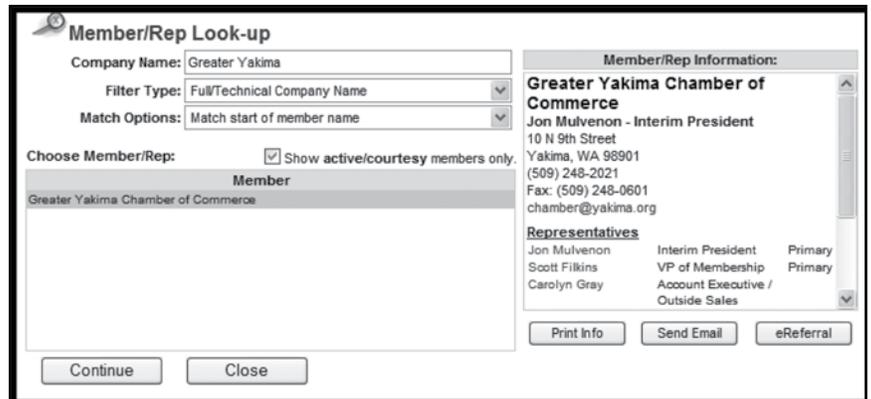


Figure 1.3

just remember the business, select Full/ Technical Company Name or if you just remember a first or last name, select Representative Name. Then start typing in the Search box. As you type, all members who fall under your terms will pull up. This is an easy way for you to network with other Chamber Members.

Paying your invoices through ChamberMaster® has many advantages. You save money on postage, save time and know that your payment is secure. To pay an invoice you have received for dues or a luncheon you attended, under Member Info, click on pay bills online (Figure 1.4). You will be asked to put in the payment amount, invoice number and your credit card information. You can also choose for an email receipt to be sent to you.

Please take the time to check out your Chamber page today!

