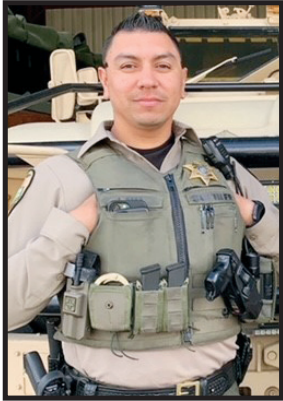




THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2024 YAKIMA CONVENTION & EVENT CENTER

*Create Hope
in the World*

DEPUTY LEO DIAZ YAKIMA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DRONE PROGRAM



Deputy L. Diaz was born and raised in Yakima and grew up in the Cowiche/Tieton area. He graduated from Highland High School and from there headed off to Walla Walla Community College, graduating in 2008 with an Associate's Degree in Applied Arts and Science in Criminal Justice.

He began his career in Criminal Justice in 2011 while working at the Yakima County Juvenile Detention as a Correctional Officer. In the summer of July 2013, Deputy Diaz was hired by Walla Walla County Sheriff's Office in the Corrections Division. He worked there until August of 2015 when he was hired by Sunnyside Police Department. In September 2019, Deputy Diaz started with the Yakima County Sheriff's Office. He had always wanted to work for an agency where he was born and

raised so he could serve his community.

After joining the Sheriff's Office, Deputy Diaz took a unique opportunity to utilize drones in law enforcement work. As a drone operator, he plays a crucial role in gathering valuable intelligence and providing aerial surveillance. His expertise in operating these unmanned aerial vehicles, which are used for all types of applications, especially limits the liability of use of force issues set in place by the new laws of Washington State. He works closely with fellow deputies, officers, community leaders, and organizations to develop proactive approaches with the use of drones. In addition to his role as YSO's Drone Commander, Deputy Diaz is a Field Training Officer (FTO) and Gang Intel Deputy.

His commitment to community-oriented policing helps establish trust and build relationships with community members. Through his work he aims to create a safer and more secure environment for everyone.

FOR THURSDAY'S MEETING

- Music – Doug Rich
- Greeters – Foti Panagakos, Kyle Curtis, Rob McCormick
- Invocation – Jan Luring
- Sergeant-at-Arms – Kathy Miller Parrish
- Program – Bob Udell

FUTURE PROGRAMS

- April 18th – WA State Senator Curtis King, Legislative Update
- April 25th – Chris Lueck, Innovations in Glass Recycling for Central Washington
- May 2nd – Yakima & Selah Neighbors Network
- May 9th – Christy Bracewell Trotter, Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic

"ROTARIANS AT WORK DAY" VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Sign-ups are underway for this year's "Rotarians at Work" Day on Saturday, April 27th. Rotarian volunteers along with their families and friends are needed to help beautify our community at three locations: Welcome to Yakima Sign, Sarg Hubbard Park, and Rotary Lake on the Greenway. Volunteers at Sarg Hubbard will meet at the flower garden to weed, clean and lay bark; volunteers at Rotary Lake will pick up garbage around the shoreline, and the crew at the Welcome to Yakima Sign will clean, weed, trim, and spread bark.

Work will begin at 9am and be done by noon. If you would like help, please email, or call the Rotary office with your location preference.



PROPOSED NEW MEMBER

Unless written objection is received by the Board of Directors by Friday, April 12, 2024, the following candidate will be elected to membership:

Sy Ruiz

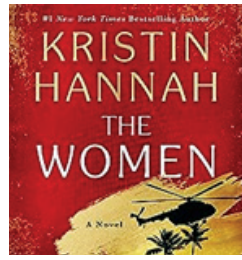
Public Relations &
Development Director
OIC of Washington

**Classification: Nonprofit, Public
Relations & Donor Development**

Proposed by: Anthony Peterson

Endorsed by: Ryan Anderson

APRIL ROTARY BOOK CLUB SELECTION



With Spring in the air and longer days, one of the most enjoyable activities you can do is READ! If you need help finding the perfect book, the Rotary Book Club has done the work for you. April's selection is *The Women*. Written by Kristin Hannah, it's the story about a young woman coming of age during the turbulent 1960's in America who joins the Army Nurse Corps and serves in Vietnam – shining a light on all women who put themselves in harm's way and whose sacrifice and commitment to their country has too often been forgotten.

Get your copy today, start reading, and mark the date of May 1st for the next Book Club meeting from 5pm to 6pm at John I Haas Innovation Center.

