



THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 2024 YAKIMA CONVENTION CENTER

*The Magic
Of Rotary*

DEREK SANDISON WASHINGTON STATE DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE



Derek I. Sandison was appointed Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) director in June 2015, where he continues to strengthen both Washington's food and agriculture systems nationally and internationally. In the agriculture industry and beyond, he applies a solution-oriented approach to issues.

Along with serving as director of WSDA, Derek currently service on the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) Executive Board as Secretary Treasurer. Additionally, he is also the Executive Board President for the Western United States Agricultural Trade Association (WUSATA).

A lifelong Washington resident, Sandison has worked in the private and public sectors for over 49 years. Before his appointment with the WSDA, he served as director of the state's Office of Columbia River (OCR) within the Department of Ecology between 2008 and 2015. During that time, he developed and laid the groundwork for the future development of new large-scale water projects for cities, farms, and fish. Prior to his service with OCR, he was the Central Regional Director for the Department of Ecology.

Sandison has a Master of Science in natural resource management and a bachelor's degree in biological science, both from Central Washington University.

FOR THURSDAY'S MEETING

Greeters – Greg Luring, Rob McCormick
Inspiration – Jan Luring
Sergeant-at-Arms – Jim Berg
Program – Jon DeVaney
Attendance – Rich Austin

FUTURE PROGRAMS

August 29th – Lila Mowatt & Ralph Thompson, Classification Talks
September 5th – Rotary District Governor Tom Tochterman
September 12th – Rotary Picnic

PROPOSED NEW MEMBERS

Unless written objection is received by the Board of Directors by Friday, August 23, 2024, the following candidates will be elected to membership:

Joe Biondi

Senior Director of Development
Heritage University

Classification: University, Donor Development

Proposed by: Dana Eliason

Endorsed by: Bob Gerst

Christopher Hutsell

Deputy Chief
Yakima Fire Dept.

Classification: City Government, Deputy Fire Chief

Proposed by: Eric Silvers

Endorsed by: John Cooper



SECOND CHANCE SOCIAL

The first Second Chance Social of the year is coming! Save the date of Wednesday, August 28th from 5pm to 6pm at Single Hill Brewery. Come and gather in a fun, informal setting with great company and conversation. Hors d'oeuvres are on us - drinks are on you.

REVIEW

It wasn't our typical day at Rotary as we stuffed 614 backpacks with school supplies for every student at Hoover Elementary. Joining us were Principal Julio Sanchez; Family Liaison Blanca Zepeda; and the Yakima School District's Executive Director of Learning & Leadership, Maria Lucero. With a short presentation, they shared how their school celebrates attendance, academic excellence, community involvement, student engagement, and culture. 94.9% of students coming to Hoover are low-income. One example shared was a single father with 5 children at Hoover with the youngest entering kindergarten this year; he has to manage work, daycare, and day to day life. Rotary providing school supplies means everything! President Jim wrapped it up with some staggering numbers. In 2024, the average cost of spending for school supplies including a backpack is \$140 per student. The math of 614 backpacks times \$140 is almost \$86,000. Our contribution is allowing the families we serve to spend money on things just as important.



SAVE THE DATE NOVEMBER 16, 2024



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