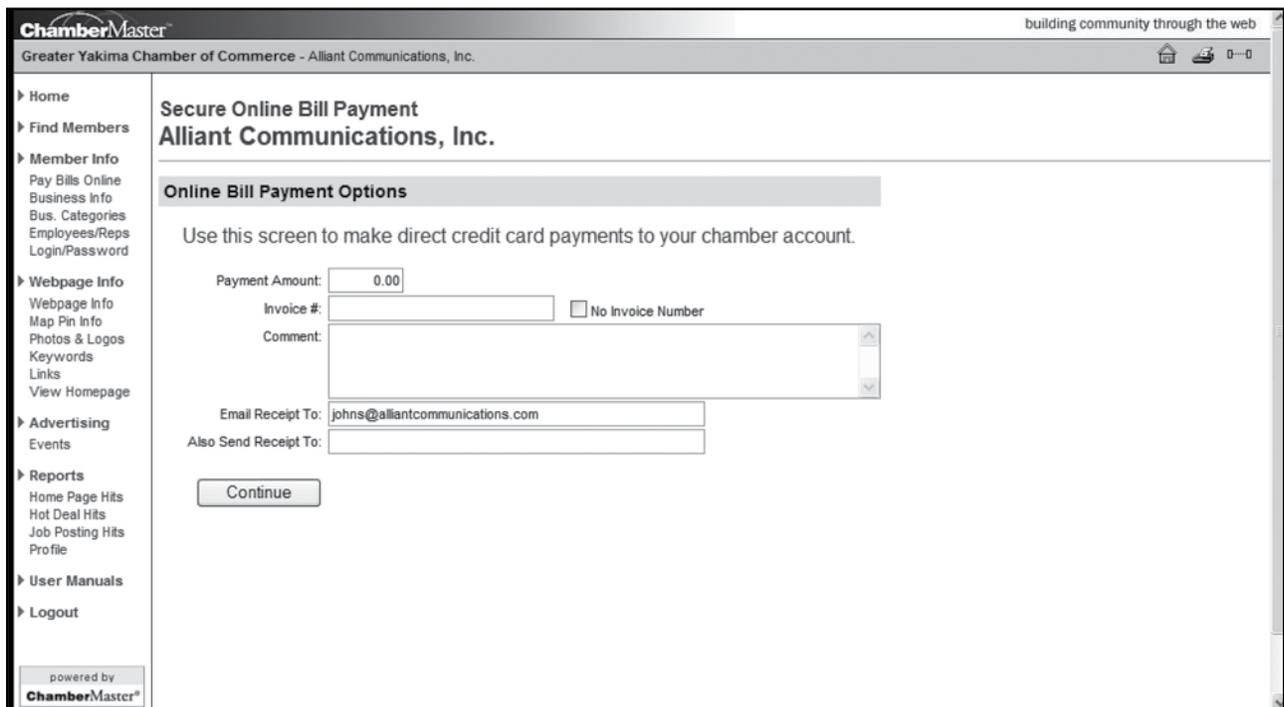


Figure 1.4

Business Owners Speakers Series – Presented by Charter Business



Doug Jones, Owner of Express Employment Professionals of Yakima -As the Owner of Express Employment Professionals of Yakima, Doug has been helping Business Owners and Managers prosper in this area for close to

10 years. Doug evaluates, interviews and hires numerous people for various companies throughout the Yakima Valley. Doug's office is part of a network of close to 600 offices in the US and Canada with sales in excess of \$2 billion last year.

Register for free: www.speakerseries.biz



June 15, 2011
Wednesday,
11:00am-12:30pm
Lunch will be provided
4th Street Theater
14 S. 4th Street
Yakima, WA 98901

Laura Rankin, Gilbert Cellars Tasting Room Manager - After finishing her graduate degree in Art Business at Sotheby's Institute of Art in London, Laura Rankin of Yakima returned to Gilbert Cellars as their tasting room manager. Her passion for art, wine, and the community of the Yakima Valley make her an ideal person to represent the wine to visitors at the tasting room and around town. As a member of the Gilbert family, Laura Rankin has lived the family story all her life and is the perfect person to share the success story that is Gilbert Cellars.

Yakima Valley Visitors and Convention Bureau - Encore! Awards

More than 200 industry and community professionals came out for the annual luncheon of the Yakima Valley Visitors and Convention Bureau.

During the event, the organization presented awards to recognize excellence in the tourism industry.

Award winners are: The White Pass Ski Area; named Tourism Business of the Year for its recent expansion of the resort.



Fairfield Inn staff celebrates the Encore Awards



City Manager, Dick Zais accepts his award

The Clean and Safe Ambassadors of the Committee for Downtown Yakima; named Tourism Persons of the Year for their efforts to keep the city center clean and safe.

And Dick Zais, Yakima's city manager, was given The Chair's Award for more than 30 years of service to the travel and tourism industry and his involvement in many projects which help enhance Yakima as a visitor destination.

A Second Chance for Banking Does Exist!

A recent Pew study showed that 10% of all households in Yakima County do not use the services of banks or credit unions. Generally, people are unbanked for the following reasons:

- Poor credit/overdrafts - need a second chance (70% of reasons)
- Fear of banks based on culture
- Fear of "hidden fees"
- Lack of financial education



Bank On Yakima is an initiative of the Yakima County Asset Building Coalition to offer banking services to everyone in Yakima County. The primary goal is to help those who do not have bank accounts find access to affordable financial services and financial education so that they can build

assets (save more, buy a car, purchase a home, etc.) and achieve financial stability.

Bank On Yakima connects several partnering financial institutions (Banner Bank, Catholic Credit Union, US Bank, Wells Fargo Bank, Yakima Federal Savings and Loan and Yakima Valley Credit Union) with consumers who may not pursue or be considered "eligible" to open a bank account.

For those who have not struggled with the burden of being unbanked, understanding how costly living without a bank account, can be difficult. Sue Ford, Chair of the Bank On Yakima Committee, stated, "Bank On Yakima offers the opportunity to cut ties to expensive check cashing and payday lending organizations for thousands of Yakima County residents and allow them to save more and build assets over time" For more information, call 2-1-1 online www.bankonyakima.org



Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce- Ribbon Cutting, Rodda Paint & Supplies



Ambassadors In Action



Serving the Northwest and producing nearly three and a half million gallons of paint a year, Rodda Paint has opened a new location in Yakima at 925 1st St; this making Rodda's 48th store. Congratulations from The Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce and welcome to the Yakima Valley!

Lessons From Liberty: A Yakima County Start-Up Success Story

To kick off the Entrepreneur Spotlight Series, an audience of local business supporters and entrepreneurs heard from Tim Andis, founder of Liberty Bottle Works. Liberty Bottles are the only American-made metal water bottle, BPA-free, made out of 100% recycled product. Andis recounted the story of how he came to start a manufacturing company in Yakima County and offered some nuggets of wisdom that he learned in getting his venture off the ground.