REVIEW

This week's program was all about emergency preparedness shared by Tony Miller, the Director of Emergency Services through the Yakima Valley Office of Emergency Management. Before we could hear from Tony, there was Rotary business to take care of. Kyle Curtis, Melissa Brewer, and Leanne Antonio served as our greeters. Kurt Labberton provided a message about illuminators from the book, *How to Know a Person* by David Brooks, and Kelly Gasseling raised money for Rotary Charities with a fun emergency themed sergeant-at-arm. President Erin presented three blue badges to Curt Wilson, Clark Permann, and Joshua Shockley; and asked for volunteers to help with Healthy Futures Food Packing. There is an immediate need for volunteers on Thursday, April 11th. Dana Eliason shared that we need additional attendees for our upcoming Scholarship Dinners taking place from May 9th through May 23rd. Now is the time to check your calendars and choose a date or dates that work best for you. Dan Garcia announced that "Rotarians at Work" Day is set for Saturday, April 27th from 9am to noon. Rotary volunteers along with their family and friends are needed to help clean up three locations: the Welcome to Yakima Sign, Rotary Lake on the Greenway, and Sarg Hubbard Park flower garden. Sign-ups are underway. John Cooper made a pitch for sponsors for the 2024 Rotary Auction Under the Big Top. Rotarians and community businesses are an integral portion of how we raise funds to support the work we do through Yakima Rotary Charities over a two-year cycle. Starting next week, you'll be able to see those that have committed to sponsorships with logos on display in the Chronicle and Tooter. If you would like to see your logo added, please contact John to find out how you can help.

Laura Crooks had the honor of introducing Tony Miller. The first formal disaster preparedness was formed in 1957 when the Yakima County Civil Defense Council approved a mutual aid pact between communities to assist each other in the event of a disaster. In 1983, it was transitioned to the Yakima Valley Office of Emergency Management (YVEM) with the addition of new duties that included grant work, first responder training, and disaster planning. YVEM is not part of Yakima County; they are their own district with their own Board that includes one county commissioner, 3 mayors, and a representative of the Sheriff's office. They serve the County and every city within the County. Half their budget is secured through federal grants; whatever is left is secured through a per capita for each city in the county. There are authorities and requirements that they must do as outlined through RCW 38.42. All political subdivisions are required to have an Emergency Management Organization. The YVEM allows coverage of every city without each one having to have an independent organization. A comprehensive emergency management plan and hazard mitigation plan are required as well.

There are four phases of emergency management with the Office of Emergency Management: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. 80% of their work is in mitigation. There are 32 core capabilities meant to be the foundation for a jurisdiction's ability to prepare, respond, recover, and mitigate any situation effectively. Three capabilities span all areas – planning, public information and warning, and operational coordination. They are required to have a Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan; a Hazard Mitigation Plan; and Hazard Specific Plans that include flood response, hazmat, communication, and a community wildlife protection plan. Plans must be updated every 5 years.

As an organization they do a lot of outreach, exercises, and training. Exercises start with tabletop exercises; once that has been laid out, they move onto full-scale mockups with victims and emergency response teams. Upcoming exercises in our community include an active shooter at PNWU taking place next Saturday, and a full-scale plane crash at SOZO Sports Complex on May 11th. They are also working with Grandview High School on an active shooter drill. After each exercise, participants fill out forms sharing what went well, and what didn't. Those are used to improve the process. In the event of an emergency, they also provide on-team response, help with communications and evacuations management. They do logistics planning, public information, and work on reimbursement opportunities. A big part of what they do is track costs. A local declaration does not equate to reimbursement. For reimbursement from the state, damages must reach \$875,000. They provide recovery both short term and long term that includes law enforcement to secure properties during evacuations, debris management, damage assessments, and repair management. In 2022, they also started a large animal evacuation team and have an agreement in place with the State Fair.

Alert Yakima is a notification system available to citizens in Yakima County. It is an important source for alerts. In Yakima, we are surrounded by warehouses that use ammonia. Ammonia leaks sometimes - they send out alerts. The system is not used to sell anything. All you need is a name and address. You can choose your method of notification by call, text, or email. Evacuation notices still go door to door even with other notifications. Social media is used as well.

Every household should be two-weeks ready. When the next big earthquake happens on the westside it is predicted at 9.4; we would feel it at 5.5/6 here. If it happens, there will be infrastructure failures that could leave us isolated. It was a fascinating look at what happens behind the scenes to prepare for a disaster and a huge reminder of what we need to do to be prepared as individuals.