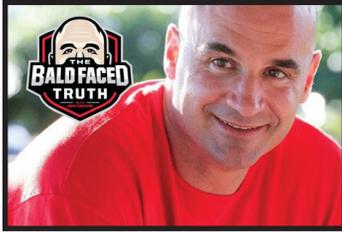




## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2025 YAKIMA CONVENTION & EVENT CENTER

*Unite For  
Good*

### JOHN CANZANO COLLEGE SPORTS IN THE NORTHWEST



John Canzano is an American sports columnist and radio talk show host on Portland's 750 AM "The Game". The show is also syndicated in Eugene, Medford, Roseburg and Klamath Falls, Oregon. He now writes his column at JohnCanzano.com and hosts a daily radio show called The Bald-Faced Truth. From 2002 to 2022, he was the lead sports columnist at The Oregonian and a sports commentator on KGW-TV, Portland's NBC affiliate.

Canzano left The Oregonian in March 2022, after 20 years with the newspaper to start his own writing endeavor at JohnCanzano.com. It is the No. 1-ranked sports-related Substack. In August 2022, he launched a college football podcast with Jon Wilner of The San Jose Mercury News called "Canzano & Wilner: The Podcast."

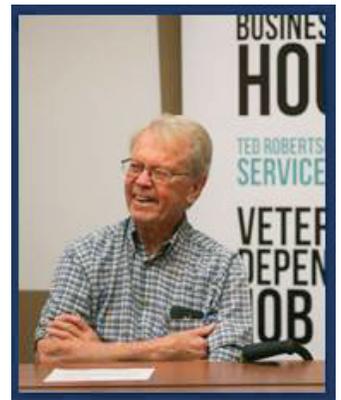
He is a 17-time Associated Press Sports Editors (APSE) award winner. He's won APSE awards in four different writing categories (column, investigative reporting, enterprise, and projects), with his most recent awards coming in 2022, 2019 and 2018 in the investigative category and in 2016, 2017 and 2023 for column writing.

Canzano is a six-time Oregon Sportswriter of the Year winner (2005, 2006, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2021) as named by the National Sports Media Association.

In 2009, Canzano co-founded The Bald Faced Truth Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that funds extracurricular activities for children.

### HONORARY PRESIDENT JACK BLOXOM

Being a part of Rotary comes with the joy of meeting and being around exceptional people. On December 4th, with help from Craig Mendenhall and President Sheri, we took time to recognize Jack Bloxom as one of those individuals. He joined Rotary in 1959 and with 66 years of membership that equates to approximately 3,300 Rotary meetings, he is the longest serving active member in our club. He has served on 27 different committees, chaired 4 committees, and served on the Board of Directors for Yakima Rotary and the Yakima Rotary Trust. He also spent 3 years serving as the co-chair of our Centennial Project to celebrate our 100th anniversary. Our chosen project was the Rotary Aquatic Center at the YMCA. Today, the illuminated Rotary wheel along 40th Avenue at night is a spectacular reminder of what Rotary can do.



In 2010 he was chosen to receive the Rotary First Citizen Award, created to recognize members who have given a lifetime of service to our country, state, community, their profession, and to Rotary. Jack and his wife, Connie's commitment to our community is unparalleled; their fingerprints are on almost every worthy organization in the Valley.



For his devotion to Yakima Rotary and our community, President Sheri announced that the Rotary Board voted to make Jack an Honorary President. No longer able to join us in person, our presentation, standing ovation, and personal messages were filmed to share with Jack at home. He is one of many reasons that Yakima Rotary is the "Finest Rotary Club in America."

## ROTARY BELL RINGING

Tomorrow is day one for Rotary Bell Ringing Week. We started with 96 shifts that needed to be filled and are down to the last 13 without a volunteer. There is one open shift tomorrow, Saturday, December 6th. Tuesday is full. Wednesday, December 10th through Saturday, December 13th, all have openings. The remaining available dates, times and locations are:

### Saturday, December 6th

Rosauers – 4pm to 6pm

### Wednesday, December 10th

Fred Meyer North Entrance – 2pm to 4pm

### Thursday, December 11th

Fred Meyer Grocery Entrance – 12pm to 2pm

Fred Meyer North Entrance – noon to 2pm; 4pm to 6pm

### Friday, December 12th

Fred Meyer Grocery Entrance – noon to 2pm

Fred Meyer North Entrance – noon to 2pm

### Saturday, December 13th

Rosauers – 2pm to 4pm

Fred Meyer Grocery Entrance – 2pm to 4pm; 4pm to 6pm

Fred Meyer North Entrance – noon to 2pm; 2pm to 4pm; 4pm to 6pm



## FOR THURSDAY'S MEETING

Greeters – Chris Hutsell, Clark Permann

Music – Christa Blake Parker

Inspiration – Rick Pinnell

Sergeant-at-Arms – Nancy Leahy

Program – Rich Austin

Attendance – Kaylene Stiles

## PROPOSED NEW MEMBER

Unless written objection is received by the Board of Directors by Friday, December 12, 2025, the following candidate will be elected to membership:

### **Megan Nobbs**

Executive Director

The First Tee of Central Washington

**Classification: First Tee**

Proposed by: Rich Austin

Endorsed by: Sheri Bissell

## REVIEW

This week was another reason why Rotary is the best place to be every Thursday. We started the day with two exceptional greeters, Drew Harris and Dave Heinl. Our opening song chosen by Dana Eliason was *Lean on Me* by Bill Withers; the lyrics capture what it means to be a good person and the willingness to be there for others – just like Rotarians. Anthony Peterson shared an inspirational message on the value of teamwork highlighting Coach Bo Schembechler words, “No man or person is more important than the team.” Brad Hansen was in charge of sergeant-at-arms and raised just shy of \$300 by taking notes on a napkin – it’s a gift. Rick Fairbrook made one last pitch for Rotary bell ringing. There are 13 shifts open for volunteers – dates, locations and times are listed above.

Jane Sobottka became our newest member. Introduced by Ricky Adams, Jane’s journey began with her birth at South Ruislip Air Force Base in London to an American dad and English mum. At age 5, she and her family moved back to the U.S. and a whirlwind of moves as she grew up in Nevada, Texas, North Dakota, Germany, California before landing in Tacoma, Washington. She graduated from Clover Park High School and the University of Puget Sound. She loved art, animals, comics, and math growing up. She even thought about being a medical examiner but didn’t quite know what she wanted to do for the rest of her life. After a few odd jobs and a 15-year career with State Farm, she found her true calling as a wealth advisor with Columbia Wealth Advisors. In 2024, she and her family made a bold move to Yakima, trading in the gray skies, traffic jams, and the hustle and bustle of western Washington for sun and serenity of the Yakima Valley. Jane and her family live in West Valley with 4 rescue dogs and the last of 5 rabbits. In her free time, she enjoys hiking, kayaking, dining out and exploring the Valley’s breweries and wineries. She’s on her way to fulfilling her blue badge requirements having already volunteered for Operation Harvest and our backpack project. We are so excited to officially have her join our team!

Sharon Miracle had the honor of introducing Heidi Pelletier as our featured program speaker. Heidi is the Chief Development Officer for the Yakima Valley Community Foundation. She shared a presentation by Danielle York focusing on the question of, how do we raise children who are not only financially responsible, but also generous and compassionate.

Research shows that generosity isn’t an innate trait; it is learned. Generous kids become generous adults, not only financially but with their time, voice and talent. Young children choose generosity mainly based on what they see at home. Some parents and grandparents worry that talking about wealth will lead to entitlement. Transparency paired with intentional teaching creates the strongest foundation for generosity. Heidi provided 10 research-based strategies to grow generosity in children; all backed up by academic studies and real-world results.

1. Walk Your Talk. Children watch and mimic our actions from infancy. Let your children see you in action whether it is joining Rotary, bell ringing, or serving on a nonprofit board. Share why you choose to do so.

2. Talk Openly About Money. Transparency about family finances paired with intentional teaching produces better out-

comes than secrecy. Children 8-12 are already aware when parents conceal financial information. Explain how values inform your spending and giving.

3. Use the Three-Jar-System. Build financial habits with allowance (ages 6-10). Give 1/3 to charity, save 1/3 for future goals and spend 1/3 for immediate wants. As they mature, give them more autonomy with tools like Greenlight.

4. Agency Matters. Let kids choose where to give. The ability to choose freely significantly increased the likelihood and amount of giving. Hold a family philanthropy meeting where each child pitches their favorite nonprofit and everyone votes on the winner. Take time to visit or volunteer together at the winning organization.

5. Community Matters. By ages 12-17 peers influence more than parents. Expose children to prosocial peers through organizations. Examples include Rotary Interact clubs, YVCF Youth Leadership Council and school fundraising initiatives.

6. Praise It. Reinforcement increases behavior. Be specific; you made their day better. Be consistent and combine praise with explanation.

7. Build Habits. Repeated actions increase the likelihood of continued giving. Alumni that donated at least once in each of their first five years after graduation give over 5 times as much twenty years later. Look for ways to regularly volunteer or give. It can be as simple as cleaning out closets and toys, spending a morning cleaning up a part of your neighborhood, making care packages to drop off at a shelter, or writing thank you cards.

8. Foster Empathy. Children who help others develop a broader view of the world. Empathy is the foundation of meaningful connections – it helps understand other perspectives, helps with communication, collaboration, and conflict resolution. Practicing empathy reduces loneliness and increases life satisfaction.

9. Share Family Stories of Resilience. Sharing stories about our own family’s challenges builds resiliency in the next generation. When adults share stories of needing help, it helps them recognize that everyone carries burdens they can’t see. It teaches kids that asking for and accepting help isn’t shameful – it’s human.

10. Stay Connected. Parents continue to influence their adult children’s financial behaviors and charitable giving more

Many communities are experiencing the challenge of declining rates of charitable giving and engagement in philanthropy across generations. As parents, grandparents, and community leaders each of us were encouraged to commit one action whether to invite a child to volunteer, start an allowance conversation, or be more intentional about explaining your giving to a young person.