Tim explained that when he was working the sports bottle industry, many of his customers wanted “Made in the USA” products to satisfy demand from their environmentally responsible customers but there were no products out there to meet the need. Tim took this request to heart and with the support of his family, started in on the venture to create a product and a socially responsible manufacturing company. Liberty Bottle Works was financed with private investment and a lot of sweat equity.



Tim also shared some of the lessons he learned along the way. One of the most important pieces of advice he offered is to spend the time creating a quality business plan, and more importantly use it.



He also talked about how it took more time and money than he had originally planned. “Double the money you think you’ll need... and the time, It takes longer than you think to start a company”, Andis noted.

In addition, here are three worthwhile pieces of advice from Tim:

1. Assemble a strong team. Know your leadership skills and weaknesses and fill in with key people where you need them. Andis says he had a former boss who told him when she hired quality people it made her look good. Having a well-rounded team of advisors, mentors and key employees is invaluable to a company, no matter if it’s new or old, or the type of business.
2. Protect your Intellectual Property. Andis was emphatic about this, commenting that he was fortunate to Trademark the word Liberty, of all things. He received patents for the design of the water bottle, the closure and, since Liberty is using a new manufacturing process that is not currently in the United States, he was able to protect the process and machinery as well.
3. Develop strong partnerships. Whether it is with suppliers, vendors, customers, employees, financial partners or the community, this is a key component of success. He also talked about how this is a “great,



supportive community”, and he is especially thankful for strong financing partners, noting that when start-up costs came in higher than expected, he was able to raise additional capital from his current investors.

Finally, Tim explained that starting Liberty Bottles has been “a huge learning curve, there has been constant problem solving”. He went on to say how important it is that your team needs to grow with the company and that he knew there would be challenges but had no idea of what to expect.

We are so pleased that Tim was able to share his story with some of our local entrepreneurs and members of the business community. Watch for more on Liberty Bottle Works... the word is getting out- Whole Foods is doing a video on buying locally made products, Liberty Bottles will be in Sunset Magazine soon and also mentioned in the Boston Globe. You can find the bottles locally at

Sporthaus and they are available at REI, with many other national brand stores coming online soon. We are so excited to have Liberty Bottle Works in Yakima County!

By: Tammy Everts

Please join us for the next Entrepreneur Spotlight June 22, 2011 at 5:30 to meet Lori and Ruth Babcock, who started the Tieton Farm & Creamery in 2010: they are the winners of the 2010 Enterprise Challenge.



A Monthly Series to Showcase New Companies in the Yakima Valley



Come taste Tieton Farm and Creamery's award winning cheese.

Sponsored By:



DATE: Wednesday, June 22nd

TIME: 5:30-7 p.m. (Registration & 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!)

Breaks Ground on New Casino Expansion

Legends Casino; “The Premier Gaming Destination in Central Washington” just got better! The expected completion date and grand opening is slated for late summer or early fall 2012. On March 8th, 2011 at the Yakama Nation Toppenish Community Center, history was made yet again for the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation. By an overwhelming majority vote, the people of the General Council approved the Yakama Nation Legends Casino Expansion project. The project has been a long standing agenda item and has finally been approved due to the high demands of patrons and the economic growth of our area. The expansion project grew out of need to address growing concerns for employees of Legends among other issues.



The project will include a 200 room six story hotel with a full three meal restaurant, spa, arrowhead shaped swimming pool, and exercise room. It will feature suites for guest as well on each floor. The

new 5,400 square foot convention banquet hall will seat over 300 dinner seating guests and over 500 theatre style for conferences. In addition there will be two 950 square foot and two 450 square foot meeting break out rooms and a board room to meet organizations needs when holding their conference here. The new casino floor will allow the existing Event Center to be used for year round entertainment and special events. A huge plus in addition to the hotel is the four story parking garage that will be able to accommodate 750 parking spaces! A new child-care facility will be built as well with state of the art conveniences for the children of Legends Associates.

Associates of Legends have been waiting for a long time having been placed within a working facility built for 300 employees which now employees over 670! A new back of the house addition will be added as well to accommodate these dedicated associates and will include their own buffet dining area, exercise facility, and meeting/training rooms.



A recent study showed that “As many as one in four school age children may have a vision problem that can affect learning.” Another study states that 13% of children between the ages of nine and thirteen suffer from moderate to severe convergence insufficiency, one of the leading vision-related learning problems. Many of these children are mislabeled as having a learning disability, ADHD, or dyslexia. These diagnoses can permanently alter these children’s lives and prevent them from accomplishing their life goals. Many of these children suffer from headaches at the end of school, skipping words or lines when reading, or it takes hours to do 20 minutes of homework. They also rub their eyes frequently or have slow and labored reading. At Washington Vision Therapy Center, we have the ability to change the lives of these children

through diagnosing vision problems and providing the necessary treatment to improve or many times completely eliminate these disorders.

Vision therapy is a series of procedures prescribed by optometrists to improve certain types of vision problems that cannot be helped simply with glasses or contact lenses. Vision therapy is much akin to physical therapy for the eyes, during which vision disorders are corrected to improve patients' visual function and performance.

As the owners of Washington Vision Therapy Center, Dr. S. Thomas Copeland and Benjamin C. Winters are excited to become a vibrant part of the Yakima community and look forward to ensuring that vision does not keep children and adults from meeting their potential. If any of these vision problems sound familiar to you or your children, please give us a call for a free phone consultation at 509-654-9256 or visit our website at www.wavtc.com.

New Member Reception

Thanks to our new members who attended the “New Member Reception”

Board Chair Verlynn Best presents Chamber plaques



Don Mills
Cost Less Energy



Megan Hale
Tamaki Law



Liz Stepniewski
Windy Point Vineyards



John Estep
E/Step Software Inc.



Elizabeth Fitzgerald
*St. John of Kronstadt
Orthodox Christian School*



Matt Leslie
Leslie Engineering LLC



Ron Jones
Abadan



Brenda Fisher
John Hunter Foundation

April Renewing Members

Thank you to all of our renewing members for continuing your Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce Membership! Please support these Businesses that Support your Chamber.

Members for 1-4 Years:

All About Fun.....	2 Years
Cashmere Valley Bank.....	4 Years
Dr. Shawn McDevitt, DDS, PS.....	3 Years
New York Life / Craig Terry.....	2 Years
Orbitcom.....	3 Years
Rad's Auto Repair.....	4 Years
Rexford Manor – Luxury Senior Living.....	3 Years
Rodeway Inn and Suites	3 Years
SAR Construction.....	4 Years
State Farm Insurance / Dennis Hasslinger Agency.....	5 Years
Terrace Heights Family Pet Clinic.....	4 Years
Wells Fargo – Business Banking.....	2 Years
Yakima Women's Health.....	2 Years
Yesterday's Village.....	3 Years

Members for 5-9 Years:

Almon Commercial Real Estate.....	5 Years
Budget Office Furniture.....	7 Years
Dr. Lawrence Cacchiotti, DDS, MS.....	8 Years
Fosseen's Home and Hearth.....	8 Years
Kroner Chiropractic.....	8 Years
Peak Performance Sports and Spine.....	6 Years

Members for 10-14 Years:

Advanced Vocational Solutions, Inc.....	10 Years
Better Business Bureau.....	10 Years
Cascade Cosmetic & Reconstructive Surgery.....	11 Years
Creekside Business Park.....	12 Years
Doug Lemon Rentals.....	12 Years
Heritage Moultray Real Estate Services.....	14 Years
Lydig Construction.....	10 Years
Nob Hill Animal Clinic.....	11 Years
Stewart Subaru.....	13 Years
Waddell and Reed.....	13 Years
Yakama Nation Legends Casino.....	14 Years

Members for 15-19 Years:

Action Collectors.....	18 Years
Farmers Insurance District Office.....	15 Years
Heritage University (Yakima Campus).....	19 Years
March of Dimes.....	16 Years

Members for 20-29 Years:

Endontics Exclusively.....	26 Years
Generations OB/GYN, PLLC.....	29 Years
Inland Lighting Center.....	20 Years
Red Lion Hotel Yakima Center.....	21 Years
ServiceMaster Professional Cleaning.....	22 Years
Yakima Air Terminal.....	22 Years
Western Materials.....	26 Years
West Valley School District.....	20 Years

Members for 30-39 Years:

John I. Haas.....	36 Years
M & M Catering.....	33 Years
Stanley S. Pratt.....	36 Years

Members for 40-49 Years:

Larry J. Fuchs Painting Co.....	45 Years
Westwood West Golf Course.....	45 Years
Wilbur – Ellis.....	42 Years

Members for 50-69 Years:

Sousley Sound and Communications.....	50 Years
Terril, Lewis & Wilke Insurance, Inc.....	51 Years
Whitmire Associates Portraitists / Illustrators.....	57 Years
Skateland Fun Center.....	61 Years





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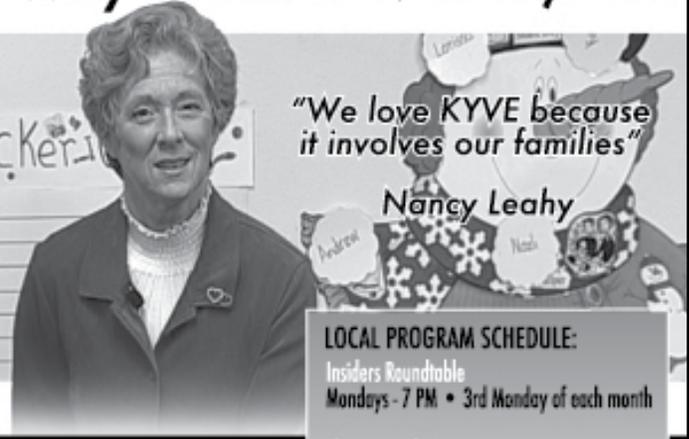
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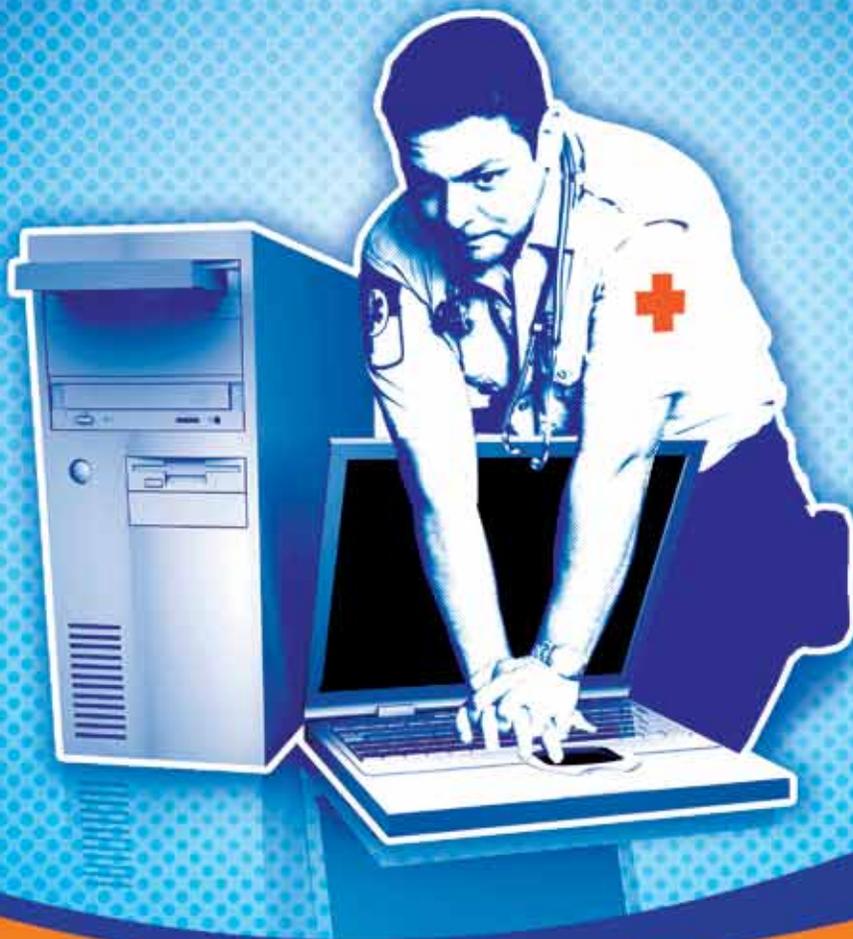
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